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Parking Policy and Operations Workshop

Melbourne 21 – 22 November 2007 (postponed from September 2007)

ARRB is please to offer the third training workshop for 2007 on Parking Policy and Operations. These workshops focus on operational issues associated with design, technologies, security, operating costs, presentation and management of on and off- street parking areas.

The workshops offer practical advice, combined with local examples to illustrate what to do and what not to do, in establishing and running a parking facility. They are suited to commercial property developers, owners and managers, architects, traffic and transport engineers, facility and asset managers and those responsible for parking at retail and commercial centres, hospitals, campuses and local councils.

The workshop is available to delegates who wish to attend both days or any one day (Melbourne - Tuesday and Wednesday 21 & 22 November).

For a copy of the registration form please click on [Melbourne 21-22 November 2007](#) to download brochure, or for enquiries contact Lorraine Ray on (03) 9881-1680 or lorraine.ray@arrb.com.au

Please [click here](#) if you wish to enter your feedback or suggestions in relation to a topic you would like to see ARRB deliver a workshop on or a location you would like a particular workshop to attend.

For a description of all ARRB workshops on offer [click here](#).



ARRB develops city centre parking strategy

Parking management is a major issue for many councils. Balancing the needs of traders, commuters, customers and residents, and the needs of local and state road authorities, can be a difficult task.

The issues may include accessibility, parking demand and supply, revenue and road capacity. Ipswich City Council, recently identified a need to better understand short and long term parking issues within its city centre. Council engaged ARRB to help identify the issues and provide Council with a list of prioritised actions for consideration.

If you need assistance with urban transport planning, specifically looking at planning and behaviour change for walking and cycling, please contact Warwick Pattinson warwick.pattinson@arrb.com.au (VIC) or Anne Still anne.still@arrb.com.au (WA).



Valet parking goes high-tech – case study

Traditionally valet parking services provide a manual system of recording vehicle information on a ticket stub (aside from word of mouth of the valet attendant) for determining the condition of a vehicle upon arrival and departure. The customer service benefits associated with valet parking can often be outweighed by negatives such as damage claims, where in the absence of conclusive evidence, the valet service provider typically must bear the costs associated with alleged damage and / or pay higher insurance premiums as a consequence.

The parking industry in Australia continues to embrace the advantages of licence plate recognition (LPR) technology using commercially available software, for the purpose of access control, security and revenue

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control. A system developed in the USA by Computerised Valet Parking Systems (CVPS) has integrated LPR technology and linked digital images of a vehicle to a set of valet parking data, where the images record and document the physical condition of each vehicle when the vehicle is parked and retrieved by the valet attendant.



Six camera configuration with LPR



Digital images of vehicle condition pre and post valet parking

In a valet parking application, up to 8 digital images can be taken of a vehicle and in the event of an alleged damage claim, the images of the vehicle when it entered and departed the valet parking facility can be retrieved and viewed. The advantages of this technology are that records of vehicles can be stored and are more readily accessible, damage can be assessed based on historical data and the images referenced to pre-empt a potential claim if there is pre-existing damage. A network server links the pre-parking images collected with the post-parking images and can be integrated into an existing operation.

Operators investing in an integrated computerised system can add value to their service proposition, improve productivity and be provided with quick, reliable claims research. The merit of incorporating both vehicle and licence plate recognition technology is that it would ideally enhance a valet parking operation, from access control to surveillance and importantly service delivery. (Photos reproduced with permission of CVPS).

For information on how a sample of 51 'five' star hotel valet parking prices compare between five Australian capital cities [click here](#).



On site space detection and advisory systems – emerging technologies

Parking systems designed to detect, count, and indicate vacant spaces in real time, and then guide motorists to the closest available space have been available in the UK, USA and Europe for many years. Such technology was first pioneered in Australia in 2001 by using individual floor mounted micro sensors that detected the change in light on the floor surface associated with vehicular movement into and out of a bay.



Recently the technology has been refined using ceiling mounted ultrasonic sensors that detect whether a parking bay is occupied by a vehicle or is vacant. Each sensor detects the presence of a vehicle which in turn is transmitted to a zone controller that changes LED indicator lights above each bay from green (available) to red (occupied). Additional LED signs can be positioned in proximity to connecting driveways to assist drivers to navigate toward available spaces and reduce the search time normally associated with drivers navigating between multiple aisles.

The emergence of both hard wired ultrasonic and wireless infrared detection parking guidance systems in a number of large parking facilities in recent times offer time-poor motorists the convenience of finding a parking space more efficiently and can maximise parking utilisation. Supporting software systems allow asset managers to determine parking occupancy by location and monitor the benefits associated with improved turnover and customer satisfaction.

To view previous editions of *Parking News* [click here](#). If you would like to receive a copy of *Parking News*, or nominate an additional recipient, or be removed from the mailing list, please email the editor, simon.compton@arrb.com.au

New applications for ARR's high speed data collection vehicles

ARRB has been engaged by several clients to use its high speed data collection technology for parking related applications. The technology includes a Global Positioning System (GPS) and a high resolution image acquisition system for visually identifying and locating roadside features. It has been used to undertake signage and pavement marking audits for Deakin University, Melbourne Airport, the Tasmanian Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, Central Goldfields Shire and shopping centres in Victoria.

The system utilises the latest digital camera technology with continuous 3-D road maps and road geometry information being recorded. All images of road and car park signage can be segregated into categories such as parking control, regulatory, warning, hazard, directional and traffic instruction. Any deficiencies against current guidelines and/or Australian Standards with respect to any signage and pavement markings are identified. Recommendations to rectify deficiencies are then made to ensure that they are in accordance with guidelines and Road Rules.

A register of all signage assets can be catalogued according to their location and type including a description of the sign, the sign code and the latitude and longitude of each sign. An image of each sign is linked to the details recorded against it which can be viewed in the environment in which it was taken. In contrast to traditional manual field audits which may not integrate all the essential elements required, managers are able to access consolidated information necessary for decisions on maintenance and expenditure.

Digital image technology has also been used for vegetation surveys in Western Australia and assessments of railway inventory condition in Tasmania, crash barriers, bus shelters, kerb and channel and numerous other assets.

For more information, please contact Simon Compton simon.compton@arrb.com.au or Richard Wix richard.wix@arrb.com.au

