

traffic information

TEMPORARY SPEED DETERRENT SYSTEM – FRANCE



OVERVIEW

The authorities in France recognised that there is a significant road-safety problem on its network of motorways. In recent years there have been a worryingly high number of deaths resulting from motorists travelling at excessive speeds through roadworks. The French Prime Minister and the Minister for Transport are focusing on this issue and are encouraging initiatives with a view to introducing new legislation to tackle the problem.

Founded in 1963, SANEF is a state owned private company, which was awarded the concession of motorways in the North and East of France. SANEF's priority is to increase the safety of vehicles using their network, in addition to their staff carrying out work at the roadside. SANEF were keen to trial the use of technology within the working zones of roadworks to achieve this aim.

CUSTOMER

SANEF – Societe des Autoroutes du Nord et de l'Est France

PROBLEM

With a rolling programme of major works throughout their 1300km network, SANEF required a mobile speed deterrent system, which could be easily deployed at roadwork sites.

SCS SOLUTION

SCS developed a modular mobile system in partnership with SANEF, which calculates the average speed of vehicles travelling between two points, and posts a warning message together with the vehicle registration number on a variable message sign situated at the end of the speed control zone to act as a deterrent.

- Modular speed advisory system
- Proven Number Plate Reader technology
- Standard Variable Message display
- Quickly deployed with Hi-Ab vehicle
- Licence-free, no-cost radio communications



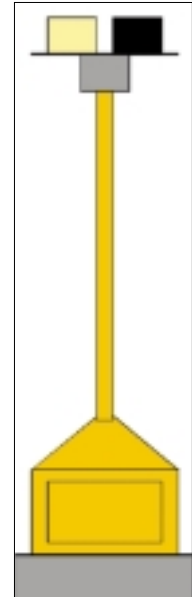
TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW

The Mobile Speed Deterrent System was based on the successful SPECS camera enforcement system. The average speed of passing vehicles was calculated and displayed to motorists on the Variable Message Sign in either kph or mph. The software was configured so that message sets could be easily altered on site but typically would be: 'Attention Vitesse!' (Warning Speeding) plus the number plate of the vehicle.

Each Camera Station consists of:

- Number Plate Camera and Infra-Red Illuminator
- Pan/Tilt Camera Mount
- Radio Antenna
- Steel Column and Cabinet
- Electronics and Power Supply Concrete Base

As the Mobile Speed Deterrent System was developed for use in France the number plate reading technology was specially configured to read a variety of Western European vehicle number plates; German, French, British, Dutch and Belgian.



RESULTS

A trial was conducted by SANEF at roadworks near Amiens, on the A16 at Junction 18 in the North of France, in August 2003. They measured the speed profile of traffic passing through the traffic management area under three conditions.

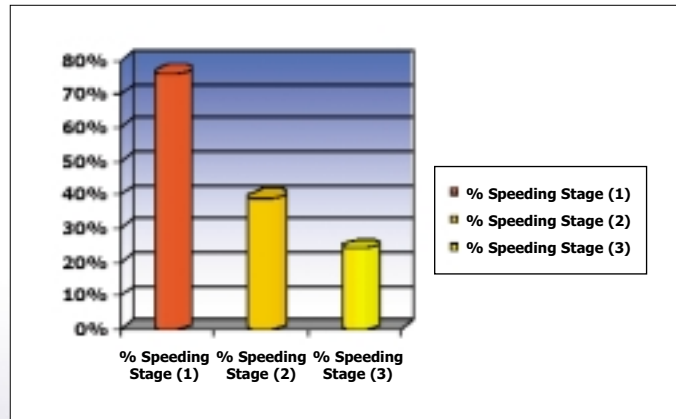
- Stage 1 With traffic management in place, no speed advisory equipment in place
- Stage 2 As above, but with the hardware installed at roadside – VMS displaying blank
- Stage 3 System fully operational

90kph Speed limit through roadworks

- Stage 1 76% vehicles exceeding 110kph
- Stage 2 39% vehicles exceeding 110kph
- Stage 3 24% vehicles exceeding 110kph

"This effective and innovative design concept sits perfectly with our strategy which is focused upon improving the safety and comfort for road users on our network."

(SANEF, August 2003)



SCS OVERVIEW

Speed Check Services provides a range of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) to the UK's road network. Three operating divisions target key market sectors:

- traffic operations:** implementing solutions to manage traffic flow on the road network
- traffic information:** using technology to keep the public informed about road conditions
- traffic safety:** protecting road users and enforcing traffic law

Drawing on considerable experience and a diverse technology toolkit, Speed Check Services can consult, design, install and maintain a broad range of ITS solutions.