

Toulouse: Steria develops one of the first multimodal systems for French urban transport

Submitted by: Pleon

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16 January 2004 - The European end-to-end IT services provider, Steria, has developed the management and control system of seven park-and-ride car parks for the SMTC (Toulouse joint public transport union). These car parks are located along the 12km-long A Line of the Toulouse underground and offer a total of 3500 parking spaces. Due to be up-and-running by the end of the year, this is one of the first multimodal systems to be used in French urban transport, with the underground ticket also being valid for the car park.

The SMTC has built car parks along the underground's A Line to incite the Toulouse population to leave their cars on the outskirts of the town and take public transport. The goal is to provide a reliable system which encourages customers to use it.

Steria designed a centralised 24/7 management and control system for the seven park-and-ride car parks. It can be interlinked with the underground's centralised control system. Each car park can be managed locally to ensure optimum quality of service to users at peak times. Moreover, the system communicates via GSM Data with variable message signs to keep motorists informed of parking space availability.

Steria was chosen for this project in March 2002 following a performance-based call for tender. The cost of the project in terms of hardware and software stands at 2.3 million Euros.

This fully digital solution for the Toulouse A Line underground park-and-ride system is based on Steria's "Parking Expert" offer. It includes the following:

- full equipment supervision (entry-exit barriers, ticket readers, emergency interphones, video-surveillance cameras, audio message broadcasting systems, etc.),
- ticketing management, as the underground ticket is also the ticket used for exiting the car park,
- multimedia data processing (sound, video, data), command control management and incident follow-up (video archiving),
- automatic broadcast of information via different media (15 variable message signs with information on space availability, GSM data messages, etc.),
- dashboard and status/statistical information.

Steria is the prime contractor for the project and is working with the following partners: Time Designa (access control systems), Clemessy (electrical engineering and network infrastructure), JC Decaux (display panels) and Visiowave (digital video).

This new development is an opportunity for Steria to re-emphasise its expertise in the field of transport and multimodal systems, and its ability to manage complex projects. Steria has previously developed car park management systems for airports in Frankfurt, Paris (Charles de Gaulle and Orly airports), Lyon St Exupéry and Geneva. Moreover, Steria has implemented major road traffic management projects for motorway management companies in France (ESCOTA, SAPRR, SANEF, AREA), Luxembourg, Malaysia, Singapore and Switzerland, as well as by-pass systems for large agglomerations including Lille, Toulouse and Geneva.

Steria in the UK also has an active transport business, operating in traffic and vehicle management, public transport technology, in-car information systems and airport resource management, access and security. Customers in the UK include Bristol International Airport.

Notes to editors:

The Toulouse underground A Line between Basso Cambo and Jolimont was opened in June 1993. It is currently being extended to Balma-Gramont, the opening of which is planned for 2004. The north-south B Line will be opened in 2007. The Toulouse underground system uses Matra Transport's VAL technology.

The Toulouse population rose to 358,000 in 1990 and 391,000 in 1999. One of the features of this rise was a 110% increase in journeys using private vehicles. The Toulouse city council and its 52 surrounding communes therefore decided to join forces to deal with three priorities: integrating the issue of vehicle journeys into the urban development of the agglomeration, promoting intermodal systems and developing a network able to realistically compete with private vehicle use.

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About Steria (www.steria.com)

Extensive expertise in its three core businesses of consulting, systems integration and managed services has made Steria a leading end-to-end IT services provider for companies and public authorities throughout Europe. With a revenue of 1 billion Euros and more than 8000 employees, Steria is one of the top ten European IT services companies. Knowledge of its customers' business processes, understanding of the challenges facing them and an exceptional ability to respond enable Steria to design innovative solutions with a commitment to results and customer satisfaction. Steria is thus able to provide a portfolio of proven solutions backed by more than 30 years' experience in managing large-scale projects. Steria's employees, who hold 30% of the Group's capital, have built a performance culture based on strong values – simplicity, creativity, independence, respect and openness – enabling Steria to help its customers make progress. Steria is listed on the Premier Marché of the Paris Stock Exchange (SRD) and in the SBF 120 index.

About Steria Limited (www.steria.co.uk)

Steria in the UK delivers a full services portfolio, combining consulting, systems integration and managed services with a focus on major business areas including the public sector, finance and transport. Steria employs more than 1,500 people in the UK.

For more information, contact:

Casey Balkham/Ghezala Beg

Brodeur Worldwide

Tel: +44 (0)20 7298 7043/+44 (0)20 7298 7063

Mail to: cbalkham@uk.brodeur.com/gbeg@uk.brodeur.com