

HOLMAN ENGINEERING



Passenger Information & Display System (PIDS 2000)

Holman Engineering developed a Passenger Information & Display System for Olympic Park Railway Station (The venue for the Sydney 2000 Olympics). This project involved the development of a complete system which would inform passengers of when and where the trains were going. This is no small task when you consider that during the 1998 Easter Show period (12 days) there were over 1.8 million passenger movements at Olympic Park Station.

Holman Engineering had 15 weeks to design, prototype, procure components, manufacture, assemble, install and commission a complete system (The total project was successfully completed in the time allowed).



Passenger Information & Display System (PIDS 2000) continued....

The system included four major components:

1. Sixteen electronic signs which are capable of displaying text or graphics (These collectively contain over 300,000 LED's). The photograph shows the signs out the front of the station which are double sided signs. All our signs automatically adjust the intensity of the signs depending on the ambient light. They use high viewing angle, high intensity (3,000 mcd), amber LED's.
2. A digital voice annunciator (DVA 2000): which is a computerised voice announcement system which generates and sends automated (CD Quality) voice announcements out to the eleven public address zones of the railway station. This system is tightly integrated with the PA so as to ensure that DVA and manual announcements don't go out over the top of each other. The one DVA can send different announcements out to different PA zones at the same time.
3. A control computer system (hardware and our custom software) which drives all of the signs, gathers information from the SRA's train control system, drives the clocks (analogue and digital) and triggers all announcements through the DVA.
4. A user interface (called Station 2000), which allows multiple users to view (and change if necessary) what is happening.

All four of these major components were developed locally by Holman Engineering.

The photograph (right) shows the primary and backup DVA and control computers. This system is a "Hot" redundant system which allows the easy transfer of tasks between the primary and backup systems in case of failure.

The PIDS 2000 system runs completely automatically, only requiring human intervention in case of timetable amendments.



HOLMAN ENGINEERING

Passenger Information & Display System (PIDS 2000 – St Leonards Station)



Holman Engineering used the Passenger Information & Display System that they developed for Olympic Park Station as a basis for a PIDS system that was developed for St Leonards Station.

The St Leonards version is a less complex system that has only one PC carrying out the multiple functions of driving the signs, providing the announcements to four zones (ie a Digital Voice Annunciator), interfacing with the State Rail Authority signalling system and providing the user interface. The system is completely automatic (ie it does not require any operator input during normal operation).



