Robustness, longevity win favour for Wayfarer

The fact that a Wayfarer system purchased four decades ago is still in service was one factor in Golden Arrow's choice of automatic fare collection system

Golden Arrow Bus Services (GABS) has selected Parkeon technology for its automated fare collection system, with the installation comprising 1 250 Wayfarer 200 driver consoles, 62 point of sale units, cashier and dispatching devices, an integrated back office, depot management and administrative software solution.

GABS published a request for proposal for the procurement of an automatic fare collection system in May 2015. As part of its due diligence study, a task team from GABS visited automatic fare collection system manufacturers from many parts of the world and decided on the Parkeon-Wayfarer TGX200 system.

Sagaren Moodley of South African Wayfarer agent eBus Supplies says, "GABS bought a Wayfarer system about 40 years ago which continues to serve them today. Wayfarer products have proven robust and reliable, not only at GABS — many bus operators still continue to use Wayfarer products manufactured about 30 years ago."

GABS public relations manager Bronwen Dyke-Beyer says, "The South African government has a vision to make public transport the heartbeat of the country's economic growth and social development. Our investment in robust and advanced technology developed by Parkeon will help us deliver that vision for the people of Cape Town through current and future ticketing products."

Parkeon Transporation MD Owen Griffith says that the Parkeon-Wayfarer product brand is well established in South Africa, built on a relationship with the country's public transport sector that goes back over 30 years. "We are delighted that Golden Arrow Bus Services has chosen us as its partner and look forward to working closely with the company to ensure it reaps the full benefits that the new technology will bring."

The GABS success follows recent South African project wins for eBus Supplies, says Moodley, including Wayfarer systems at UGU Transport, Great North Transport, Gauteng Coaches, Ikhwezi Bus Service, Dusi Bus Service, and Atamelang Bus Transport.



eBus Supplies is the exclusive agent for Parkeon-Wayfarer automatic fare collection systems in South Africa. It supplies, implements and supports Wayfarer systems in South Africa and neighbouring countries.

Because the functional requirements for automatic fare collection systems in South Africa differ from other countries, eBus customised the Wayfarer system to meet the needs of the local market. "We continue to develop the system to help bus companies further optimise their operation, improve their service to commuters, and provide important information to government," concludes Moodley.

Golden Arrow Bus Services has provided scheduled passenger services in Cape Town for more than 150 years. It operates 1 046 buses during peak hours, serving 1 300 routes covering 2 460 km2. The fleet covers nearly 60 million km conveying close to 52 million passengers annually.

