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Major move to reduce energy by Highways Agency

In partnership with highways services company EnterpriseMouchel, Siemens Mobility, Traffic Solutions based in Poole, Dorset has been awarded a major project by the Highways Agency to upgrade traffic signals at junctions on motorways and major A roads in the South of England with Extra Low Voltage (ELV) equipment.

New replacement ELV traffic controllers and signal heads will be supplied and installed by Siemens at more than 40 sites on the M3 in Surrey and Hampshire, the M4 in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and part of Wiltshire, the M27 and A27 in Hampshire and the A3 in Surrey as part of EnterpriseMouchel's Managed Area Contract (MAC) with the Highways Agency.

The new equipment is being installed following surveys by the Siemens Design Services a Group and is expected to be validated and fully completed in 10 months. A new UTC system from Siemens is also being supplied and installed in Basingstoke.

Among the first areas to benefit from the improved energy-saving lights will be the M3 around Lightwater in Surrey and Basingstoke in Hampshire; the M4 near Swindon; and the A3 at Guildford. Other junctions in the South will be upgraded in due course.

Highways Agency Construction Manager Guy Berresford said: 'this work is part of our commitment to help improve safety and journey reliability. The new LED traffic lights use less power and will be more visible to drivers in bright, sunny conditions. This has the double advantage of saving energy and increasing safety for road users.'

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According to the Siemens Regional Design Services Manager, Craig Hamilton, many local authorities have already adopted Siemens' highly successful ELV ST900 intersection controllers and the recently launched ST750P ELV pedestrian controllers. 'This latest project represents another significant order aimed at saving energy and improving safety,' he said.

The use of ELV provides reduced power and cabling costs as well as improved lamp monitoring of very low power LED traffic and pedestrian signals. ELV also provides increased electrical safety for both members of the public in the event of any damage to the installation and personnel working on or around the junction.

Extra low voltage controllers

Siemens' highly successful Extra Low Voltage (ELV) intersection controllers together with the ELV pedestrian controller, enables the implementation of a total ELV policy for all new sites. The new ST750P pedestrian family is certified to TR2500 and provides Pelican, Puffin and Toucan control strategies at both low voltage (230V) and extra-low voltage (48V) drive levels.

ELV technology, which is manufactured at the company's Poole factory, is closely related to the acclaimed ST900 range of high performance traffic controllers. The new equipment is also compatible with the whole range of Siemens street furniture, including Helios LED signals, LED nearside signals and LED wait indicators, all offering significant power cost savings over conventional solutions.

About Siemens in the UK

Siemens was established in the United Kingdom 166 years ago and now employs 18,402 people in the UK. Last year's revenues were £3.7 billion. As a leading global engineering and technology services company, Siemens provides innovative solutions to help tackle the world's major challenges, across the key sectors of energy, industry and healthcare. Siemens has offices and factories throughout the UK, with its headquarters in Frimley, Surrey. The company's global headquarters is in Munich, Germany. For more information, visit www.siemens.co.uk

For more information, contact: Siemens Mobility, Traffic Solutions,

Head of Communications

Peter Preston
Tel: +44 (0) 1202 782390
Email: peter.preston@siemens.com

PR Account Manager

Julian Gollogly
Tel: 07770 924441
Email: julian.gollogly@ntlworld.com

This press release can be found on the web at: www.siemens.co.uk/traffic