AUTOMATED TAXI DISPATCH SYSTEM AT HELSINKI – VANTAA AIRPORT

Due to the growth of Finland’s main airport Helsinki-Vantaa the local authorities faced new challenges such as meeting with the latest security requirements and handling larger numbers of travelling passengers. To regulate taxi services at the airport, the terminals are equipped with Automatic Vehicle Identification technology from Nedap. Since it is implemented in 2001, the Nedap TRANSIT long-range RFID platform performs accurate, reliable and secure for the control of all commercial vehicles approaching, entering and leaving the airport taxi ranks.

At the beginning of this millennium, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport decided to implement new traffic security procedures. The airport wanted to closely monitor the traffic flows on the land side, such as movements from commercial vehicles. In 2000, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport started a company that is responsible for providing, coordination and supervision of taxi services at the airport.

Besides increasing safety and security, regulating commercial vehicles allows Helsinki-airport to maintain high-quality of customers service. Generating revenue from the commercial vehicles is becoming an increasingly and lucrative practice at the leading airports in Europe. Therefore also Helsinki-Vantaa decided to charge commercial vehicles for the privilege of being allowed to use the airport’s terminal pick-up facilities. Receiving real-time data from the Nedap TRANSIT system, the Helsinki-Vantaa taxi dispatch system controls vehicle access, manages payments and also provides important management information for planning and statistics.

Automatic vehicle identification

The airport access roads to the taxi pick-up zones, including the central taxi buffer zone and the terminal entry and exit lanes, are equipped with Nedap TRANSIT readers. These high-end readers identify the taxis by reading the windshield-mounted Window Button. All taxis are obliged to enter the terminals via the taxi buffer zone. The taxi dispatch system is operated from the taxi service center located in the buffer zone where cameras watch the taxi queues and the pick-up points at the terminals.

Project results

- Successful in operation since 2001
- Controlled flow of licensed taxis
- Increased airport security and safety
- Improved quality of customer service
- Consistent revenue stream from taxis
- 1 million taxis go through the system every year