

Dear Reader,

The October User Group Meeting in Freiburg was a big success and many DIVA topics, such as the new Days of Operation concept and connection optimization method, were presented. In this issue, we would like to introduce our partner MAIOR with whom we cooperate in the Italian market. An additional highlight of the last weeks was the nomination of the Munich Transport Authorities (MVV) for the "UITP Travel Information Award". We wish you a joyous holiday season and a new year filled with success, peace and happiness.



Have fun reading this newsletter!

Dr. Hans-Joachim Mentz

The Transport Authority of Munich was nominated for the "UITP Travel Information Award" at the conference in Gothenburg

The 3rd UITP conference with the topic "Making technology work for travellers' information" was held from September 17 - 19, 2003 in Gothenburg.

During this conference, the UITP Travel Information Award was given. The Munich Transport Authority, with its new complete intermodal journey planner system, was nominated along with cities such as Adelaide, Australia and Copenhagen, Denmark. The main focus for the nomination was the system's ability to plan a journey from origin to destination via public transport, foot, bike or car.

After a short presentation of the nominees, all conference participants had the chance to vote. The MVV intermodal journey planner was awarded 5th place.



Parallel to the conference **mdv** shared a stand with its partner KIZOOM from the UK at the international Exhibition Public Transport 2003 in Gothenburg

We congratulate the Munich Transport Authority!

At the conference the booklet "Towards an Integrated Travel Information System - Good Practices" was given out. This booklet presents several challenges in the development of an integrated travel information system and how several customers, including MVV, Transport for London, the Transport Operators of Leipzig (LVB), TraffiQ Frankfurt/Main, ATC Bologna, and the Region Hanover, have innovatively met these challenges. Also, the European project EU-Spirit, which enables an international intermodal journey planner, was described in the booklet.

Topics:

mdv news, fifth edition

The Transport Authority of Munich was nominated for the "UITP Travel Information Award" at the conference in Gothenburg

DIVA/ IJP User Group meets in the VIP lounge of SC Freiburg

mdv introduces: our partner MAIOR in Italy

IJP Palm is available at the Transport Authority Rhine-Neckar since mid October

IJP SLF is a big success at the Transport Authorities of Vorarlberg, Austria

Short News

Events:

Nahverkehr 2010 Public Transport Congress and Exhibition
March 4 - 5, 2004
Design Centre Linz, Austria

34. DIVA/IJP User Group Host:
Nahverkehrsgesellschaft Baden-Württemberg (NVBW)
March 2004
Stuttgart, Germany

35. DIVA/IJP User Group
October 2004

DIVA/ IJP User Group meets in the VIP lounge of SC Freiburg

The 33rd DIVA/ IJP User Group was organised by the Transport Operators of Freiburg (VAG) and took place from October 29 - 31, 2003. In a remarkable location – the VIP lounge of the SC Freiburg football club – themes focusing on DIVA for operators were discussed. The User Group was again a big success: about 70 users from Germany, Austria and Switzerland found their way to Freiburg.

One of the important topics during the User Group was support. **mdv** underlined the importance of quality and service. The internal procedures in support were presented with the use of some examples illustrating the efficiency and quality of support. Within this framework **mdv** presented the option to extend the training portfolio with basic training for DIVA and IJP as well as training in the use of DIVA data in third-parties programmes, such as Excel and Access.

The discussion also showed that, in addition to operator-oriented training, the User Group is interested in general training for users from different operators. For example, it should be possible for new users to take a "crash course" in order to learn to use the DIVA/ IJP system quickly. To this effect, **mdv** is planning training for users from different operators for the future and will create a training catalogue in the coming year.

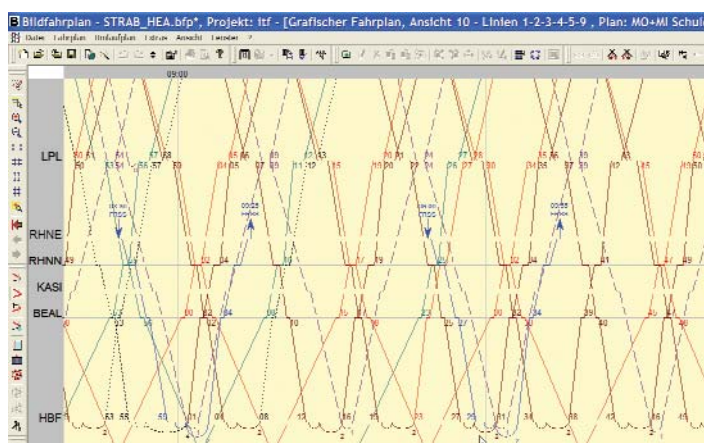
To give a taste of what is to come in the next DIVA version, **mdv** presented the new Days of Operation concept. The concept was developed together with several users during the year 2003 and is currently being implemented. The new concept makes daily specific planning significantly less complicated for all DIVA users. As a result, it will be easier for the DIVA users to plan short-notice events, such as construction, in real time and to transfer this information via interfaces to another system, for example an AVL system. The interest for the new Days of Operation concept was very high.

The topics GIS and geography in the operational environment also received good feedback. It was discussed with which functionalities the DIVA Geography module should be extended. In particular, the planning of line routes, including all operational relevant aspects based on GIS data, was discussed. The users expressed the wish to extend DIVA Geography accordingly. From the user's point of view a comprehensively integrated use of the GIS data in transport operation is important.



Herr Wellbrock

A highlight during the User Group was the presentation of Mr. Wellbrock from the HEAG in Darmstadt. Before devoting all his time to his private hobbies (Mr. Wellbrock retired November 1st, 2003), he gave a lecture on his experiences with DIVA that were gained while at the HEAG. During 2003, Mr. Wellbrock implemented the Integral Interval Timetable at the HEAG. In particular, he had to plan the connections at the central station. The central station in Darmstadt has the problem that all vehicles have to leave the platform as soon as possible in order to not block the platform for incoming vehicles from other lines. Therefore, a vehicle schedule with many mutations is necessary. Mr. Wellbrock effectively presented how he carried out the planning with the aid of several examples from DIVA Vehicle Schedule. First with the aid of DIVA was it possible to recognise, understand, and develop a solution for the complex issues involved. Mr. Wellbrock was very enthusiastic about DIVA. Quote: "DIVA is great".



Planning of connections at the Darmstadt central station

Keeping the expression "All work and no play..." in mind, the VAG organized a guided tour and a tasting of wines from Baden at a local tasting cellar. The next User Group, with a main focus on transport authorities, will be organized by the NVBW in Spring 2004.



Short News

In the future, the timetable book pages for the Transport Authority of Tirol, Austria will be varicoloured

Another intensive workshop regarding "planning of secured-connection data in DIVA and data conversion in VICOS-LIO data" was held from November 11 - 12, 2003 in Munich. Users from Linz, Freiburg and Karlsruhe and employees of Siemens TTS and **mdv** participated.



In the November issue of the magazine "Nahverkehr", Dr. Ludwig and Mr. In der Beek (Transport Authorities of Karlsruhe KVV, Transport Operators of Karlsruhe VBK and Albtal Transport Operator AVG) wrote together with Dr. Mentz and Dr. Alefeld (**mdv**) an article on timetable and vehicle scheduling for dual mode operation - The article focussed on the upgrade of the program DIVA for operational planning for the Karlsruhe dual mode light rail.

mdv exhibited at the ITS Exhibition, which was held from November 17 - 20, 2003 in Madrid.



IJP SLF is a big success at the Transport Authorities of Vorarlberg, Austria

As already reported in the last **mdv** news, the VVV had to pass the acid test in September. The new system for the generation of free travel cards for pupils and trainees had to generate travel cards for 29,000 pupils and trainees. The response of the employees of the authority and operators and the pupils and trainees was very positive. Also, compared to other years, the VVV had no problems with the generation of the free travel cards. Thus, the implementation of IJP SLF was very successful and for all parties resulted in a definite simplification in the jungle of free travel cards.

In the past school year 2002/03, all pupils and trainees had to get free travel cards from each transport operator that they wanted to travel with in the VVV area. However, since the beginning of the 2003/04 term, only one travel card, which permits the pupils and trainees to use public transport for the indicated route on the travel card, is necessary. With a surcharge it is also possible to use the travel card for travel other than to school or the training position.

The main objective for the VVV was to simplify the process. In only three months the system was adjusted for the VVV and installed. This was, however, only possible due to the preliminary work of the Transport Authority of Styria, which in principle uses the same system. Then, starting in June, all VVV employees were trained in using the system and a media and information campaign was carried out by the VVV.



Happy New Year !

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