A solar powered Collect-R and a VMS panel in the city of Kortrijk, guiding the drivers to a free parking lot.

Parko, responsible for the parking facilities in the city of Kortrijk (Belgium), has installed a Parking Guidance & Information System (PGI) with 6 Collect-R units in the city. The goal of the installation is to improve traffic efficiency in and near Kortrijk. Normally PGI systems are implemented outside the city center in order to keep traffic outside the city center. The project in Kortrijk is unique because it’s the first time in Belgium a PGI system is used in an urban environment.

Parking Guidance and Information (PGI) systems are designed to aid the driver in the search for vacant parking spaces by directing him to car parks where occupancy levels are low. The objective is to reduce search time, which reduces congestion on the surrounding roads for other traffic with the ultimate aim of enhancement of the urban area. To provide this dynamic information to drivers, PGI systems combine traffic monitoring, communication, intelligent processing and variable message sign technologies.

With the Parking Guidance & Information System in Kortrijk, the city wants to inform the visitors about the free car spaces on the 7 parking lots. In case a parking lot is full, variable message signs – 36 of them are installed throughout the city - guide the driver to the nearest alternative parking lot. These message signs also offer an alternative route to the road user in case of a traffic queue or a blocked road due to an accident.
BASED ON A TRUE STORY

Jean-Paul Vandewinckele, Managing Director of Parko, tells why Collect-R has been chosen for the PGI project in Kortrijk:

“Compared to alternative detection systems, this intelligent sensor offers us multiple benefits: infrastructure and maintenance costs are lower, it leads to more accurate results and it’s a durable solution. Furthermore, the Collect-Rs are really flexible to use. We were able to install them on the existing public lighting infrastructure – and, as all six sensors are solar-powered, their power consumption is low. And with the evolution from parking to traffic guidance systems, the visual feedback you can get from this video sensor offers a lot of possibilities for controlling and monitoring traffic in and around the city.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT, PLEASE CONTACT MR. KOEN SOENENS - TRAFICON (KS@TRAFCON.COM).

THE PARKING GUIDANCE & INFORMATION PROJECT IN KORTRIJK IS A JOINT REALIZATION BETWEEN PARKO, FLOW, VIALIS AND TRAFICON.