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AUSTRALIA

## **ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

**9 February 2012**

### **Deputy Minister of Transport in Thailand Announces Policy on RFID**

The Directors of MIKOH Corporation Limited (ASX: MIK) are pleased to advise that the Deputy Minister of Transport has announced that the installation of RFID for the monitoring of speed for public passenger vans is now a policy of the Ministry of Transport.

The attached news report of the announcement by the Deputy Minister of Transport is significant because, up until now the installation of RFID and the mandatory requirement for public passenger vans has been a policy of the Department of Land Transport. This announcement now makes it a policy of the Ministry of Transport which means that the installation of the RFID system now has the backing of the highest levels of the Government in Thailand.

The approval of the Minister further develops the implementation of the MIKOH Kollakorn EVR rollout in Thailand.

This is a further step in the commercial rollout of EVR in Thailand.

Richard Sealy

**Managing Director**

***Ministry of Transportation and Communications takes charge of public passenger van transportation after repeated accidents.***

***Deputy Minister of Transport calls in the Department of Land Transport, Transportation Company, and Public Transportation in Bangkok for an emergency meeting to implement preventive measures after repeated accidents of public passenger vans causing 60 deaths and 282 injuries. Preliminary plans announced are for dedicated pick-up and drop-off zones and for the installation of an RFID system to monitor speed.***

On February 5, Mr. Chatchart Sittiphun, the Deputy Minister of Transport revealed that he has arranged to meet with Director-General of the Department of Land Transport, Mr. Somchai Siriwattanachoke, the president of the Transportation Companies, Mr. Wuttichart Kullayanamit, and director of Public Transportation in Bangkok, Mr. Oppart Petchmune to implement preventive measure for the public passenger vans. Recently there have been numerous public passenger van accidents and statistics from January 2011 - January 2012 show that there were 60 people killed and 282 injured. Most of the accidents were caused by reckless driving and driving too fast.

Mr. Sittiphun said that there will now be specific pick-up and drop-off zones for public passenger vans and that the installation of an RFID system to monitor speed will also be implemented. When drivers are repeatedly caught speeding they will have their licenses cancelled. He also said that they were looking into other interim measures because it takes time to install the RFID system countrywide.

The Director-General of Department of Land Transport, Mr. Somchai Siriwattanachoke talked about stricter measures to detect speeding of public passenger vans and that he has requested the director of the Transportation Companies, and director of Public Transportation in Bangkok, who look after public passenger vans, to emphasize the Department's concern about speeding with the owners of these vehicles.

On April 1, the Department of Land Transport will start using the RFID system for speed detection for all public transport. The RFID system will be installed on roads and all public passenger vans will be required to obtain the new RFID tag for their vehicles. The RFID system will monitor the speed of all public passenger vans, for example: on the assigned roads, the system knows that it takes 6 minutes to cover the distance between point A and point B, travelling within the speed limit. But if the driver takes only 4 minutes to cover that distance the system will record the data of the vehicle; license plate and the location where the law was broken and report this to the responsible agencies so the driver can be punished.

In addition, the department has increased the penalties by up to ten times for public passenger van drivers that exceed the speed limit. The fine will increase from 500 baht to 5000 baht for a first offence and for a second offence the license will be withdrawn. We believe that this will encourage drivers to be more careful and therefore increase safety for all passengers.

The first phase will be to install the RFID system on tollways and motorways then on other roads. Public transport, such as buses and vans will be required to place the new RFID tag on their front headlights.

The tag will contain data and information about the vehicle, its owner and license plate. Therefore if any vehicle breaks the law, the RFID system will record the information and details. The advantage of this system is that we do not need a person to detect speeding and collect data.

The cost of the new tag will be 120 baht per vehicle per year.

The safety issue is of serious concern, so in the meantime Transportation Companies and Public Transportation in Bangkok will meet with public transport owners to see what can be done to improve safety during these couple months while waiting for the RFID system to become operational.

Source: <http://www.thairath.co.th/content/eco/236166>