



**10<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Following on from work for London Connects and several London boroughs, Smartran has defined a method by which Local Authorities can offer their residents discounted parking rates by utilising smartcard technology. Smartran has also defined an option to incorporate an e-purse or Chip & Pin application on the resident card which can be used to make the payment.

Smartran has verified the approach with parking payment machine providers and defined a method to use a contactless resident card to trigger a discounted set of rates.

There are some existing resident discount schemes and card payment methods available, however these are mostly based on contact cards and require window stickers to show the resident entitlement. These schemes can be costly to administer and cumbersome to use.

Working with parking meter suppliers, we have developed a standard method which can be implemented on a typical Local Authority issued resident smartcard. This enables secure and simple transactions with the benefit of differential charging rates for residents and non-residents. All the resident needs to do is to touch their resident card to the machine reader which validates the entitlement and triggers the discounted resident parking rates. The parking machines can offer a range of payment methods, including cash, Chip & Pin and contact-less payment allowing both residents and non-residents flexibility and peace of mind when using public car parks.

A number of security measures can be incorporated to ensure compliance with resident discount scheme rules. The parking machine can reject the use of the same resident card within a pre-determined time (ie preventing passback and multiple use of the same resident card). A car registration can be encoded on the card for additional usage control. Details of cards reported lost or stolen can be stored on the machine and any attempt to use one of these cards will be blocked. An additional benefit is that the transaction details stored on the parking machine can be downloaded for management reporting and analysis.

This method is being submitted to the Local Authority Smartcard Standards Organisation (LASSeO) so that it can be adopted and specified by Local Authorities wishing to implement a resident parking entitlement.

New payment machines can be deployed, and existing machines can be upgraded to include these features as a phases rollout. Smartran can help Local Authorities to plan and rollout a low cost resident card which incorporates a contactless payment method and offers a free parking period or discounted charge.

If you would like to know more about this approach and our Solution for Discounted Resident Parking please contact:

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## **Ends**

Issued by: Smartran Ltd

## **Notes to Editor:**

Smartran Limited provides solutions, independent consultancy and project management services. Smartran delivers exciting, innovative and effective solutions for multi-application smartcard schemes and related retailing, cash collection, payment, e-commerce and settlement requirements. Smartran was

closely involved with the National Smart Card Project (NSCP) and the early starters using the NSCP starter kit. Smartran has assisted a wide range of organisations including projects for Lewisham Council, Chester City Council, Waltham Forest Council, DfT, ODPM and Bracknell Forest Council.

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