



## **Product profile**

## Pump up the volume

New pedestrian detector with volumetric capability keeps city traffic moving



The ability to monitor the pedestrian occupancy of the wait zone is crucial to ensuring safety

A summer of sport has highlighted the planning that takes place behind the scenes when heavy volumes of pedestrians suddenly descend on a venue. A crowd can easily become its own worst enemy when it surges anywhere, and particularly where there are vehicles involved. But how can local or city authorities allow for sudden fluctuations in pedestrian numbers?

Unless temporary changes can be made to take account of high pedestrian volumes, at times of high demand a 'sea' of pedestrians will sweep across the road as and when it wants to, ignoring signals and surrounding vehicles. We've all seen this after a concert or sports event, and during city-centre rush-hour, and it can be dangerous for motorists and pedestrians alike. There is also a significant impact on local traffic, which can have far-reaching consequences.

Kerbside detection can dramatically increase the efficiency of crossings, identifying and alerting UTCs when pedestrians are present and enabling authorities to optimise pedestrian phases based on measured levels of demand. But if the smart city of the future is to be truly smart, monitoring pedestrian presence in the wait zone is not enough, which is why AGD Systems is about to launch an enhancement to its highly successful 645 Pedestrian Detector. From September, the 645 will also offer pedestrian volumetrics as part of the standard build.





# AGD **645**PEDESTRIAN DETECTOR

### **Intelligent crossings**

Whether in busy city centres, at transport hubs like train and bus stations, outside entertainment venues or near schools and colleges – anywhere that encounters high variability of pedestrian flows at different times of the day or night, the ability to monitor the pedestrian occupancy of the wait zone is crucial to ensuring safety.

Large authorities like Transport for London have recognised the need to invest in dynamic pedestrian control safety systems, carrying out extensive trials that enabled the adjustment of traffic signal timings automatically to extend the green pedestrian invitation to cross phase when large numbers of people were waiting.

Ian Hind, AGD's commercial director, says: "AGD's pedestrian detection technology can now be employed to vary the crossing times based on pedestrian density, creating intelligent crossings that can detect the volume of people waiting and change the lights accordingly."



The AGD 645 Pedestrian Detector with volumetrics

#### International solution

Now AGD is making this technology available to all its customers in an enhancement that builds on the 645 Pedestrian Detector's ability to deliver robust detection with an extended 10m x 3m zone, with advanced optics ensuring 'detect and reject', plus real-time video that can be fed to control rooms allowing remote zone adjustments to be made.

Pedestrian behaviour is visible from the control room via Ethernet IP connectivity, delivering a richness of data that was previously unavailable, both day and night, with high reliability. This allows the local controller to make decisions in real time, so when the football crowds, shoppers, school children or New Year revellers have gone, the signal phases can be easily and quickly returned to normal.

Acknowledging the importance of an effective pedestrian system to successful traffic flow, Ian Hind says: "The efficiency of pedestrian systems and the way in which they are managed by the local integrator will influence how quickly green time is given back to the traffic, and ultimately the success of the overall scheme."

"This is a truly international solution," he continues. "The new large-zone 645 is capable of covering the super-crossings we're seeing more frequently in busy urban centres around the world. Larger municipal authorities in the UK have already trialled the equipment to manage greater volumes of pedestrians, and we look forward to getting this enhanced option in front of major international city authorities very soon."

The enhanced 645 Pedestrian Detector with volumetrics will be launched at the JCT Symposium 2018.





Highways



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