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Welcome

Dear subscriber,

Here is the new Update again. This Update will provide you with all the latest developments in the parking business.

We are very pleased to inform you that the month March 2004 was the best visited month ever: more than 16.000 visitors!!

Furthermore, we welcome our new sponsor: Metric Parking.

Hope you will enjoy this Parking Update again.

Kind regards from the editor



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Are there enough opportunities for education in parking?



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News Update

LogicaCMG and SKIDATA: Mobile phone as parking ticket

LogicaCMG and SKIDATA presented their joint solution for parking space pre-booking and mobile ticketing at Intertraffic 2004 in Amsterdam. With 'mobile ticketing', parkers get a guaranteed parking space.



[Read more...](#)

National Parking Association Announces One-Day Threat and Risk Assessment Seminar



Washington, D.C., March 17, 2004 - The National Parking Association (NPA), the nation's first association to serve the parking industry, has developed a valuable new emergency preparedness seminar, Planning Your Security: Logic, Not Luck.

[Read more...](#)

Parkeon Targets Nordic Countries.

Parkeon and Peek Traffic have confirmed their commitment to long-term growth for Parkeon parking systems in the Nordic countries.



[Read more...](#)

A New Approach to Designing Parking lots



Transoft Solutions newest product will change the way architects, civil engineers, drafters, and CAD technologists design parking facilities. Introducing ParkCAD, the intelligent CAD based parking layout design software.

[Read more...](#)

Edinburgh goes mobile: Scotland's capital has introduced cellphone parking in its city centre

Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland (UK), has added the mPARK mobile phone-based system developed by Dublin (Ireland)-based Itsmobile to 266 of its Parkeon (formerly Schlumberger e-City) solar-powered Stelio pay-and-display terminals.



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Events Update



[World Parking Symposium IV](#)

Toronto, Canada
05.16.2004 / 05.19.2004

Description:

The Fourth World Parking Symposium, *Parking in a Global Community*, will address the issues of mobility, traffic congestion and environmental quality within the constraints imposed by the economy and the need for livable urban communities. The use of automobiles, use of land, transportation alternatives, infrastructure and regulation are all key elements of this debate. This is an opportunity to meet with your colleagues from around the world to discuss these and other important issues.

[European ITS Congress](#)

Budapest, Hungary
05.24.2004 / 05.26.2004



Description:

What are the latest developments in Intelligent Transport Systems & Services? How are companies and organisations from around Europe making life easier through the use of ITS technology? What really is ITS?

Besides already familiar subjects such as GPS, navigation systems, and driver assistance systems, the Exhibition will highlight other exciting aspects of ITS including traffic detection, traffic information systems, parking equipment, intermodality and infrastructure, traveller information and much, much more!



[CITE 2004 Annual Conference](#)

Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada

06.05.2004 / 06.09.2004

Description:

The Atlantic Provinces Section of the Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers is hosting the CITE Annual Conference from June 5-9, 2004 in Moncton, New Brunswick. The Technical Committee invites conference papers with the theme of Real Solutions for today's Communities for the following topic areas:

- Parking Issues
- Access Management
- Commercial Vehicle Operations
- Enforcement/Education
- Innovative Financing
- Intelligent Transportation Systems
- Neighbourhood Traffic Management
- Public Consultation
- Road Safety
- Successful Partnerships
- Sustainable Transportation
- Traffic Control
- Transit Planning and Operations
- ...

More info: <http://www.citebc.ca/CITE.pdf>

[International Parking Conference and Exposition](#)

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

06.20.2004 / 06.23.2004



Description:

The International Parking Conference and Exposition is the world's largest parking meeting. Held in major cities throughout the U.S. and Canada, the annual event draws as many as 3,000 parking professionals from throughout North America and around the world. In 2003, more than 34 countries were represented at the Toronto Conference. The meeting features more than 110 hours of intensive educational programming plus the traditionally popular ShopTalk discussion groups. The accompanying Exposition attracts more than 200 exhibitors from around the world. Future meetings are scheduled for Fort Lauderdale, 2005; Las Vegas, 2006; and Tampa, 2007.

[Click here to get your events listed for free!](#)



Award Update

Awards



Skidata wins at the Intertraffic the Parking Network Creativity Award

Parking Network was present at the Intertraffic 2004 in Amsterdam this year and selected Skidata for the Creativity Award 2004. With their super futuristic stand they presented the Skidata philosophy.

[Read more about our Creativity Award....](#)

Would you like to present a showcase
in Parking Network and the update?

Please contact us at: showcase@parking-net.com



Industry Update

In the industry module you can search for organizations worldwide. There is the possibility to search on name, solutions, activities and country of operation.

We are indexing all the organizations in the right solutions, activities and country of operation. If your company should be amended or indexed, please send an e-mail to: editor@parking-net.com

Featuring company:

Company details



Metric Group Limited

- Details →
- Info →
- Product info →
- Solutions & Activities →
- Country of operation →
- Extra info →

Company information

With roots in ticketing systems stretching back over 125 years, the Group's success has been characterised by experience and innovation. Many of the industry's most significant advances have been catalysed by METRIC's pioneering approach. Today the Group's two specialist operating divisions METRIC PARKING and ALMEX.



More than 60,000 machines in over 45 countries. Wherever parking control and integrity matter, trust Metric Parking to deliver the system for success.

When it comes to parking and management control, no one offers more flexibility than Metric Parking.

That's why Metric's Pay-and-Display systems control more than one million car parking spaces in 1,000 towns and cities around the world.

With our machines designed, built and programmed in house, Metric Parking's market-leading brands include Autoslot, Accent and just recently Albion, names with renowned reliability and quality.

Metric pioneered the concept of Centralised Parking Management. Communications networking (Aslan) now links 10,000 machines via leased lines, PSTN modem and radio. Minute by minute reporting technology provides management information vital to maximising revenue and controlling costs.

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Forum Update

- **Product Design Project Input Requested**

I'm a member of a group of graduate students working on a Product Design and Development project for the MIT Sloan School of Management. Our development project is for a system which will improve customer service in large parking lots by helping users locate their cars when they return to exit the lot. We're looking for parking industry professionals willing to provide some feedback on our product concept. If you'd be willing to help out and exchange ideas with us please either email the above (spam-filtered) address of my colleague or contact me directly at lcurhan at MIT dot EDU. (put the @ and . in the appropriate places). thanks in advance, Lisa Curhan System Design and Management Fellow Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Lisa Curhan (sancat1000@yahoo.com)

- Having been involved in the parking industry for many years, I know of a number of ways that currently are used to assist parking customers to easily locate their vehicles: 1.The simplest and less costly way to achieve this is to ensure that the parking ticket has the necessary boxes for the clients to insert the relevant information such as car park/parking lot name, floor/level, and parking bay No. This way most of the parkers that insert their details will find their vehicle without any pain, unfortunately most people either are in to much of a hurry or can not be bothered to write anything down and for them, technology is available to assist with this. 2.By using standard camera based technology known as Automatic Number Plate Readers/License Plate Readers ANPR/LPR to detect vehicles

as they enter and exit a floor or zone this will provide information of where vehicles are located in a parking facility not necessarily the bay number, but the floor/ zone location. 3.A variation of the above, without static cameras but involving active patrolling personnel, is to have mobile ANPR/ LPR unit normally fitted to a vehicle that is regularly circulating in the parking facilities. This system normally is connected to a GPRS device that records the number plate and the exact vehicle location and is very useful in large parking facilities such as Airports and major shopping centres/ malls I have had personal experience with all the above technology and if you require any further information contact me at MannyR@police5.net
Manny Rasores (MannyR@police5.net)

● **Charging for Valet Handicap Parking**

We have had the question arise about charging parking fees to handicapped placarded vehicles. The most recent question is the exposure that we may have if we decide not to charge these individuals for valet parking. It is not a question concerning the loss of revenue as much as could this be construed as a discriminatory violation by not charging these individuals? I recall that at one point in the early stages of the ADA enactment that it was stated that this would be considered discrimination. Has anyone had this type of question arise and if so what did you decide to do with this and/or what was you or your legal counsels interpretation of this matter. Thanks for any help..

DRG

- I think it depends greatly on if you provide ample, close in, and available handicap parking. We do not charge on state property due to state law which precludes charging a fee, but then we have no close in handicap parking available. I do not think this is a discrimination issue. It is an availability issue.
Bob Turner (Bobby.Turner@utsouthwestern.edu)
- Special parking for the Handicapped is ALL about accessibility and mobility, not about cost. Those people who are not qualified for handicapped placards already feel discriminated against as the truly handicapped get all the "good parking spaces" so I would not worry about that being an issue.
KS Beechum (kbeechum@ksbservices.com)
- The single purpose of said "handicap" parking is to provide access to facilities for differently abled persons. To mis-associate the practice of fee-for-parking with the provision of such access is to broaden the scope of the original purpose beyond its tenets. If it is desired to weave financial considerations, such as the ability to pay, into the fee-for-parking landscape -- whether it be for differently-abled parking spaces or not -- one must invariably have a schema to decide qualification. New "economically challenged" cards could be issued. And, by way of ceteris paribus precedent, schemas for visible minorities, the historically disadvantaged, and mentally challenged must be created with the requisite cards issued to those meeting the qualifications. One view of a potential future might be for all citizens to be rigorously profiled for all possible disadvantages (at birth? at the age of majority?) and be issued a card which accounts for all permutations of the individual's various disadvantage-qualifications. That card would be the individual's life-blood for access to parking spaces, grocery lines, doctor's offices, and fee schedules. And to think, those future citizens might say, all my Grand-dad wanted to do was get a break on his parking fee...
G Bartlett (gbartlett@fpelectronics.com)
- The purpose of handicap parking is accessibility not free spaces. In valet parking, the physically challenged individual does not have to worry about accessible parking. The valet parks the car and performs the service for them. Those that believe they deserve free parking because they are physically challenged are misinformed.
K Hochman (LBPAKH@yahoo.com)

● **Cost of Parking Survey**

Does anyone know where I could find a survey outlining the cost of parking in various regions in the U.S.? Any help is much appreciated. Thanks very much.
Mott Smith (mottsmith@yahoo.com)

- **On-street Meter rates**

In order to encourage turnover and maintain availability, some experts believe that short term, on-street meter rates should be higher than off-street rates? If this is true, why does the IPI benchmarking report indicate a lower range of rates than off-street?

Jonsey Bold (jonseybold@msn.com)

- Are you sure they show the off-street rates as being higher? Or is it that the off-street parking is more long-term and thus the parking fees would be higher (i.e. \$10 flat fee for all-day parking, whereas an on-street meter might be \$1.00 per hour with a 2-hour limit.) If you only plan a short stay in the garage, then, yes, the garage is more expensive.

Bobra Wilbanks (bwilbanks@pom.com)

- I do not agree that on-street rates should necessarily be higher than off-street. On-Street parking is essentially for the short term parker. Generally speaking, demand is greater than supply, whereas this is not true for off-street. If on-street is full, that causes cars to circulate looking for spaces and adds to congestion (very short term parkers will not head for an off-street facility but prefer to cruise). So the price needs to be increased until occupancy reduces to around 85%. This reduces congestion and, as a by-product, forces motorists into off-street facilities.

Tony Sedgwick (tony.sedgwick@ncp.co.uk)

- People who park on the streets often do so for convenience so an efficient enforcement program with a well thought out fine schedule is also very effective at encouraging longer term parkers to use off street lots.

KS Beechum (kbeechum@ksbservices.com)

- A few years ago we had a difference of \$.15 per hour for on-street versus off-street parking. The higher rate for on-street had the result of driving more parkers into City garages, leaving more on-street spaces available.

Keith Ehrensing

- Off street rates are often set by entrepreneurs who own and manage the lots. They make business decisions because they don't worry about being elected to anything. On street rates have to be approved by city councils who are torn between their desperation to get money and their desperation to get re-elected. They almost always opt for the re-election and they can't get their hand up in the air to vote for the rate increase.

Eldon Buckwheat

These and other questions you can find in our forum.

[Visit our forum....](#)

Parking Network Exposure



Parking Network Full Color Advertisement

The Parking Professional placed the Parking-Network advertisement in their March issue. This magazine is a monthly publication of The International Parking institute. This resulted in an increase of visitors to our platform.

[Click here to view the advertisement....](#)

Marketing

If you are interested in marketing rates please contact the e-mail address below

For more info: info@parking-net.com

ABOUT PARKING NETWORK IN MORE DETAIL...

How did the story start?

'8 years ago, there was the idea to centralize all the information concerning parking at one place on the Internet. In co-operation with the EPA, this platform was launched in 1996 and has grown into the worlds largest information source on parking.'

Why is Parking Network a success?

'The parking industry is overloaded with information. Finding qualified information is difficult. Due to time constraints professionals cannot read all this information. Parking Network gives the professional the opportunity to find well structured qualified information in one place on the Internet at any time and any place without any costs. Also, the platform enables the visitor to find unbiased vendor information.'

What can I find in Parking Network?

'In Parking Network you can search for companies indexed on their activities and solutions. Furthermore news, associations, showcases, literature, library, events, a forum and awards can be found. We send on a monthly basis an electronic update by e-mail. I would say: "Go there and find out for yourself."'

How do we get visitors to Parking Network?

'First of all Parking Network is indexed very high in all the major search engines. As an example in www.google.com on the keyword 'Parking', we are listed fifth. This is very high. Secondly, more than 500 web pages link to Parking Network as a valuable information source. For the marketing of Parking Network we work closely together with all the associations worldwide, the traditional media, tradeshow organizers, specialty societies and research institutes. The platform is managed by a community management team who send out on a frequent basis emails to the targeted audience. This all results in a visitor basis of more than 30.000 unique professionals who frequently visit Parking Network to find their information of interest.'

Who visits Parking Network?

'You can imagine that this platform gives the industry a very good overview of the parking industry worldwide. Therefore we attract the following visitors: public bodies, awarding authorities, project developers, the urban planning specialist, infrastructure consultants, purchase managers, and other persons interested in the latest developments in the parking industry.'



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT AT:

We Focus B.V.

Jorrit Weerman
P.O. Box 529
6200 AM Maastricht
The Netherlands

Tel: + 31 (0) 43 3628042
Fax: +31 (0) 43 3628061
E-mail: info@parking-net.com
Website: www.parking-net.com

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Give us your feedback

We want to make your opinion count. Please give us as much of this information as possible so we can include your comments.

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Editor@parking-net.com

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We Focus B.V.
P.O. Box 529
6200 AM Maastricht
The Netherlands

Tel: + 31 (0) 43 3628042
Fax: +31 (0) 43 3628061
E-mail: info@parking-net.com

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contact us at: info@parking-net.com

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