
PARKING IN SPLIT WILL SOON GO SMART

Following a successfully implemented pilot project, Ericsson Nikola Tesla, as the consortium leader, together with Profico company, will deliver an ICT solution for smart parking to Split Parking utility company. The works amount to nearly MHRK 3, and the project is planned to last six months. This is the first integral solution for smart parking in Croatia and it represents one of the steps on the path towards a smart city in the mobility field.

Wireless sensors will be installed at 43 street parking locations with a total of 1360 parking spaces, and will be connected to the central system through a wireless network of relay nodes and data collectors. The existing parking lots which are not situated on the street and are also managed by Split Parking will be connected to the central system as well. The users will be able to see in real time on Google Maps which parking spaces are (un)available, where the parking spaces for the disabled are, as well as have the options of navigation, payment, anonymous reporting of illegal parking, i.e. blocking the access to the parking space. At the administrator interface of the system, Split Parking will have the possibility of monitoring and managing the system in real time.

Gordana Kovačević, MSc, president of Ericsson Nikola Tesla, commented on the introduction of smart parking in Split: “The solution we will implement follows Ericsson’s vision of the Networked Society, where everything that benefits business or the society at large will be connected. This is one of the innovative solutions for a low-carbon economy, and we are on the very beginning of the path and in different segments of city life there is room for many other smart solutions. I am pleased that Split has decided to pursue this path and I believe that very soon the citizens of Split and the city administration will enjoy the benefits offered by this solution.”

Marko Bartulić, director at Split Parking, stressed the importance this solution will have for the city of Split and its citizens: “The first aim is to protect the citizens. It will be easier to find a parking space, there will be less traffic jams and less CO₂ emissions, it will be easier to pay for parking, report illegal parking, and many other practical solutions will be provided. Briefly put, the aim is to bring more order to the city and make it tidier from a public utility point of view. There will be also a control center established, which will operate 24/7 and will

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contribute to the management, and we will obtain many data for further analysis of traffic in rest. The usability of parking lots in Split during the period when they are charged for amounts to only 80 percent. There are 92,000 vehicles in Split and only 7,000 parking spaces that are charged.”

Mateo Perak from Profico, a software company from Split, pointed out his satisfaction with the fact they are a part of this project: “This is not only a new experience for us, but also a step forward, since we moved from private global sector to the collaboration with a local utility company. However, sometimes that is the path that needs to be followed. It is difficult to convince local customers that you are good in what you do, and this is the first project we carried out for a domestic client. The application will be available on all mobile platforms and will be integrated in several existing Split Parking’s systems, while their entire system will be raised to a whole new level.”

Andro Krstulović Opara, mayor of Split, described this project as the beginning of a “smart city” era in Split: “This is one small step for our utility company, but one giant leap for Split; with this we initiate the project of smart city. This is the right path: we have a successful utility company, a great global company, and a start-up from Split involved, while everything takes place at the University of Split. I congratulate everyone who participated in this project and engaged in a business activity which could solve possibly the greatest problem in our city.”

This contract represents a result of a successful cooperation of the city administration, a public company and the economy, with the aim of improving the quality of citizens’ and tourists’ lives, achieving a greater efficiency and sustainability of the city as well as protecting the environment.

Communications Ericsson Nikola Tesla

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