



ARCHIMEDES

Donostia - San Sebastian

T74.1 Bus Management System in Donostia-San Sebastian

Donostia - San Sebastian

October 2009





Project no.	TREN/FP7TR/218940 ARCHIMEDES		
Project Name	ARCHIMEDES (Achieving Real Change with		
	Innovative Transport Measure Demonstrating		
	Energy Savings)		
Start date of the	15/09/2008		
Project			
Duration:	48 months		
Measure:	No. 74: Bus Management System in Donostia –		
	San Sebastian		
Task:	8.9: Bus Management System		
Dallaranalalar	T 744 Due Management Contagn in Departie		
Deliverable:	T 74.1 Bus Management System in Donostia –		
D	San Sebastian		
Due date of	15 th September 2009		
Deliverable:	tath o		
Actual	15 th October 2009		
submission date:			
Dissemination	Public		
Level			
Organisation	CTSS-DBUS		
Responsible			
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Version	1.0		
Date last updated	6 th October 2009		



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1. Introduction

1.1 Background CIVITAS

CIVITAS - cleaner and better transport in cities - stands for Clty-VITAlity-Sustainability. With the CIVITAS Initiative, the EC aims to generate a decisive breakthrough by supporting and evaluating the implementation of ambitious integrated sustainable urban transport strategies that should make a real difference for the welfare of the European citizen.

CIVITAS I started in early 2002 (within the 5th Framework Research Programme); CIVITAS II started in early 2005 (within the 6th Framework Research Programme) and CIVITAS PLUS started in late 2008 (within the 7th Framework Research Programme).

The objective of CIVITAS-Plus is to test and increase the understanding of the frameworks, processes and packaging required to successfully introduce bold, integrated and innovative strategies for clean and sustainable urban transport that address concerns related to energy-efficiency, transport policy and road safety, alternative fuels and the environment.

Within CIVITAS I (2002-2006) there are 19 cities clustered in 4 demonstration projects, within CIVITAS II (2005-2009) 17 cities in 4 demonstration projects, whilst within CIVITAS PLUS (2008-2012) 25 cities in 5 demonstration projects are taking part. These demonstration cities all over Europe will be funded by the European Commission.

Objectives:

- to promote and implement sustainable, clean and (energy) efficient urban transport measures
- to implement integrated packages of technology and policy measures in the field of energy and transport in 8 categories of measures
- to build up critical mass and markets for innovation

Horizontal projects support the CIVITAS demonstration projects & cities by:

- Cross-site evaluation and Europe wide dissemination in co-operation with the demonstration projects
- The organisation of the annual meeting of CIVITAS Forum members
- Providing the Secretariat for the Political Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Development of policy recommendations for a long-term multiplier effect of **CIVITAS**

Key elements of CIVITAS

- CIVITAS is co-ordinated by cities: it is a programme "of cities for cities"
- Cities are in the heart of local public private partnerships
- Political commitment is a basic requirement
- Cities are living 'Laboratories' for learning and evaluating



1.2 Background ARCHIMEDES

ARCHIMEDES is an integrating project, bringing together 6 European cities to address problems and opportunities for creating environmentally sustainable, safe and energy efficient transport systems in medium sized urban areas.

The objective of ARCHIMEDES is to introduce innovative, integrated and ambitious strategies for clean, energy-efficient, sustainable urban transport to achieve significant impacts in the policy fields of energy, transport, and environmental sustainability. An ambitious blend of policy tools and measures will increase energy-efficiency in transport, provide safer and more convenient travel for all, using a higher share of clean engine technology and fuels, resulting in an enhanced urban environment (including reduced noise and air pollution). Visible and measurable impacts will result from significantly sized measures in specific innovation areas. Demonstrations of innovative transport technologies, policy measures and partnership working, combined with targeted research, will verify the best frameworks, processes and packaging required to successfully transfer the strategies to other cities.

1.3 Participant Cities

The ARCHIMEDES project focuses on activities in specific innovation areas of each city, known as the CIVITAS corridor or zone (depending on shape and geography). These innovation areas extend to the peri-urban fringe and the administrative boundaries of regional authorities and neighbouring administrations.

The two Learning cities, to which experience and best-practice will be transferred, are Monza (Italy) and Ustí nad Labem (Czech Republic). The strategy for the project is to ensure that the tools and measures developed have the widest application throughout Europe, tested via the Learning Cities' activities and interaction with the Lead City partners.

1.3.1 Leading City Innovation Areas

The four Leading cities proposed in the ARCHIMEDES project are:

- Aalborg (Denmark);
- Brighton & Hove (UK);
- Donostia-San Sebastian (Spain); and
- Iasi (Romania).

Together the Lead Cities in ARCHIMEDES cover different geographic parts of Europe. They have the full support of the relevant political representatives for the project, and are well able to implement the innovative range of demonstration activities proposed.

The Lead Cities are joined in their local projects by a small number of key partners that show a high level of commitment to the project objectives of energy-efficient urban transportation. In all cases the public transport company features as a partner in the proposed project.



2. Donostia – San Sebastian

The city of Donostia -San Sebastian overlooks the sea and, with a bit more than 180,000 inhabitants, keeps a human scale. Some people consider the balanced combination of small mountains, manor buildings, and sea as the setting for one of the most beautiful cities in the world. We have a tradition in favouring pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.

For about twenty years, the city has been enforcing a strong integrated policy in favour of pedestrians, bicycles and public transport. Considering walking and cycling as modes of transport, has led to the building of a non-motorised transport network for promoting this type of mobility around the city.

Likewise, the city has extended its network of bus lanes. The city holds one of the higher bus -riding rates, with around 150 trips per person per year.

2.1 Objectives in CIVITAS

The CIVITAS project is a perfect opportunity to expand our Sustainable Urban Transport Strategy. With the package of CIVITAS measures Donostia-San Sebastian wants to:

- Increase the number of public transport users
- Decrease the number of cars entering in the city centre
- Increase the use of the bicycle as a normal mode of transport
- Maintain the high modal share of walking
- Reduce the number of fatal accidents and accidents with heavy injuries
- Reduce the use of fossil fuels in public transport.

3. Background to the Deliverable

The present deliverable refers to Measure number 74, Bus Management System in Donostia – San Sebastian.

As part of this measure CTSS-DBUS has been working on the Task 8.9: Bus Management System.

Within this task CTSS-DBUS has to implement a new HSDPA-3G communication system between buses and the central information system, and also has to implement a new expert planning and fleet management system for the CTSS-DBUS fleet, personnel and public transport network.



3.1 Summary Description of the Task

The public transport company CTSS-DBUS will introduce a new fleet management system that will enable the company to respond adequately to the mobility needs of the users.

This measure will allow CTSS to rationalise its costs to make public transport more competitive compared to the private car.

The new system is compiled of state-of-the-art expert planning and fleet management systems. The communication between the central information systems and the buses is based on HSDPA-3G technology.

4. Bus Management System

4.1 Description of the Work Done

CTSS-DBUS has tested, improved and implemented the new communication HSDPA-3G system.

CTSS-DBUS has defined and implemented an expert planning and fleet system that meet the company's requirements. This expert planning system is related to the buses and drivers needed to provide the bus service offer defined by the Town Hall.

Historically, up to this moment, this work has been done by expert employees that optimise the number of drivers and buses needed. The results of this planning are excellent but the weak point is that it takes a long time to complete and also a big risk because everything depends on only one expert employee, with a lot of difficulties to train new workers in this job due to the difficulty and the specialisation of the task.

After analysing the market, CTSS-DBUS has purchased and implemented an expert planning and fleet management system that doesn't depend on one employee. It is a system that can be used by several employees, so that CTSS-DBUS can have more flexibility and will be easier to train other employees in the future. The expert planning and bus management system is completely integrated with the GPS system.



4.2 Summary of Activities Undertaken

HSDPA-3G COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

At the same time as implementing the security cameras system implementation in the CTSS-DBUS fleet (ARCHIMEDES Measure 16), the HSDPA-3G communications between the buses and the control centre was also implemented.

This type of communication is absolutely necessary to have an acceptable quality of the security camera videos recorded onboard the buses and transferred on-line to the control centre – see deliverable T16.2/16.3 for more information.



HSDPA-3G modem included in the advanced computer for video administration and managing (onboard the bus)



On-line video visualization of the bus in the control centre transferred by HSDPA-3G communications

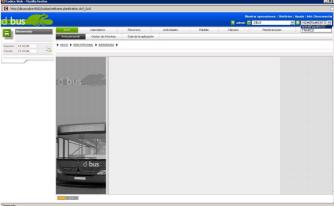


NEW EXPERT PLANNING AND FLEET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

CTSS-DBUS has defined and implemented an expert planning and fleet system that meet the company's requirements. This expert planning system is related to the buses and drivers needed to provide the bus service offer defined by the Town Hall.

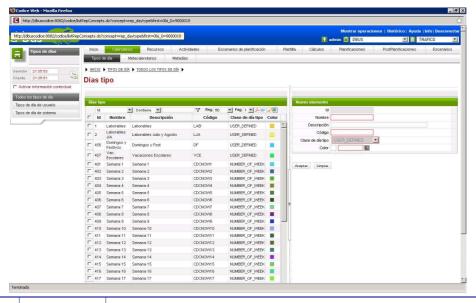
This expert planning system is installed on a server and can be used from any computer using both Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer navigators. So it is not necessary to install the application in every computer of the planning department, and it is also possible to operate with these systems from an employee's home, if necessary.





CTSS-DBUS has a different bus service offer for each of the following types of day:

- Winter weekdays
- Winter Saturdays
- Winter Sundays & Holidays
- School holidays on winter weekdays (Christmas, Easter, last week of June and first week of September)
- July and August weekdays
- July and August Saturdays
- July and August Sundays & Holidays



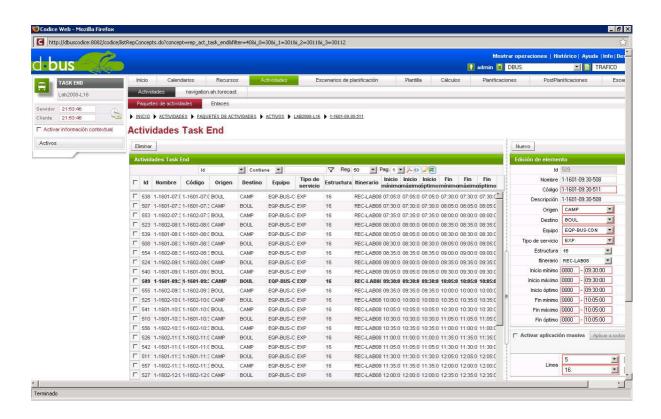


For each of these types of day, it is necessary to calculate the buses' schedules and the drivers' timetables, following the requirements of the CTSS-DBUS Labour Agreement.

Up to this moment, an expert employee has historically managed the drivers' timetable solutions for each day type. This is a big and difficult task that has to be completed accurately to optimize the resources, and well in advance for the optimisation to be put into practice. It was also a big risk that only one person was trained in this manual planning system. That is the main reason to search the market for an expert planning and fleet management system.

With this new system, all the planning data and solutions will be completed using a computer and also more employees can be trained to use it.

Before the calculation of the best solution for the drivers' timetable, it is necessary to input all the trips of the buses offered to the travellers on every line. These data can be introduced easily in the system using a special input application.

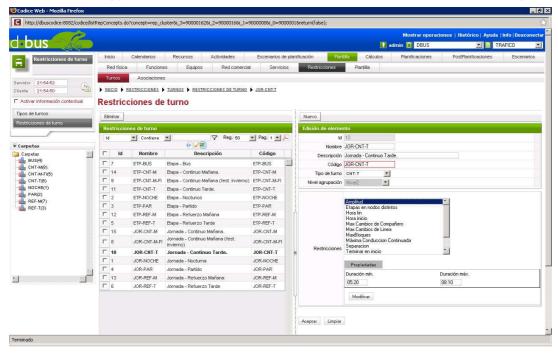


Another set of inputs are the Labour Restrictions. There are 3 different types of shifts for the drivers:

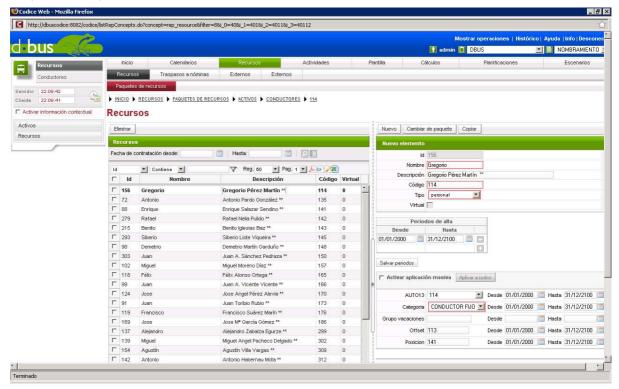
- Continuous Morning Shifts
- Continuous Afternoon Shifts
- Split Shifts





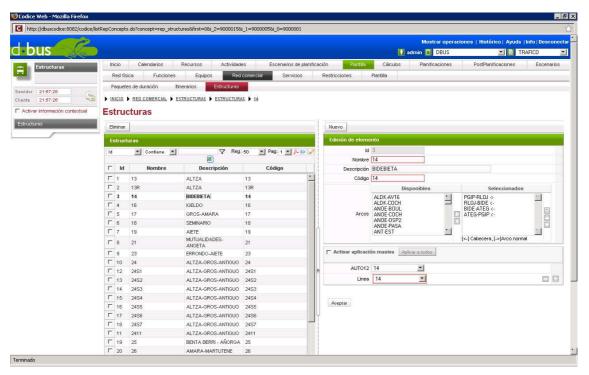


The details of individual drivers must also be introduced in the system, and their holidays, rest days, etc.

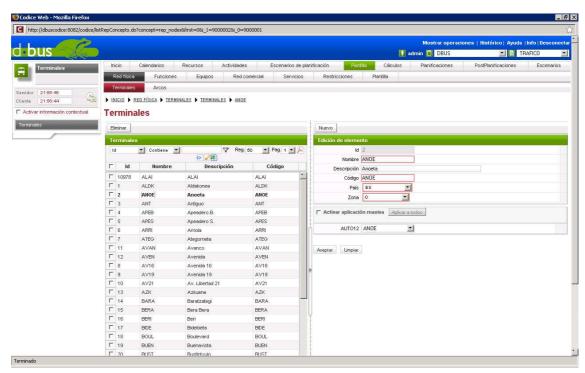


It is also necessary to introduce the bus network: lines, line routes, bus stops and points for driver replacement.





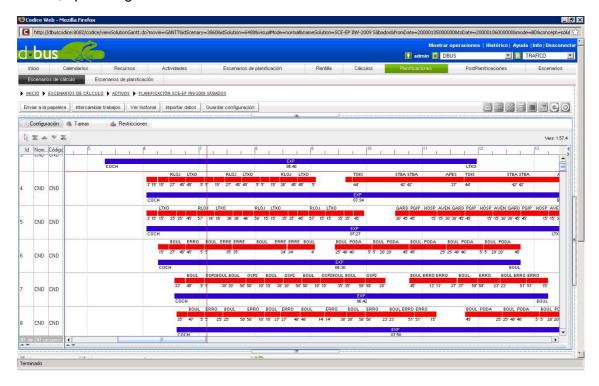
CTSS-DBUS different lines



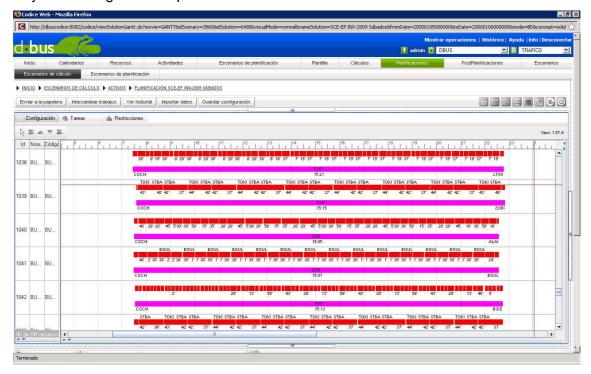
CTSS-DBUS bus stops



Once all the inputs are introduced, the system calculates the best solution for the drivers' timetable, optimising the total number of shifts and service hours.

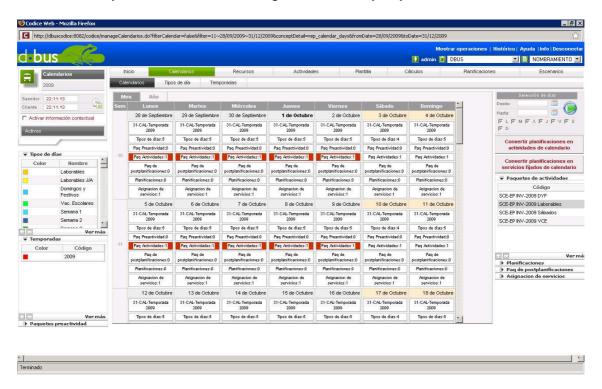


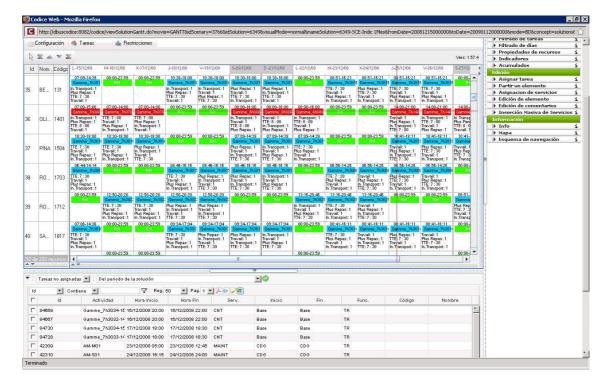
The system also gives the optimum solution for the buses timetable.





Spreading the solution of the different day types for the whole year, the system gives the schedule for every driver about the working shifts for every day.







4.3 Problems Identified

Some difficulties appeared in order to include the labour restrictions within the definition of the specifications for the expert planning systems. These difficulties have been solved through the involvement of the existing CTSS-DBUS planning employees in the process so that the existing knowledge is used and the expert planning systems collects all the specifications needed using all the labour restrictions.

4.4 Risks and Mitigating Activities

HDSPA-3G communication systems are not commonly being used by bus companies. CTSS-DBUS has been one of the first companies in Spain to use this communication system. After 9 months of performance, the results are satisfactory.

4.5 Dissemination Activities

Because this is very much an internal element of a wider system upgrade this element has not been publicised publicly at this stage, unlike the security and traveller information system upgrades.

4.6 Future Plans

Extend the new communication HDSPA-3G system to the rest of the fleet - at the moment, only the buses with the security cameras system have this communication system operative.

Extend the training of the expert planning and bus management system so that employees can develop their job in a better way.

Evaluation of the new management system will continue through the next 2 years and will be reported as part of the ARCHIMEDES evaluation process.