Trafficware Purchases PSI Acquisition, LLC

Trafficware Group, Inc. announced it has acquired PSI Acquisition, LLC, an Oregon-based manufacturing company that specializes in intelligent traffic solutions. Their product line includes a variety of CALTRANS traffic control cabinets, controllers and conflict monitors, innovative power backup technology, and industry-leading Cyberlock Security Access System.

“Trafficware is committed to bringing innovation and technology to the traffic industry, as well as a broad portfolio of products. Our goal is to equip our customers with the ability to solve the most complex traffic management problems, whether through organic product development, partnership, or acquisition,” said Jon Newhard, CEO of Trafficware. PSI’s product line includes 33X series cabinets, 170 controllers, 218 conflict monitors, and the CUB-20 power back-up generator.

“The acquisition of PSI represents another step in this process by bringing quality CALTRANS approved cabinets into the Trafficware family,” adds Newhard.

“We are pleased to have the PSI products in the hands of a great company like Trafficware, which has the infrastructure and scale to make the most of our innovations.” said Tim Hysell, CEO of PSI. “It also gives us comfort to have PSI’s customers serviced by a customer-centric company like Trafficware which has been known for its reliability, flexibility, and ability to solve complex traffic problems for decades. Our shared corporate values make this a great fit for everyone, most notably our customers.”

About Trafficware
www.trafficware.com

PEEK Announces Expansion

PEEK Traffic recently announced it has expanded its distribution strategy to directly serve the states of Florida, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

These states were formerly represented for PEEK by two companies: Transportation Control Systems (TCS), based in Florida and Quality Traffic Systems, based in Tennessee. From now on, all current, on-going, and new projects will be directly supported by PEEK Traffic Corporation and its affiliate companies.

This expansion exemplifies our ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality of products and services, giving PEEK an opportunity for our end users to build closer relationships with the manufacturer, that will allow us to better serve and understand the needs and demands of our clients.

About PEEK
www.peektraffic.com

Blue Earth Energy Power Solutions

Blue Earth Energy Power Solutions (Blue Earth EPS) is a division of Blue Earth, Inc. and is the battery and energy storage solutions division. Blue Earth EPS has fulfilled its original mission by developing and manufacturing the next generation in energy power solutions. Our patent pending UPStealth™ Battery Backup System is a lead-acid free, energy efficient, intelligent digital battery backup management system designed to power signalized intersections during loss of utility power.

UPStealth™ is designed as an alternative to lead-acid battery backup systems, enabling Blue Earth EPS to provide its customers with an environmentally friendly product that is completely recyclable with no issues of hazardous out-gassing, corrosion, flammable or explosive characteristics.

The UPStealth™ battery backup system can be formed in various configurations that allow the intelligent battery to bend around corners and fit into spaces
that cannot be accessed by traditional battery backup systems. The “Living-Hinge” Battery Panel design allows for installation in the primary traffic cabinet between the cabinet rack and cabinet shell.

Compared to lead-acid battery backup systems, the innovative UPStealth™ Battery Backup System has a lower cost of ownership, requires less maintenance, performs several years longer, eliminates costly hazardous disposal issues and in most cases, and provides twice the energy in less space.

Our customers have expressed their excitement about UPStealth™ by calling it “superior to current battery backup systems in many ways relative to the life of the product, intelligent diagnostic features, weight, form factor and is more price competitive in terms of maintenance and installation requirements.”

There are several other market verticals where our proprietary UPStealth™ can be applied separately or in combination, as a viable, cost-effective, alternative energy power solution.

Other applications include: services for data centers, oil and natural gas wells, remote cell towers, risk management services, and demand response systems to decrease energy usage during peak load pricing periods charged by utilities.

About Blue Earth EPS
www.blueeartheps.com
(503) 399 3517

Intuicom Signs Transportation and Traffic Industry Veteran Joaquin Segl

Intuicom, Incorporated, a premier supplier of wireless solutions to the Traffic and Intelligent Transportation market, has signed industry veteran Joaquin Segl for Business Development in their Traffic and ITS division.

Mr. Segl brings more than 10 years of sales and business development experience in the ITS and Traffic markets. He most recently served as the Vice President of Sales and Business Development for Encom Wireless.

“I am very pleased to be working with Intuicom,” said Joaquin Segl, President of SEGL Consulting. “Intuicom has a strong reputation for delivering high-quality wireless solutions to the traffic management marketplace and is a recognized leader in the industry. Intuicom’s solutions are a perfect match for providing comprehensive reliable solutions for ITS,” concluded Mr. Segl.

About Intuicom, Inc.

About SEGL Consulting
www.seglconsulting.com
(209) 877-7345

From The Traffic Center To The Intersection, Bellevue, WA Improves Emergency Response With Opticom®

Transportation personnel in Bellevue have been empowered to improve emergency response without leaving their desks. The city is transitioning to an Opticom® Multimode Traffic Signal Priority control system, which includes Opticom® Central Management Software (CMS) enabling them to perform critical management tasks remotely and maximize resources without compromising the budget.

Opticom® CMS, a desktop-based traffic management software, is connected via Ethernet connections at the city’s intersections. Critical data is relayed from phase selectors at the intersections to traffic engineers at the centralized traffic management center.

“Our primary goal is to use signal preemption to reach those in need faster,” said Mike Whiteaker, Intelligent Transportation Systems Manager, Bellevue. “These new technologies allow us to do that more cost-effectively.”

Bellevue fire and police crews were already using Opticom® Traffic Signal Priority control at each of the city’s 185 signalized intersections. The deployment of Opticom® CMS has revolutionized traffic signal priority control behind the scenes too. As a result, emergency responders can be assured that signal preemption will work seamlessly when they need it most.

“We can find out exactly what’s happening with priority control at every intersection,” said Whiteaker. “We can check out activity logs and even identify specific vehicles using signal preemption. We can isolate any issues in real time and make smarter and faster maintenance decisions.”

“Quite simply, we’re making fewer trips to the field, which means we’re spending less money on maintenance tasks,” said Whiteaker. “The transition to Opticom® CMS allows us maximize the use of our resources.”

Mutual Aid: Saving more lives

The Opticom® Multimode System offers complete interoperability between Infrared (IR) and GPS priority control systems. The transition to Opticom® Multimode technology offers benefits far beyond the traffic management center. It promotes more effective mutual aid response for the entire region. Response teams from neighboring communities can now receive green lights on the way to emergencies in Bellevue.

“We conduct extensive mutual aid operations with several agencies in the area, from Redmond right next to us to Mercer Island across the bridge” said Whiteaker. “Our new interoperable equipment ensures their response teams won’t be slowed when aiding our citizens.”

About Global Traffic Technologies (GTT)
www.gtt.com
651-789-7329.

RTC Manufacturing Solves Common Lighting Problem Beyond Shadow Of A Doubt

When the city of Olathe, Kansas, was having trouble with its streetlights on and around the I-35 bridge, traffic signals supervisor Artie Santisteban was confident RTC Manufacturing could help.
“RTC is really great when I’m troubleshooting,” Santisteban said. “The good thing is you don’t need to talk to a vendor first. If the guys are available, they’ll pick up the phone and say, ‘Do this, this and this.’”

The existing light setup used photo sensors to turn the streetlights on and off, but with varying infrastructure surrounding the three controller cabinets, diverse shadow patterns activated the photo sensors at different times, leading to complaint calls from drivers.

Santisteban consulted RTC to see if it was possible to use the company’s AP22 Time Switch — a calendar programmable device with the ability to run 10 different day plans — to program the streetlights to turn on at dusk and off at sunrise.

RTC chief engineer Mark Sampson engineered a quick fix to do just that. Based on astronomical calculations using Olathe’s latitude and longitude, he created nine schedules for the AP22s.

After installing the time switches, Olathe’s bridge lights turn on and off in unison in accordance with sunrise and sunset. “Now, nothing looks out of the ordinary, and we don’t have phone calls anymore,” Santisteban said.

Now, others can operate their equipment easily and efficiently with RTC’s AP22s and its newly designed software, RTC Connect™, which includes a sunrise and sunset feature that removes the need for technicians to do calculations themselves. Like in Olathe’s situation, RTC Connect’s ability to precisely plan lighting schedules based on the sun, a specific time or a mixture of the two can significantly reduce energy costs.

About RTC Manufacturing
www rtc traffic com
(800) 782-8721

Bicycle Safety in Chelan, WA from ATP and STC

Solar Traffic Controls (STC) and Advanced Traffic Products (ATP) joined technologies to solve a problem for WSDOT along a stretch of winding road with a narrow shoulder. The location along Lake Chelan is popular with bicyclists during good weather.

Previously only a static sign existed to warn motorists of the conditions ahead. The warning sign now includes an amber flashing beacon, a solar-powered system, and is a sensor-based system to warn motorists there are bicyclists ahead. Dale Sanders of ATP con-
tacted STC about the project to discuss the possibilities of using solar-powered flashing beacons with a Matrix sensor from Wavetronix as the detection method.

The poor sunlight in December and the draw of the sensor made it unreasonable to run the equipment 24/7 through the winter. Certain key factors made the solar-based solution practical. First, with limited roadway lighting and long nights in the winter months, few bicyclists use the area after dark. Second, the area is popular with recreational cyclists who rarely ride in the winter when there is snow along the road. With these factors considered, WSDOT agreed to have the system operational for only 12 hours/day in the winter to cover any local users. The system is active 24/7 the rest of the year.

STC furnished a 140W SR type solar flashing beacon system. This system includes onboard control logic which allows the user to set the run time of the flasher, keep track of activation counts and perform self-test functions for the beacon sub-system. The control logic includes an LCD screen and six user interface buttons to allow adjustment of the timing parameters. Since time of day, time of year operation is also necessary, the logic control program was modified to run these functions to turn the equipment off and on. The system includes an integrated charge/flasher control unit with solid-state outputs, 15A charge control and automatic night dimming to charge the system and control the beacons. To back the system up through the winter it includes three sealed maintenance-free batteries. The DC LED lamps elements are STC model 2385C units manufactured in Phoenix, AZ. ATP furnished the Matrix sensor, a Wavetronix product, along with the support circuitry and cabling to integrate it into the STC power/beacon system. According to Dale Sanders of ATP, who was present for the installation, the Matrix was configured to detect slower moving targets within the detection zone. To detect bikes and not vehicles traveling at normal speeds (35 mph posted speed limit), a detection zone of approximately 10 feet was defined. A 1.2 second time delay was then programmed into the sensor output. A target detected within the zone that stays there at least 1.2 seconds will trigger the flashing beacons. The system was tested with a car traveling at 20 mph to simulate the speed of a fast moving bicyclist on a level road. The flashing beacon triggered every time, indicating it will work with slower moving bicycles also. Testing it at approximately 23 mph did not trigger the beacons. Response was tested with truck traffic in the area as there was concern that their length might cause false triggering but this was not a problem. Occasionally there may be pedestrians on this stretch of road and the Matrix will pick them up. WSDOT indicated this would not be a problem since the flashing beacons would provide an added level of safety for them as well. This project demonstrates the versatility of both the STC flashing beacon systems and the Matrix detector system to be modified to meet specific project objectives both through hardware and firmware parameter setting.

About STC and ATP
www.solar-traffic-controls.com

SmartSensor Matrix Part of Tustin City Ranch Road Extension

Wavetronix, a leader in radar traffic detection and monitoring, is pleased to announce a first-of-its-kind installation of SmartSensor Matrix in the city of Tustin, CA. The Tustin system uses Wavetronix radar in a unique “in-the-box” detection scheme designed specifically to ensure that bicyclists can safely pass through the intersection before the light changes. The new intersection system is part of a major road project that was unveiled in Tustin on November 23, 2013.

The Tustin Ranch Road Extension project, which connects Interstate 5 with Von Karman Avenue in nearby Irvine, has been in the works since the 1970s and is eagerly anticipated by residents, according to Tustin Mayor Al Murray.

“It’s been over 30 years in development,” Murray said. “I see it as a road to prosperity and something that’s going to be vital for mobility throughout Orange County.”

As part of the project, the city of Tustin is incorporating technology that specifically addresses the safety of cyclists. Tustin Deputy Director of Public Works Ken Nishikawa said making Tustin bicycle-friendly is one of the city’s top goals when looking at improving infrastructure.

“There are a lot of cyclist enthusiasts in Orange County,” Nishikawa
said. “(We) plan for bicycle enthusiasts to be able to safely go on the roadways. We’re looking forward to seeing them out here for sure.”

SmartSensor Matrix is able to detect bicycles and register them as part of traffic, eliminating the problem that many cyclists face at actuated traffic signals: traffic cameras often cannot detect bicycles; and inductive loops require bicycles be positioned in a specific location above the loop for accurate detection. Matrix, which generates 16 separate radar beams, can detect bicycles in user-defined zones anywhere in its 90-degree, 140-foot field of view. As a result, bicycles are treated like any other vehicle when it comes to activating signals.

Project consultants Hartzog & Crabill tested SmartSensor Matrix to evaluate its ability to detect bicycles as well as other vehicles. Working with Wavetronix, who manufactures the sensor, and SummitCrest, Wavetronix’ local authorized channel partner, Hartzog & Crabill was able to create an “in-the-box” detection configuration.

According to Bill Taylor, Regional Sales Manager for SummitCrest, Matrix detects traffic at the stop bar, but the Tustin project also uses the sensor to track vehicles and bicycles through the intersection, or inside “the box.”

“The purpose of that was not only to pick up cars and cyclists at the stop bar as they enter into the area but to be able to pick them up as they enter the intersection,” Taylor said. “This allows the system to hold the green longer to get them through the intersection. So it makes it safer for the cyclists.”

Like all Wavetronix sensors, Matrix is easy to install and requires little to no maintenance. Unlike loops, Matrix installs above the ground with minimal traffic disruption; unlike cameras, Matrix works in all weather and lighting scenarios.

Starting in 2008, California traffic engineers have been under the instruction of California Vehicle Code Section 21450.5, which states that traffic-actuated signals should be able to detect “lawful bicycle or motorcycle traffic on the roadway,” though cities and counties are not required to follow this until the California Department of Transportation establishes “uniform standards, specifications, and guidelines for the detection of bicycles and motorcycles.”

Taylor said currently SmartSensor Matrix is the only form of traffic detection on the market that can accurately and consistently sense bicycles.

The SmartSensor Matrix “in-the-box” detection configuration is initially being rolled out at four intersections.

About Wavetronix
www.wavetronix.com

Trafficware Innovates With Partners to Improve Driver Experience

Car manufacturers believe they have found the next cutting-edge feature that will make consumers want to buy their vehicles. For example, several of the leading auto manufacturers were lined up at one of the booths at the 2014 Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, promoting the next innovation in driver safety, fuel efficiency, and reduced emissions.

This innovation combines two things that most people interact with on a daily basis: their smartphone and traffic. Green Driver, a high-tech startup, released a smartphone app called EnLighten, which communicates with the central traffic management system to provide drivers with predictions on how long they will be stopped at traffic lights. Trafficware was the logical technology partner, as the company currently has the City of Las Vegas as one of its central traffic management system customers. This central software system is flexible and extensible, allowing for integration with third party software products like EnLighten. Trafficware provides the real-time traffic signal data for intersections to Green Driver, creating opportunities for drivers to have a more relaxing and informed driving experience.

“This innovative technology is good for the city, due to quantifiable environmental benefits and also improves the drivers’ experience and overall safety,” explains David Etherington, President of Green Driver. “The real-time data about the traffic signal that is provided by Trafficware gives drivers a whole new level of insight into their driving experience.” Not only have mo-

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Walk-In DMS provide an extra layer of convenience for a DOT, enabling easy upgrades and maintenance without the added hassle of road and lane closures. With the side entry door workers are able to access the DMS at any time without delay, providing a more efficient and safer method for maintenance. Additionally, Skyline DMS have true character height making signs more legible from a distance of 1,200 feet. And Skyline’s industry exclusive full feedback technology assures traffic control operators that signs are displaying correct messages at all times.

“The Walk-In DMS are a critical component of our ITS deployment and we are very happy with our decision to use Skyline Products signs and World Fiber Technologies installations. With Skyline’s excellent readability and reliability we know that our messages are getting to our motorists to keep them moving in an efficient and safe manner,” said Wayne Bryan, Signal System Engineer for the City of Tallahassee.

“Skyline’s Walk-In DMS offer flexibility for communicating critical advisories to motorists traveling at high speeds to help keep traffic moving safely and effectively,” said Chip Stadjuhar, CEO of Skyline Products Inc. “We are pleased to be part of Florida DOT’s Interstate Master Plan as our signs will help improve the safety of the I-10 freeway in Tallahassee.”

About Skyline

Opticom® Featured on “World’s Greatest...!”

The popular television program, “World’s Greatest!...” professed Global Traffic Technologies (GTT) and Opticom® in an extended segment that recently aired on the ION Network.

The segment includes footage of Opticom® in action in Sunrise, FL. Viewers get side-by-side comparison views of a fire truck equipped with Opticom® and one without attempting to navigate a busy intersection.

“It’s one thing to read about the benefits of Opticom,” said Craig Carroll, GTT Sales Director. “It’s entirely different to see it from the perspective of those who use it every day. We’re proud that we’ve maintained our position as the leading priority control solution. So, it’s great to be able to share our story with a wider audience.”

Opticom® priority control solutions are installed at more than 70,000 intersections in more than 2,800 cities around the world. They empower cities by helping emergency responders travel faster and safer, transit systems run more efficiently and traffic engineers to manage traffic flow.

Filming took place in Sunrise, FL and provides powerful, real-time footage showing how Opticom® solutions change the way cities move.

To view the episode, please visit GTT’s website: www.gtt.com.

City of Tallahassee Installs Skyline Products’ Walk-In DMS on I-10

Skyline Products recently announced they have provided eight Walk-In Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) for the I-10 freeway near Tallahassee as part of the City of Tallahassee Regional Transportation Management Center and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Project. Skyline is working jointly with Florida DOT, City of Tallahassee, and World Fiber Technologies to install these new signs which will provide Florida DOT more control over traffic management.

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