

THE NEXT BUS WILL ARRIVE AT . . .

With the average rider using the system more than 170 times a year, Ottawa-Carleton Regional Transit Commission is a leader among metropolitan bus transportation systems in North America and one of the most innovative.

One of the areas in which OC Transpo has been most progressive has been in the provision of easily accessible route and schedule information for users.

It pioneered an automated schedule information system which can be dialed from any telephone.

But the most recent addition has been the introduction of visual displays of the same arrival information using NAPLPS videotex terminals.

TRANSPORTATION 12:15:43
ROUTE / CIRCUIT IN / DANS
2 Gloucester N. 11 & 14 Min. 2X Gloucester N. 26 & 56 Min. 2 Westboro. 29 & 59 Min. 2Z Westboro. 14 & 44 Min.
99 Kanata. 6 & 16 Min. 99 Orleans. 3 & 13 Min. 103 Downtown/
* SHORT DELAYS / BREFS DELAIS
* LAST TRIP / DERNIER TRAJET

They are installed at various locations including shopping centres, main transfer points and the inter-city transportation terminals.

The displays show the bus route number, name, and the number of minutes until the next two arrivals at the stop. Colour-coded symbols indicate the status of the service: a short, medium or long wait is indicated by a green, blue or magenta dot.

A trip less than five minutes away is displayed in yellow, while the last trip on a route is highlighted in a cyan box. A last trip less than five minutes away is accompanied by a flashing dot.

The result has been an increase in ridership, including a 15 per cent increase in off-hour traffic in 1983.

The page-creation software being used for the OC Transpo terminals was developed by the Genesys Group, an Ottawa-based software and consulting firm.

The program interfaces with the automated schedule information system developed by Teleride/Sage.

Teleride is co-operating with the government to commercially develop, produce and market computerized transit control and information systems. Already, transit control information systems are being marketed throughout Canada and the United States. In one installation, in Mississauga, a suburb of Toronto, Canada, a 35 per cent increase in ridership was reported by the Mississauga Transit Authority.

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