Triplesign VMS: A Sustainable Revolution in Road Safety



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About Triplesign

> A family business, founded in 1998.

Our Vision:
Being the Market leader for the next generation (3-message) VMS



> Our mission:

To offer the most sustainable and highest quality new generation VMS by using the latest high-end technology, based on new patents, functions & innovations.

> How we do this:

We secure quality and service to the end-user by developing and maintaining long-term co-operation with skilled and reliable partners in each market.



Some facts and figures

World Health Organization reports

- > 1.3 million people killed in traffic accidents annually
- Between 20 and 50 million more people injured annually
- Road traffic crashes cost most countries 3% of their GDP
- > 70% of all accidents are in urban areas with 1/3 fatal
- > 30% of all accidents are in extra urban areas with 2/3 fatal

"Variable Message Signs (VMS) provide real-time information on traffic conditions, making it possible to guide drivers through electronic signs along the road. Relevant literature has proved <u>VMS</u> to be effective, especially for diverting traffic during incidents in the highway or inducing a speed reduction."





The use of VMS increases traffic safety

- Urban areas need efficient traffic measures
- VMS have proven their usefulness and necessity to enhance traffic safety and traffic flow
- VMS signs can reduce information overload
- > In many cases LED VMS are used



Example of information overload



But:

- > LED VMS are not very sustainable
- > The lifetime of LED VMS is short (6-8 years)
- LED VMS are expensive (especially the installation) and need a lot of maintenance
- LED VMS require a power connection or

large battery



Example of an unsustainable solution



A Triplesign VMS is the sustainable alternative

- > When only a limited number of messages is required
- > When there are no cables (yet) for power or communication
- > When there is a small budget to take measures
- > When the same problems occur repeatedly
- > When a varying message must be displayed for a longer period (such as
 - different speed limits, temporary roadblocks, weather warnings, etc.)





Key Features of Triplesign Solution

- Extremely low power consumption
- Solar energy operation or battery only
- Wireless functionality
- Turnkey and IoT readiness
- Easy cable-free installation
- Low investment
- Web-interface or back-end platform control





Autonomous slippery road warning



Key Features of Triplesign Solution

- Exceptionally long service life (>20 years)*
- > Minimal yearly maintenance
- > Low and easy maintenance
- Easy to integrate with existing Intelligent Traffic Management systems
- Reliability Always displaying a message
- Uniformity to static signs



• Replacement of active components gives a new sign when the 20 years lifetime is lapsed



Some real-life examples

- Variable speed zones in Belgium
- > Autonomous flood warning system in the UK
- > Narrow road passes in Norway
- Flexible use of road sections in Italy





School zones or Variable speed zones



Meer actieve weggebruikers onder verkeersslachtoffers Het aandeel actieve weggebruikers stijgt onder de verkeersslachtoffers. Zowel voetgangers Het aandeel actieve weggebruikers stijgt onder de verkeersslachtomers. Lower voeugangers zijn steeds vaker betrokken in dodelijke verkeersongevallen met personenwagens. Dat bli In 1 op de 3 dodelijke ongevallen speelt overdreven of onaangepaste Daarnaast valt ongeveer 4 op 10 van alle slachtoffers op het Vlaamse wegennet - m vrijgegeven <u>verkeersveiligheidsbarometer</u> 🗗 van VIAS. aandeel actieve weggebruikers - op wegen met een snelheidsregime van 50 km/v snelheid een rol. kom. Het nieuwe afwegingskader kan een houvast bieden om een gepast snelheiubinnen de bebouwde kom te bepalen. **Overdreven snelheid is nog steeds de belangrijkste** oorzaak van ongevallen op de Belgische wegen. Niet alleen de bestuurders van het voertuig worden

getroffen. De meeste slachtoffers vallen onder de passagiers van het voertuig, inzittenden van een aangereden voertuig en de aangereden personen. Ļ



Variable speed situation in Belgium

Excessive and unadopted speed is still the main cause of accidents on Belgian roads. Not only the drivers of the vehicle are affected. Most victims are the passengers of the vehicle, occupants of a hit vehicle or cyclists and pedestrians.

A local government chose to create temporary speed limitations during rush hours in specific areas, to reduce the risk for traffic incidents.



Preconditions:

- The solution needed to be sustainable
- > No power was available on site
- > The signs needed to work on solar energy
- > The signs needed to be autonomous and maintenance free



The KRYCER solution:

Krycer installed the Triplesign solution that is operated with a preprogrammed yearly calendar. Possible adjustments are made via a webinterface or by local reprogramming of the PLC.









Some challenges and lessons learned from this project:

- > The power consumption of the signs is 1W/hour
- > This is too much when the sign is placed in the shadow and there is little possibility to recharge the battery
- The signs need to be reprogrammed every now and then and this needs to be done for each sign separately
- > The signs are not connected to each other and need to rotate all at the same time
- > This is complicated when the signs are not "grouped" to work together



New Triplesign system (Portal Multi):

- Grouping and Control of several signs in 1 portal
- Secure communication (MQTT communication, TLS protocol)
- Power consumption down to 0,14 W/hour
- Sign status and battery level available 24/7
- Log files available 24/7
- Customer controlled portal
- Add and remove users
- Access control
- Calendar functionality (Hourly/Daily/Monthly/Yearly etc..)





Flood warning







The bridge has gained a reputation for its flooding (Image: John Corley/Leicestershire and Rutland 4x4 Response)

Safety measures aimed at preventing cars from getting trapped under a notorious <u>Leicestershire</u> bridge prone to flooding are set to be put in place. The Church Hill Road bridge in Thurmaston has been the centre of flooding problems for decades, with residents voicing concerns for years about the issue.

Despite **<u>calls for action</u>**, no preventative measures had been put in place to keep drivers safe. But that will now change after council bosses confirmed measures will be installed in the coming weeks.





Flood Sensor

Ingredients:

2 Triplesign VMS

> 1 flood sensor

Communication:

Mobile network (IoT SIM-card)

> Triplesign portal

The customer can log in to the portal and see alerts, logs and status of the sign



Narrow road passes





Narrow road situation in Norway

- > 10 12% of country roads are too narrow for two (big) vehicles to meet
- > No budget to solve this with traditional methods
- > Traditional methods often lead to major interventions in nature
- Looking for innovative and sustainable solutions







Problem:

When two (large) vehicles meet they cannot pass each other
The vehicles cannot see each other in time

Solution:

Give priority to one vehicle and let the other vehicle wait
System based on logic for strike in/strike out

This sounds simple, but.....



Preconditions:

- Drivers cannot be expected to speak/understand Norwegian
- > No electricity can be expected self sufficient solution is needed
- No landline or mobile communication can be expected system must be able to communicate internally between the devices regardless of GSM coverage
- Solution must be adaptable and solve local conditions and challenges
- Solution must be reliable
- > At least 85% of all issues need to be solved with this solution



The AMPARO solution:

- > A universal, local ITS system, consisting of two or more "ITS stations"
- > Each ITS station is "self-propelled", self-supplied with electricity
- > The ITS station communicates wirelessly with other ITS stations, and
- The ITS stations are controlled/interact according to specified
 - local/specific "driving rules"
- The ITS stations must be based on existing technology and products to the greatest extent possible



Main components of the solution:

- Use and interaction of existing products/technology
- Possibilities for local adaptation
- Scenario analyses and "traffic rules" (general/per location)
- > Amparo, adapted communication solution (radio)
- > Triplesign VMS, effective presentation/dissemination of messages in "real time"
- > Development of energy-efficient and autonomous solution, independent of the grid















Congestion situation in Italy

- > The most congested arterial motorway in Milan is the A4 from Turin to Trieste
- > An average of 70.000 vehicles is passing daily
- > With peaks exceeding 200.000 vehicles per day

Autostrade per l'Italia was looking for a sustainable solution to speed up travel times for vehicles and above all reduce the environmental impact:

Every hour of congestion = 1.5 tons of CO2 emission!



Problem:

- > During peak hours, the traffic was not able to flow
- Travel times were extremely long
- Environmental impact of the congested areas was huge
- > There was no space to widen the motorway as it is in an urban area

Solution:

- Give the traffic more room to keep it flowing; create a " Dynamic fourth lane"
- > During rush hours the emergency lane is converted to a fourth lane



The GESTED Solution:

- Using a mix of innovative technologies a new dynamic lane that covers a distance of 3.5 kilometers is created
- An electronic control system that constantly monitors traffic and detects all potential dangers
- > Making it possible to open the emergency lane for traffic during rush hours
- > And making it possible to close it in times of need
- > Motorists are notified in real time of changes in the use of the lanes
- The communication system makes use of a combination of LED VMS above the lanes, and Triplesign VMS, above and on the side of motorway

















Other applications

- > High winds on bridges
- > Warnings for slippery conditions
- > Traffic jam warnings
- Mandatory snow chains





High winds on bridges









Forth Road Bridge closed after high winds blow lorry over Telegraph Video, VIDEO SOURCE ITN11 January 2017 • 2:53pm





Real time information

High winds at highway bridges

Uddevalla bridge - Sweden









Warnings for slippery conditions







Traffic jam warnings







Snow chain obligation



Conclusions

Triplesign System is a very sustainable and affordable solution for traffic safety

- The new secured communication system makes it possible for smaller communities to install and operate their own traffic management systems
- Systems can be autonomous and warn drivers for specific dangers using sensor technology and AI
- The system can be integrated wirelessly with existing intelligent traffic management systems







