



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency

From: **Information Access**

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * *

BY EMAIL

Date: 3 July 2006

Our Ref: * * * * *

Dear * * * * *

I am writing in reply to your request for information concerning a current IT project in the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA).

A brief description (short paragraph) of a single current major IT project in your organisation, for example one that has executive board level interest.

VOSA is currently involved in a project which aims to increase road safety by improving the targeting of overloaded goods vehicles. The project combines two technologies: Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and Weigh-in-Motion Sensors (WiMS). Goods vehicles travelling on motorways pass over a set of inductive loops and Piezo electric sensors set into the road surface, which weigh the vehicle while it is in motion. At the same time, the vehicle's number plate is snapped by an adjacent ANPR camera. This information is paired and sent to the checksite some 7 - 10 miles downstream of the ANPR/WiMS site. If the goods vehicle is deemed to be overweight, its details are forwarded to enforcement officers in a stopping vehicle. The targeted goods vehicle is then directed to an official weigh bridge where it is weighed (amongst other checks). If found to be overloaded, a prohibition notice will be issued, preventing further use. Dependant on the degree of overloading, the driver and operator may also be prosecuted.

Start date of the project

Trials at the first site started in March 2006.

Planned end date of the project

Dependent on the results of the trials, the scheme will be extended to cover locations across Great Britain. At this stage, the project end date is not known.

Definitions of the performance measures used by the business to assess the success of the deployment of the system into the organisation

The success will be measured in terms of improved enforcement. Figures for each site prior to the installation of the equipment will be compared with figures over a similar period once the site is fully operational. This will be fed into VOSAs nationwide figures of compliance / non-compliance and effectiveness. We also measure the reduction of the burden on compliant operators (only goods vehicles deemed to be overweight will be pulled over, allowing properly loaded vehicles to continue on their way).

The date when reporting against these measures started/is due to start
Now.

To whom the reports are/will be provided
VOSA Directing Board

Advice and assistance

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference * * * *. The attachment included with this letter provides further information, including details of our complaints procedures.

Yours sincerely

* * * * *

Information Access