



NEW ENTRY

Sarah Minto from Derwent Systems provides a sneak preview of a newly developed ALPR system for use at secure sites, set to be unveiled at Intertraffic

An advanced processor and new software has been added to Derwent CCTV's REG camera range to create the company's first truly intelligent ALPR system. REG-Sentry – Derwent's first automated vehicle access control system – will be showcased at Intertraffic Amsterdam.

Precision engineered, REG-Sentry can operate as either a standalone solution or can be integrated with existing equipment. Users can configure the system with their own specific numberplate black/white lists, enabling or barring access to any vehicle attempting to enter a secure site.

The system delivers a flexible, user-friendly ALPR solution for a wide range of access-control applications, including access roads, car parking, gated communities, factories, warehouses, offices and schools.

The new system is comprised of three elements – a REG camera, a control box with embedded processing engine, and tailored software – to effectively and intelligently control traffic barrier applications.

Users have a choice of Derwent's field-proven REG cameras to accommodate a range of required capture distances. The REG camera captures the numberplate of any vehicle approaching an access-control point and sends that data to the REG-Sentry control box. The information is then processed and compared with the user-

defined black/white list. The system then sends a signal to the access barrier to open or allows the barrier to remain closed.

The intelligent processor in the control box converts numberplate images from the camera to ASCII characters and appends data and time information. This data can then be viewed via the TCP/IP connection at the time of conversion. The user's black/white list can be uploaded with the easy-to-use Sentry-Viewer software, while the processor within REG-Sentry can communicate with any PC that has a network card.

For system designers looking to integrate REG-Sentry with existing systems, a key benefit is that the company is releasing the original software code (written in C++) as part of the standard package. It will also be possible for Derwent to supply the REG-Sentry control box (with software) separately to provide an upgrade to existing ALPR camera installations.

ARE YOU ON THE LIST?

The numberplate lists can contain up to 10,000 registrations – the current optimal amount for processor speeds and practical traffic-flow management. A simple interface allows remote operators to adapt the list



Integration with existing systems is possible



ALPR-enabled access systems can act like email spam filters, allowing only authorized vehicles entry

to changing circumstances. Like a spam filter, using a whitelist will automatically allow access to all cars with numberplates matching the list and stop those not on that list. A blacklist will exclude certain numberplates and let all others through.

Users have a choice of three levels of recognition sensitivity (high, medium and low), regardless of the list specified. High sensitivity allows only exact matches to the user-defined numberplate list. Misreads due to questionable letters or numbers on customized plates (such as the number 1 appearing as the letter I), or letters altered by screw heads or dirt will be given no leeway. The medium setting allows for one questionable character to be accepted, while low sensitivity allows for a couple of questionable characters.

REG-Sentry will be supplied with a full European numberplate recognition library (limited specific country libraries can be supplied on request), so there's no need to specify the country when adding new numbers to a list. This will save significant amounts of time at the data entry stage. ■

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