TRUCK PARKING INFORMATION IN THE REGION OF VIENNA

During 2010 an EasyWay pilot implementation has been set up by the Austrian motorway operator ASFINAG to inform truck drivers on the occupancy of 10 truck parking areas in the greater Vienna region.

Background

As a leading and innovative European motorway operator ASFINAG is eager to provide the European travellers with relevant traffic information services tailored to the specific need of the road users. In coordination with the workers' chamber and the chamber of commerce it was decided to set up a first pilot implementation towards truck parking occupancy information system.

Project description

Objectives

Several studies show an imminent lack of truck parking areas across Europe. While ASFINAG proceeding a considerable investment program to build new infrastructure, ITS is also seen as a major success factor. Via ITS the current occupancy of truck parking areas are to be communicated to the truck drivers as a basis for smart decision concerning resting.

As within EasyWay only limited best practices are available (especially concerning the monitoring) a pilot installation was seen as a suitable instrument to gain experience in this field.

Implementation and results

As described above the monitoring approach is crucial to the provision of such service. Given the Austrian operating environments it was decided that a manually detection based on special CCTVs are the most suitable approach for this first phase of piloting this service. Therefore 10 resting/ truck parking areas (with over 680 single truck parking slots) have been equipped with special CCTVs to gain an easy overview of the area (c.p. Figure 3). The traffic management operators in Vienna Inzersdorf have been equipped with an easy tool to set the occupancy for the resting areas to “free” or “occupied”.

For providing this information to the customers 3 channels are utilized:

1) already existing VMS/ traffic control units
2) dedicated infrastructure has been set up (see Fig.1)
3) existing Traffic info services (e.g. webbased) have been extended to provide the information (see Fig.2+3)

Transferability

Due to the manually detection approach taken (based on CCTV images) the transferability is strongly depending on the operating environments. Operators with only a limited amount of truck parking areas can easily adopt this approach, while the
surveillance of longer motorway stretches may no the economically reasonable. A more automated approach is to be adopted in such cases.

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**Figure 2**: truck parking occupancy integrated into the web-based TIS portal of ASFINAG

**Figure 3**: webcam screen for B2B customers as well as traffic operators