

PAY AS YOU GO

Abanco International's payment solution technologies ensure TOCs reap the full benefits of Wi-Fi

WI-FI TECHNOLOGY opens many doors for the rail industry. With its powerful, secure, flexible, reliable and fast connectivity, it makes a great medium for railroads – not only to offer as an option to its passengers to connect to a network, but also for employees on board the trains to connect to headquarters or a database in real time.

Wi-Fi is a great way for the rail industry to provide services to their customers. Imagine purchasing a ticket on the train with a credit card, debit card or cash. Imagine that you board a train where there is a record of your boarding stored in a database. Imagine being able to pay for movies and other entertainment on board long journeys. This can all be achieved with Wi-Fi.

Today, every railroad is faced with demanding challenges – how to increase operating efficiencies while containing or reducing costs. Utilising technology on the railroads has provided answers to some of these challenges and concerns – for example, passenger manifesting, ticket fraud detection and real-time communications, to name just a few. The solution from Abanco enables railroads to overcome many of the challenges they face today and to streamline their onboard processes. The Abanco solution is mobile and offers a built-in barcode scanner, thermal printer and wireless printer – making it a flexible and lightweight option for onboard retailing and revenue generation. The wireless capability makes it a perfect solution for the rail environment. In addition, the Web-based reporting tools provide reports supporting accountability, inventory reconciliation and trend analysis.

Real-time data

The solution consists of a customisable software application and a hand-held device that allows the railways to track tickets, sales, inventory and revenue. It is an all-in-one payment processing solution that accepts all forms of payment including credit cards, cash and has chip and pin support. In addition, travellers also have the capability to purchase daily and monthly passes from the comfort of their homes or offices using the internet, which can then be validated on the train in real time using Wi-Fi technology via the device.

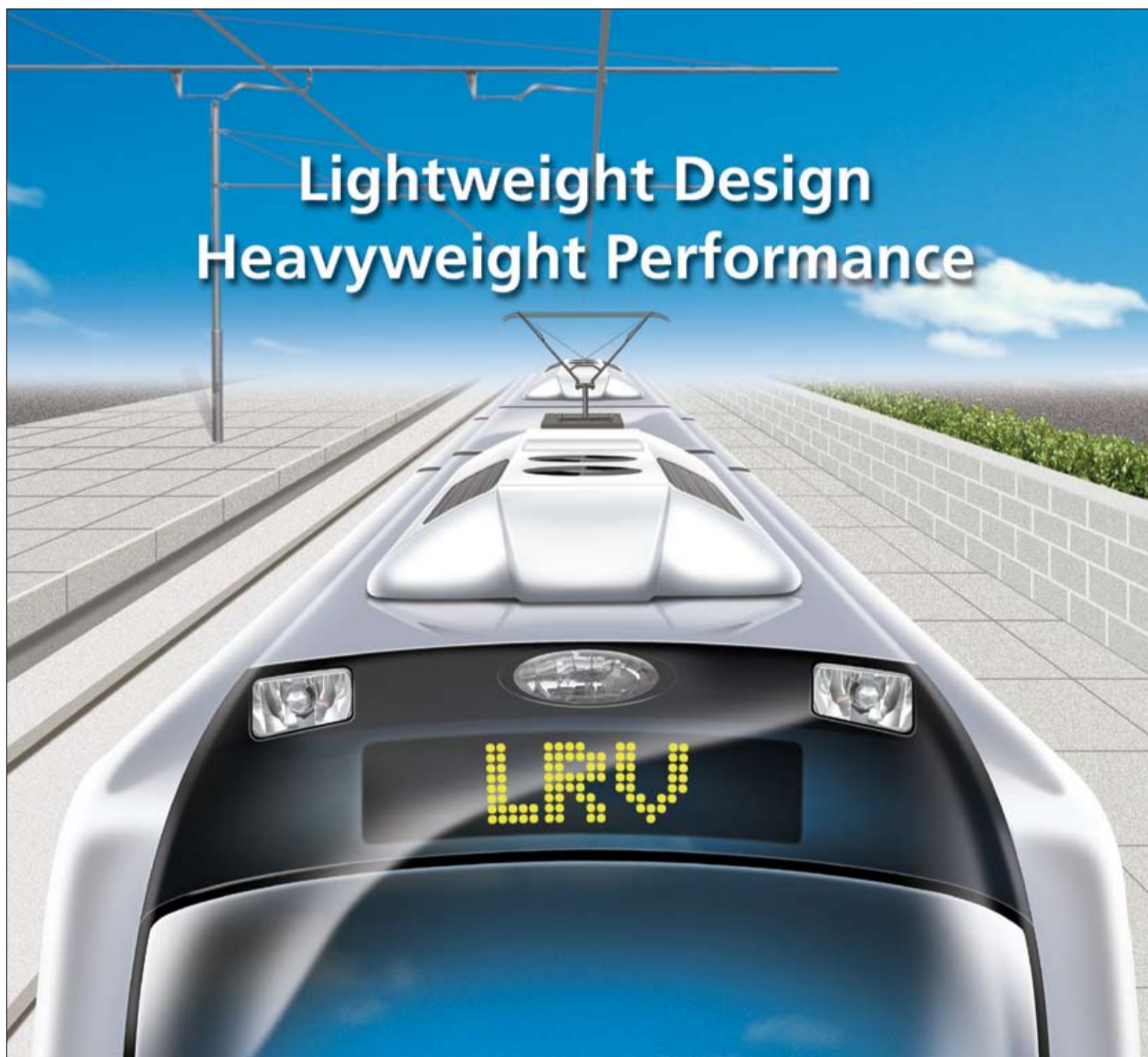
With web ticketing, passenger information can be captured at the time of purchase and once scanned on board the train, enables the railroads to combat the challenge of passenger manifesting – knowing who is on the train, when and on what route. Real-time communications technology can be used by railroad personnel for onboard ticketing, allowing the railroad to take advantage of removing cash from the train to process credit cards in real time.

The Abanco solution also helps the railroads eliminate ticket fraud as they can be scanned on board the train to verify if they have been

tampered with or previously used. This also allows the railroads to implement software solutions that enable them to generate additional

revenue rewards, creating a profit centre by selling additional products and services and controlling inventories and shrinkages – for

example, onboard food purchasing, entertainment devices and tourist attraction tickets. In addition, the railroads can also reap the benefits of advance collection of monthly passes via internet pre-orders. **END**



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