LACROIX Trafic is an electronics company specializing in data collection and variable message display technologies. LACROIX Trafic offers a full range of Variable Message Signs.

As centralized traffic flow management tools, LACROIX Trafic Variable Message Signs provide real-time information on traffic conditions to warn road users, optimizing route selection decisions and enhancing road safety.

Recognized since 1983 by many international highway operators, the LACROIX Trafic range of Variable Message Signs is the right answer for roads, highways and city street applications.

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VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS

DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY

In terms of display technology, LACROIX Traffic development is based mainly on the use of monochrome light-emitting diodes. A high MTBF is provided by this technology and considerably reduces maintenance requirements.

The LED management and control system ensures that component aging is kept to the minimum, preserving optimum and homogenous display brightness characteristics. The alphanumeric display characters made up of 35 pixels (7 lines and 5 columns), are available as standard in heights from 50 to 450 mm. These characters can also display proportionally spaced graphical lines in order to optimize sign length.

The full matrix display solution

The full matrix solution means that all graphical symbols can be displayed as well as Oriental, Cyrillic and Arab language characters. The technology and experience are now available to provide full colour displays for road and urban applications messages.

THE DISPLAY UNIT

The display unit

The display unit is built into an aluminum alloy housing that, depending on where the latter is to be located, can be fitted with heating control systems, weatherproofing, brightness and contrast level controls, etc. All of the various options make it possible to meet the especially harsh and varied environmental roadway conditions.

Variable Sign Mounting Structure

The mounting structure used must match both the geographic layout of the installation site and the technical constraints (surface area exposed to wind pressure, weight...). Each variable message sign mounting application requires written calculation specifications.

Depending on the application, the variable message sign mountings may use an overhead gantry, high mast, mast or pole, or a bespoke mounting structure design may be required for specific construction works or tunnels.

The structure assembly is made of aluminum alloy sheeting and extrusions and allows the necessary access for Variable Message Signs installation and maintenance requirements as well as ensuring personnel safety.

The Controller Cabinet

The local control cabinet for a variable message signs is located either on the gantry or inside the sign or at road level. The local control cabinet enables operators to perform local mode message display configuration as well as all tests required to ensure that the Variable Message Signs are operating correctly (either for service introduction purposes or after-sales).

It provides both the power supply to the Variable Message Signs and the dialog functions with the control cabinet and enables configuration of all electronics designed around a single processor board.

OPERATOR FACILITIES

The control system

There are two ways to manage the Variable Message Sign displays linked to a centralized traffic management system:

- From a control station using management software dedicated to the application in operation. This kind of system can also include other devices (data collection stations, directional lane signs, variable speed limit signs, etc.).
- Using an MMi graphical user interface that can handle communication between an existing traffic supervision and the Variable Message Sign systems.

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La communication

Remote communication with the control cabinet can operate via any transmission media: private lines, leased lines, switched telephone network, fiber optic, trunk cellular networks, radio links, etc.

SPHINX V

Sphinx V is a powerful software tool to remotely manage all types of traffic management variable message signs. Developed using a WINDOWS platform, this offers a perfect environment to operators who wish to control or drive all field equipment using an adaptive graphical user interface.

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