Once upon a time...

10 YEARS TRAFICON WORLDWIDE

In Traficon literature packs and during sales presentations, you’ve probably come across the phrase “Our reputation is backed by more than 15 years’ proven field experience and more than 7000 Traficon sensors, operational worldwide.” Now we are celebrating our 10th anniversary. Have we been fooling you? No. Traficon as an independent company was founded in 1992, but continued to build on a development that started in 1979 at the University of Louvain, Belgium. The first commercial application was produced in 1982. From those early days, some people are still working at Traficon. In an era where people are a company's most valuable asset, they provide Traficon with a vast technological knowledge and a wealth of experience that helps us to build solutions for the future.

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News on installations

OPERATIONAL SITES

Ngauranga Gorge - Wellington - New Zealand

The ‘Ngauranga Gorge’, East of Wellington, is situated along the gorge between 2 geological plates. Daily, about 60,000 vehicles pass along the 2-km long gorge. A steep, winding road with dense rush hour traffic, lots of weaving (continuous lane changing) and extreme weather conditions (tropical rain), motorists are faced with drastically reduced visibility. This resulted in recurring rush hour accidents. Moreover, incident levels were multiplied by secondary accidents caused by rear end and queue collisions or by vehicles crashing into the emergency crews. When reviewing the dramatic traffic statistics along the Gorge, Transit NZ decided that drastic actions had to be taken.

Since early 2001, an Automatic Incident Detection System (Trafcon) linked to the Odyssey Traffic Management System (Tyco Int. Systems Australia) is monitoring traffic. The main objective of this Advanced Traffic Management System is to improve traffic safety by fast incident detection and by warning incoming motorists through Variable Message and Mandatory Speed Signs. The Trafcon video detection system with 12 VIP/I detection boards provides direct incident detection on 12 fixed cameras. The system also provides standard traffic data for all vehicles in the Gorge, using 3 VIP/D boards.

Far East and Pacific

China - Traffic data acquisition by Video Detection

On the Beijing Ring road 4 (24 VIP/D), around Beijing Airport (6 VIP/P) and on the Shenzhen ringroad (4 VIP/D – Data Monitor), Trafcon video detection systems are operational for traffic data acquisition since the end of 2001.

EUROPE

Piedrafita tunnel - Spain

On the stretch of the A6 between Villafraanca del Bierzo (Leon) and Cerval (Lugo), the Piedrafita tunnel was equipped with a Trafcon video detection system (72 VIP/I) for automatic incident detection. The video detection system is part of an integrated system supplied by Sainco Trafico.

Lausanne - Switzerland

An innovative installation at the intersection Bes-sières-Caroline manages road traffic by using Trafcon VIP/P detectors to interface with the Siemens traffic light controller.

VENVIERS - LIEGE - BELGIUM

Since the beginning of 2001, several intersections within the city of Verviers, situated in the South-East of Belgium at 40 km from Liege, are equipped with a traffic detection system using video. At these sites, a successful integration of the Stratic VIP/P Presence detector (Trafcon) with the Siemens Elbox traffic light controller helps to establish a dynamic and optimal traffic flow control.

Genova - Italy - Incident detection

On the motorway near Genova, Italy, between the exits Genova Airport and Genova West, there are 3 tunnels and no emergency lanes on a 28 km stretch that is crucial for Genova’s mobility. The stretch is also being used as a ring road for Genova City and every incident or congestion causes a lot of problems. Here, Trafcon detectors (VIP/I – Incident Monitor) provide incident information on 24 cameras. An expert system (called SAMOT, Sistema Automatico Montaggio Traffico), jointly developed by Societa Autostrade and Project Automation handles the alarms issued by the VIP/I.

Milano - Italy

Traffic data acquisition

Located north-east of Milan at 20 km from the city, there are 2 particularly congested roads. Traffic data is collected by 32 Trafcon detectors (VIP/D - Data Monitor) and sent to a control center in Milan via (3 Mbit/sec) IP telephone lines.

St. Marie aux Mines - France

For automatic incident detection and traffic data acquisition, Trafcon detection systems will be installed by Techni for the tunnels near Jasovnik (36 VIP/I and 4 VIP/D) and Locica (36 VIP/I and 4 VIP/D).

Tunnels at Locica and Jasovnik Slovenia

STRAFFIC system of Tyco Int. System, France.

In the Patroclo tunnel, under the San Siro football stadium in Milano, Trafcon detectors (VIP/P - Incident Monitor) will help to ensure traffic safety in the tunnel ‘Maurice Lemare’ (Luss – Voisins), a single tube of 7 km with bidirectional road traffic. The video detection system will be integrated into the POSM system of Tyco Int. System, France.

If a picture paints a thousand words

One picture may convey more information than a thousand words, yet words remain irreplaceable. For that reason, set-up menus for Trafcon products have always been available in 6 languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and Dutch. Now, a Chinese version has come to complete the picture and facilitate the use of our products even more!

Recent orders

Aberdeen tunnel, Hong Kong

Automatic incident detection and traffic data acquisition

In 2002, Trafcon and Siemens Hong Kong will cooperate to equip the Aberdeen tunnel in Hong Kong with a Trafcon video detection system. The system to be installed consists of 22 VIP/P detectors in combination with the VISIONCOM communication board, which will be deployed on the access roads to the tunnel. Inside the tunnel, an additional 27 VIP/I (10 VIP/D) incident detectors with counting feature will be deployed in combination with the VISIONCOM communication board.

Tunnels at Locica and Jasovnik Slovenia

For automatic incident detection and traffic data acquisition, Trafcon detection systems will be installed by Techni for the tunnels near Jasovnik (36 VIP/I and 4 VIP/D) and Locica (36 VIP/I and 4 VIP/D).

Safety first

From ventilation, over fire extinction to the deployment of emergency services coming to rescue people trapped in the tunnel: End of January 2002, public authorities organised some major safety trials in the Tunnel de Foix, France. In parallel, Trafcon video detection systems were put to the test and they passed splendidly. Similar tests in the Mount Victoria tunnel in Wellington, New Zealand (November 2001 and February 2002), were equally successful.

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New branches

While the number of installations across the continents continues to rise, the need for expanding our organisational structure seemed only logical. In the Autumn 2001 issue of this newsletter, we proudly announced the foundation of Trafcon USA in May 2001. Before long, new branches will be officially registered for East Asia and the Pacific and also for France. This new structure will help us to serve our customers in those markets even better.

QUALITY

On 6 November 2001, an ISO 9001 auditing team (Eurosym - BVQI) visited us to investigate whether Trafcon complied with the new version of the ISO 9001 standard. The Trafcon team delivered once again on its promise and showed the auditors how all of them are really committed to providing our customers with an optimal solution.

Trafcon 2002: a lot to celebrate

In 2002, we have a lot to celebrate.

- Trafcon exists 10 years.
- Recently, new Trafcon branches have been established for the USA, Asia and France.
- And our ISO 9001 quality certification has been renewed.

But while celebrating, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our customers and business partners, for we owe a large part of our success to you.

Thank you!