

Breaking News >>



N1 Tunnel to Toll Plaza Safety System - A combination of Traffic engineering and Road Safety Initiatives

A combination of Syntell's family products brought together to deliver a viable system solution.

The project is a combination of Mikros counting solutions, a bit of Traffic engineering and a splash from Road Safety.

The combination of elements provides SANRAL, a safety system aimed at reducing the number of near fatal accidents as a result of run away vehicles crashing into the toll plaza.

A key challenge was the monitoring of vehicles on the newly created reinforced concrete truck lane. No form of sensors could be cut into the surface.

Sensing was implemented using a combination of optical loop sensors and small radar speed sensing devices. For all normal lanes traditional piezo and loop sensors are deployed.

This system comprises of a traffic light controlled stop go system at the top of the mountain, an arrestor bed complemented with a 'slow down' VMS sign together with lane lights. The lane lights are used to open

an illuminated emergency tol bypass lane, as well as early warning alarms for the toll operators.

At top of the mountain a traffic light complements the required stop for heavy vehicles; to do this a Raktel unit does the actual control of the traffic light, with an optical detector acting as the eye for the Raktel controller. The Raktel unit concurrently gathers data on the vehicles using the other lanes at the location, so that lane-use enforcement could be added at a later stage.

Near the base of the mountain is a gravel arrestor bed that is to be used by heavy vehicles when in difficulty. Getting out of the arrestor bed is quite a challenge so many avoid the bed and continue head on to the toll booths.

To encourage the need to use the arrestor bed, a radar sensor detects speeding heavies using the dedicated truck lane whilst the Raktell system checks the use of the unrestricted lanes. A large VMS sign, instructs the heavies to use the arrestor bed. Complementing the sign are lane lights to guide the way to the arrestor bed.

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Should traffic in the open lanes, depending on the vehicle class be measured as unsafe, then the same encouragement will be presented. If speeding, then a SLOW DOWN message will be flashed.

The last element of the project checks the status of all vehicles and lanes. Should any vehicle be considered exceeding safe limits, an emergency bypass lane is illuminated and alarm provided to the toll operators.

This project is a first of its kind for both Syntell and SANRAL, and we anticipate this will lead to similar projects being implemented throughout the country.

For additional information on the project please email Roger Lewis :
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Trading UP >>



Traffic We have received good orders for LED inserts and traffic controllers from the City of Cape Town.

We have also secured two additional contracts with the City of Cape Town, a labour supply tender as well as the traffic materials tender; we look forward to continuing being of service to them.

We are pleased with the sale of the Trafti-Cam (virtual loop) products for installation within the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality. This was as a result of a workshop that representatives from various municipalities and organisations attended earlier this year. We look forward to increasing the awareness of this technology to many more.

City of Cape Town trials of TraftiCam have been a success and we expect to see further installations in the Mother City soon. The City of Tshwane has moved away from the installation of conventional loops and is hooked on the virtual loop system.

Mikros Traffic Monitoring has secured the contract with Eastern Cape Province, Department of Transport for the supply, maintenance, operation and data collection of electronic traffic counting stations. A team effort has much to do with this accomplishment.

Road Safety

The Breedevalley (Worcester) tender was successfully awarded to Syntell earlier this month. In terms of this contract we will supply:

- Combined Fixed speed and red light violation cameras
- Mobile cameras
- Image processing
- Full back-office support function
- Roadblock systems
- Summons serving and court related processes

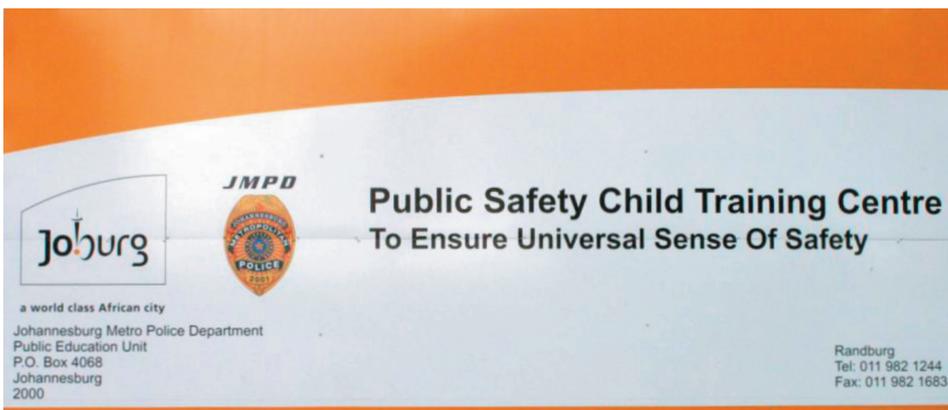
We are currently busy with rolling out the project and we are aiming to be fully operational before the end of June

Networks

On the vending system side, we are busy with S3 Vending System implementations. They are all in various stages of completion in Naledi, Vryburg, Magareng, and Sakisizwe Municipalities.

We are also nearing completion of the Data Warehouse / Primary Server Site that has been commissioned at White Road. This was necessitated due to the growth of the Revenue Transaction Switching Business, as well as more Local Authorities opting for the hosted Vending System model. Our complete Information Systems offering to our clients now also includes a clustered server environment, real time fail over, data replication between the primary and disaster recovery sites, as well as an automated switch to the disaster recovery site to ensure a high level of availability.

Giving Back >>



JMPD Public Safety Child Training Centre

After a successful opening of the Centre by the Executive Mayor of Johannesburg on the 5th April 2011; we could have not asked for a better response from the schools and the community at large. Since the opening to the 31 May 2011 over 150 primary and nursery school children were trained at the centre.

On the 19th May 2011 we had a crew from

SABC 1 who recorded the day's training for children program Kids News and Current Affairs which was broadcast on the 21st May 2011. Both the EMS and Metro Police conduct daily presentations to the children visiting the centre on basic safety such as fire prevention and traffic related training.

The facility is open from Monday to Friday each week. Pre-schools and day care centres are urged to book safety lessons through the metro police department

Academy on 011 424 5061/06.

Golf Day Sponsorship

The Johannesburg Child Welfare Organisation was the clear winner at the Johannesburg Metro Police Department Chief's Golf Day, held at the Glenvista Country Club on 6 May 2011.

Syntell was proud to have contributed to this benevolent event. A total R60 000 was raised at the inaugural JMPD's Golf Day and was handed to the organization on 23 May 2011 by MMC for Safety in the City Of Johannesburg Councillor Elginah Ndhlovu and Chief of Police Chris Ngcobo.

Other sponsors included Associated Motor Holdings, Graffiti, Venus Africa, SAB, Zombodze Panelbeater and Peterod Panelbeaters.

CEO Mark Chewins played his 'putt' on the green and had great fun and looks forward to the next one.

In the Diary



Forthcoming Exhibitions

The bi-annual e-Transport Conference and Exhibition is the premier ITS event to network with key decision-makers and ITS professionals and exploit business opportunities in South Africa's booming ITS market.

The theme for the 6th e-Transport conference and Exhibition is Sustainable Mobility: The 2010 Legacy.

The Traffic and Road Safety teams from both Cape Town and Gauteng, as well as Mikros Systems will be exhibiting their products at Gallagher Estate Conference Centre, Midrand on 12 and 13 September.

Enquiries can be directed to:

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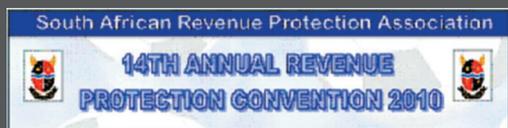
30TH ANNUAL SATC CONFERENCE

The theme for the 30th Annual South African Transport conference and exhibition (SATC) is 'Africa on the Move' and will be held at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria from 11–14 July 2011.

The Traffic and Road Safety teams from both Cape Town and Midrand, as well as eCommerce and Mikros Systems, will be exhibiting their products and showcasing the latest payCity technology.

Enquiries can be directed to:

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The Syntell team will be showcasing the latest technology in prepayment vending systems at the SARPA convention.

The theme for the 15th Annual Revenue Protection Convention is "Revenue Protection as part of Utility Financial Sustainability" and will be hosted by the City of Polokwane in the Jack Botes Hall, on 21 and 22 July 2011.

Enquiries can be directed to:

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Moving on Up >>>



Our customers are the most important part of our business, it stands to reason that staff who interface with our clients play a vital role...

Patrick Beyer, Technician, Traffic Systems - on the front line, active in presenting the professional, helpful and friendly face of Syntell.

Patrick Beyer joined Syntell in October 2008.

He is responsible for the development and support of new and existing Traffic Systems, and expanding Syntell's customer base.

Syntell prides itself on its reliable and efficient customer service and Patrick continuously strives to uphold and grow this relationship with our customers. Patrick sees 2011, filled with new exciting

challenges and opportunities for growth in the traffic systems within the respective Municipalities. He is currently evaluating disabled pedestrian safety technologies.

The Traffic Systems team has done great work over the last eight months, improving reliability of our systems, enhancing features, and providing superior service levels to all our customers.

"With a positive friendly attitude and a team that has a wealth of knowledge and experience, I believe that we can lead the industry through outstanding service and innovative ideas."

Fast Facts >>



Research commissioned by TomTom reveals interesting results about South African drivers and the traffic they get stuck in....

The 2011 TomTom Traffic Survey states that 78% of the 3.8 million drivers on Johannesburg roads are stuck in a severe traffic jam on a daily basis.

- 342 000 are forced to cancel meetings due to traffic (10% of commuters).
- More than 40% of employees are late for work due to traffic jams.
- 75% of this group experience high levels of stress during time spent in traffic.
- Nationally, one quarter of drivers spend 45 minutes or more time in traffic.
- In Gauteng, one third of drivers spend 45 minutes or more time in traffic.

Traffic congestion does not only affect an employee's mental state, but employers

lose R291.00 per employee, per month, due to time wasted in traffic on a daily basis. This accumulates to a staggering figure of over R1 billion per month.

Concerns arise that increasing congestion affects the environment

When respondents were asked what they thought the environmental impact would be if traffic was reduced by 15%, they reacted by stating the following:

- 1.) 96% of drivers thought this would have a positive effect and reduce air pollution.
- 2.) 81% thought this would have a positive effect on noise pollution.
- 3.) 74% of drivers thought traffic reduction would have a positive effect on rising global warming rate.

This survey shows that South Africa is no

exception in the world traffic problems, with more than 2.2 million people caught up in congestion daily.

Results of research conducted on 10,017 drivers in 11 countries revealed that:

- South Africa has the most daily drivers
- South Africans are the most frustrated with traffic
- The majority of South Africans change their departure time to avoid traffic.
- The country that you are more likely to see people singing behind the wheel is Italy.

Source: www.myroadband.co.za

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