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Speaker Qualifications

Wolfgang Brandenburg, DI (Technical University of Berlin)

Longtime work in Public Transport Research; Member of DIN working teams; Presentations of results of studies and research. Founded the i+d in 1985.

Viktoria Brandenburg

Working on product development of mobile phones.
Frequent technical presentations in English.



Wayfinding and Virtual Guidance in Traffic Hubs

Abstract

The system helps people to find their way through complex areas such as large railway stations or multilevel underground constructions.

It is especially useful for persons with the handicap of constrained movement.

The system will be available on the internet and on touch-screens at information terminals in situ.

It consists of three parts:

- a three-dimensional graphic overview of the station
- an interactive graphic questionnaire for the wayfinding
- a computer animation in the form of a movie

If a voyager wants to profit from the system before starting his journey, he should consult the internet to determine whether the station or construction is listed there. If so, the sequence of use is the same as on the terminal touchscreen:

First, he can get an impression of the site with the aid of the 3D graphic overview. Additionally he can read explanations and have a look at photos.

The second step is the wayfinding. First, a sequential selection of marked signs on the plan must be carried out to determine the starting point and the destination. Then there is a choice of the modality of the movement, e.g. "shortest route" or "wheelchair use".

Finally the user will be shown the movie. The computer animation simulates exactly a walk along his chosen way, as if he is pacing that route himself.

As a special advantage the voyager has the opportunity to download this movie from the internet to his PDA or his mobile phone. Then the user could look at the animation, while he is on the go.