MOBILE GUIDE FOR CITY TRAVELLERS IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Real-time information on buses or trams to passengers’ mobile phones

OVERVIEW
The Mobile Guide for City Traveller (KAMO) is a new mobile application that offers journey planning and stop-specific timetable information. Passengers can also pay their fare via the application and save journey details for later use. KAMO users can track the progress of any buses, trams or underground trains included in the real-time positioning-based monitoring. The service also enables journey planning and tracking the planned route via mobile phone. Travel news concerning problems or changes to public transport is also available via the KAMO application.

SOLUTION AND ITS BENEFITS
The mobile service developed by VTT is based on Near Field Communication (NFC) technology. Once loaded into the mobile phone, KAMO can be accessed using the phone’s menu. RFID remote reading – featured by Nokia’s 6131 NFC model, for example – enhances the speed of usage. Touching the RFID tag with a mobile phone opens the application on the phone’s display without the user having to access it separately via the menu. Tags can be used for mobile travel ticket purchases or accessing stop-specific timetable information. As NFC phones are not yet widely used, the application also works on Nokia’s other S40 and S60 models.

The service is designed to serve both city travellers using public transport regularly and casual passengers such as tourists. To date, the application is available in the Helsinki and Oulu regions in Finland.

The service can also be enhanced with a range of additional services such as providing information on local events, news reports or location-based advertisements. In future users will be able to tailor the KAMO application to offer information only on certain routes or additional services selected.
COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

- The usage of NFC technology offers an easy way to enhance the user experience of the application.
- The combination of bus stop information, route planning and paying the ticket in the same application.
- Real-time information on buses or trams to mobile phones and tracking of lines.
- Travel information concerning problems or exceptions in public transport is available via the KAMO application.
- An opportunity to add extra information or commercial services into the application.

VTT is looking for partners to commercialize the application.

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