

Summary

Developments in mobility, transport and traffic will cause of a lot of future problems. Only when more people travel by public transport these problems can be solved. This requires a higher quality of public transportation. One way to achieve this is by the use of telematics.

In this essay applications of telematics in public transport are discussed. The information which is needed is collected by means of a literature examination.

The applications of telematics in public transport are mainly focussed on routeplanning. Routeplanning consists of traveller information systems, traveller reservation systems and payment. Some interesting projects are allready started, especially on information systems and payment.

Traveller information systems are systems which help the (potential) public transport user plan his journey. The systems which have been used uptill now are mainly based on the use of a static information provision. In the future dynamic information systems are needed. These systems make routeplans which reckon with the current traffic conditions and alternatives. Traveller information systems are important in an attemt to make people look more positively at public transport. The information can also be used to improve public transport itself. For an optimal use of the information systems the information has to be avaiilable on a large and widespread scale.

The way of paying for public transport will have to change in the future. The accessibility of public transport will improve if a uniform way of paying is introduced. This is possible by the use of magnetic cards and chipcards.

The use of telematics also makes it possible to design a form of public transport in which the route and schedule are variable. These services are called paratransit. Paratransit is interesting when small amounts of people require transportation. Possible uses of paratransit are feederservices in urban areas, door-to-door services in rural areas and services for special groups. Under certain conditions the use of paratransit may lead to lower costs and higher quality of the services.