

NEW PARKING INFORMATION SYSTEM TO BOOST BUSINESS IN LIMERICK CITY CENTRE



(Pictured at the official launch of the new Parking Guidance Information System in Limerick city centre on 06.12.11 were l-to-r: Mr. Tom Cooney, Limerick City Council; Mr. Dara O' Callaghan, Q-Park Ireland; Mr. Jim Kenny, Arthur's Quay Shopping Centre; Mr. Phil Collins, Cornmarket Square Car Park)

A large-scale electronic Parking Guidance Information System has recently been installed in Limerick to assist motorists in locating available parking spaces at twelve city-centre car parks. The new system, commissioned by Limerick city council, and funded under the Dept. of Transport's Sustainable Transport Programme, comprises some twenty-six (26 Nr.) on-street Parking Information Displays at key intersections throughout the city centre, and a further ten (10 Nr.) full electronic information displays on the main approach routes to the city which can display traffic, event and general information to motorists. Manufactured and supplied by Clare-based smart electronic sign company, Data Display Ltd., the system was installed by parking guidance specialists A.G.K. Ltd. Information is collected automatically at each of the parking facilities and relayed to a central management computer in Limerick city council offices, and transmitted to motorists via the strategically-located On-Street Signs, and system communications are effected by wireless modem links.

Speaking at the launch, Rory McDermott, Senior Roads Engineer with Limerick city council, stated: *"We are delighted to have implemented this key piece of ITS infrastructure for Limerick and we are confident it will enhance the visitor experience of our city while providing significant benefits to the city centre business community which is particularly important in the current difficult economic circumstances"*.

Keith Gavin, Secretary of the Irish Parking Association, stated that: *"It has been estimated that up to 30% of traffic in urban areas is searching for available parking spaces and this new electronic parking information system will be of significant benefit to car park operators in Limerick, as it will greatly assist drivers' in their parking search decision process, thereby improving traffic flow and overall customer satisfaction with the parking facilities in the city centre"*.

The new system highlights the availability of parking in Limerick city and will therefore encourage customers to use these facilities and will be of significant benefit to city centre businesses.

ENDS.

For Further Information, Contact:

Limerick City Council- Mr. Rory McDermott; Tel. 061-407100; email: rmcdermott@limerickcity.ie

Irish Parking Association- Mr. Keith Gavin; Tel. 059-9136886; email: info@parkingireland.ie
