

# ON TRACK...

From IPS and Postfield Systems



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## IPS wins contract for Tube Lines' installations



Steve Dalton, General Manager Metro, Telent, commented:

“Our contract with Tube Lines is to provide a whole life communications and SCADA solution that meets the exacting requirements of the PPP contract. Enhance is designing, installing and maintaining new assets as well as maintaining a significant number of legacy assets over a 13.5 year period.

A key part in how successful we are will be the quality of installation of these assets. We felt that IPS had the installation expertise in this sector to complement Enhance's own in-house skills, and feel they will play an integral role in the successful delivery of this contract.”

IPS, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, is currently providing design and installation facilities for Tube Lines within the total refurbishment of seven London Underground stations. The current communication and security systems are being totally replaced by a brand new infrastructure with state-of-the-art equipment including fibre optic transmission systems and digital video recording, enabling London Underground to respond to the ever-increasing need to monitor passenger safety.

**IPS has been awarded a contract which could be worth in excess of £9.5 million, for the installation of new communications equipment at 74 underground stations.**

The contract was awarded by Enhance Communications – a joint venture between Amey and Telent – which is responsible

for upgrading and maintaining the communications infrastructure for Tube Lines.

The project will take place over a five-year period and will cover work to upgrade the infrastructure on London Underground's Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly lines. At each station there will be a requirement to upgrade and deliver enhancements to existing stations.



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## Communications modernisation at King's Cross



Source: Transport for London

**IPS has completed its most prestigious project to date – the modernisation of the communications systems at King's Cross Station (Phase 1).**

The new station redesign provides step-free access to the Circle, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines, as well as new and enlarged public subways and additional routes to street level. It also features the new Western Ticket Hall (WTH), which has been designed to ease congestion during peak periods and is expected to handle 500,000 passengers each day by 2020 – making it the busiest station on the London Underground Network!

Transport Secretary Douglas Alexander and the Mayor of London Ken Livingstone (above) toured the station with the new facilities several days before it opened to the public.

### Our role in the project

With experience gained through previous London Underground projects, IPS was selected as the sub-contractor to perform communications system design and integration for the following systems:

#### Closed-circuit television system (CCTV)

IPS has installed the first fully compliant encrypted MPEG4 streaming video, analytical CCTV & network systems on the London Underground at King's Cross Station. One of the unique features of this project includes a space reduction of 80% over standard analogue systems. This digital CCTV system allows images to be stored, moved or displayed (as the images are addressable) – allowing the controller to quickly manipulate the images.

The system features 30 terabytes of RAID storage and a Storage Area Network (SAN) which has the ability to interface with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the capacity to pick up motion detection

(eg. detect a bag that has been left by a passenger in the station).

The system features CAT5e cable, providing both power and video path with no remote power supplies or video amplifiers but allowing cable lengths to be extended to over 700m (via a CCTP system). This fully compliant OSA (Open Systems Architecture) system currently supports up to 700 cameras (250 cameras have been installed for the first phase of the contract) and can be scaled up or down as required with no design changes. The playback suite operates on the same platform as the viewing workstations with interactive touch screens, and/or keyboard and mouse and includes advanced analytical tools for both live and archive viewing.

#### Public address voice alarm system

A fully compliant Section 12 PAVA (Public Address Voice Alarm) System has been designed and installed by IPS with over 830 speakers fitted into all areas of the station. Twelve areas are controlled by ambient noise sensors, which automatically raise/lower the volume according to the background noise within the station – resulting in a clearer message for passengers. The system allows the operator to interface and control via the HCI (Human Computer Interface) and includes announcements by fire microphone, text-to-speech, digital voice announcements, station announcement points and long-line facilities (LLPA). Two separate sub-systems are linked via hard-wired data connection and controlled via a dual operation system in the Station Operations Room (SOR).

#### Public help points (PHP)

Forty-six help points were installed in total, incorporating fire call points and emergency and information buttons. The public help points are integrated to the CCTV system so a recording is made of any member of the public who presses the button.

#### Uninterruptible power supply (UPS)

A UPS was designed and installed for each system listed above to ensure its continual running in the event of a power failure.

## Intelligent queuing system – changes

**Postfield Systems has introduced a number of exciting features to its Intelligent Queuing System...**

### Touch screen ticket printer

In addition to the thermal ticket printer used by reception staff to hand out tickets, Postfield Systems now offers a modern touch screen ticket printer kiosk with vandal-proof glass. This printer can be configured for single or multiple queuing environments and can display any additional customer information required. The screen shot below illustrates the real-time information provided to the customer.

### Multiple site integration

Multiple site integration allows users to link satellite offices to the one system database

enabling full service coverage and system functionality council-wide.

### LED displays

Our LED displays have been upgraded and are now finished in brushed steel or RAL colour powder coating for councils seeking a contemporary look. These displays switch between the current ticket number and the counter number, which assist the customer with locating the correct serving location. These units are available as serial RS232 or network devices and do not require a local power source.

### Visitor passes

As a result of customer feedback, the system now allows users to log and print visitor passes – saving corporate visitors from having to physically sign in!



**Above:** Real-time information provided to the customer.

**For further details:** [www.postfield.co.uk/intelligent-queuing-system.htm](http://www.postfield.co.uk/intelligent-queuing-system.htm)

## IPS launch: [www.ips-ltd.co.uk](http://www.ips-ltd.co.uk)

**IPS is delighted to launch its 'new look' website: [www.ips-ltd.co.uk](http://www.ips-ltd.co.uk)**

The aim of the site is to keep customers up to date with exciting developments and changes at IPS. This is in addition to Postfield Systems' website: [www.postfield.co.uk](http://www.postfield.co.uk)

The website includes:

- Latest news
- Current projects
- Past projects
- Contact details

We hope you will find the information featured on the sites both interesting and informative.

## Did you know?

### Happy 10th birthday

IPS celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, which is an exciting milestone for the company.

### Train Mass Detectors on the underground

The Postfield Systems' Train Mass Detector (TMD), pictured below, was originally designed as part of the Driver Only Operation (DOO) CCTV System to extend the life of the monitor. The Enhance contract (refer to page 1) will use the TMD to trigger train announcements on the underground eg. 'Please mind the gap'.



### IPS training facility

IPS has its own training suite that houses equipment and systems on almost all of London Underground/TFL's existing communication assets, including: customer information systems, passenger help points, CCTV and public address systems. For further details please contact us.

### Office extension

The office in Coulsdon, Surrey is being extended to accommodate Postfield Systems' employees who are currently based in a separate building. This extension will bring all the services of both companies under one roof.

### Qualifications

IPS and Postfield Systems have successfully gained an integrated ISO 9001:2000 re-certification from LRQA. In addition, both companies are now registered under Link-Up number 16905.



## Council meeting display system

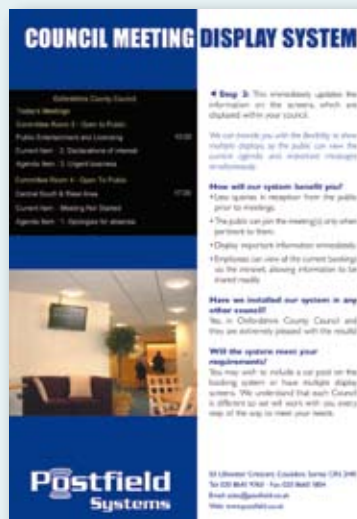
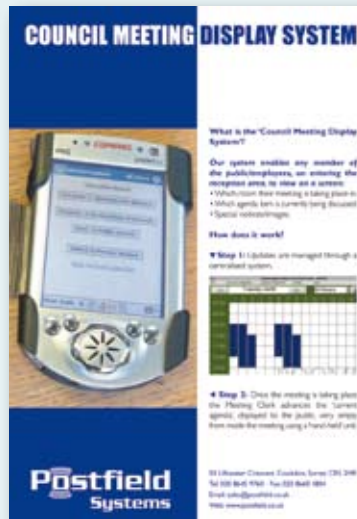
Many of you may be aware that Postfield Systems has developed its own in-house user-friendly Customer Information System (CIS) and Intelligent Queuing System – however, you may not have heard of the Council Meeting Display System.

### How does the system work?

- Room bookings are made through a centralised system
- Individual agendas can then be added to each room booking
- Once the meeting is taking place, the Meeting Clerk advances the 'current agenda' from inside the meeting using a hand-held unit
- This immediately updates the information on the screens around the council. This information can also be viewed via the intranet – so there is no need for employees to leave their desk!

This system is user-friendly and can be adapted to suit your individual requirements. For example, we can provide you with the flexibility to show multiple displays, so the public can view the current agenda and important messages simultaneously.

Councils can use the system to control car pools or even laptops! The system uses open source software – eliminating the need for Windows licences.



## Join our mailout

If you have received our newsletter from a colleague and would like your own copy please email: [wendy.coward@postfield.co.uk](mailto:wendy.coward@postfield.co.uk)

Alternatively you can download the latest version from our websites:

- [www.ips-ltd.co.uk](http://www.ips-ltd.co.uk)
- [www.postfield.co.uk](http://www.postfield.co.uk)



## UK rail report

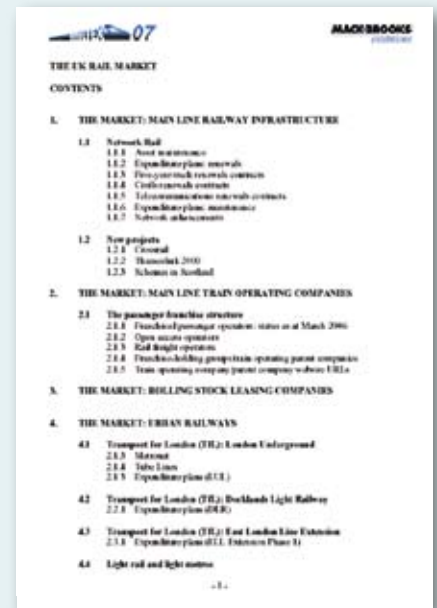
We are delighted to share a very useful report with all our readers – with the kind permission of Mack Brooks Exhibitions Ltd.

The report includes interesting statistics and future projects under the following headings:

- The main line railway infrastructure
- The main line train operating companies
- Urban railways.

You can download this report from either the IPS or Postfield Systems website:

- [www.ips-ltd.co.uk](http://www.ips-ltd.co.uk)
- [www.postfield.co.uk](http://www.postfield.co.uk)



## For more info

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