

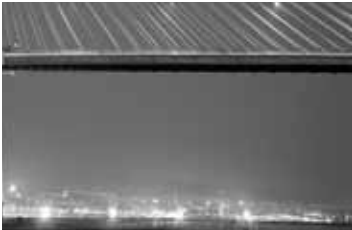
POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS IN PORTUGAL

Nationwide Electronic Toll Collection

Q-FREE_CASE_PORTUGAL



2. Portugal



Q-Free worked closely with leading toll road operator BRISA to develop Europe's first nationwide electronic toll collection system. Being not only Europe's first nationwide ETC system, it was also the first system to utilise the then new standard frequency 5.8 GHz. Named Via Verde, it was extended to cover every toll point in the country in 1995. Q-Free supplied all the ETC equipment, the back office system and 2.4 million OBUs. Q-Free has recently signed a contract with AENOR to deliver Portugal's first Multi-lane Free Flow system.

CHALLENGE

The combined knowledge of Q-Free and BRISA was needed to meet the challenge of developing Europe's first nationwide electronic toll collection system. Via Verde was created using

non-stop lanes with 40 or 60Km/h speed limits, to ensure good traffic flow. The system also has a fully integrated cross-bank network (Multi-banco) to ease payment.

The system's ease of use, and the fact that one tag works everywhere, has led to it being expanded to areas outside toll fee collecting, such as car parks and service stations.

Being Q-Free's first breakthrough on the international market for electronic toll collection (ETC) equipment, Via Verde created a solid reputation for the company in Portugal. Q-Free now has offices in Lisbon and Porto.

Q-Free's on-going project with the standardisation and certification body AENOR involves another challenge – delivery of Portugal's first Multilane Free Flow system. The delivery comprises roadside equipment, an operational back office system and related services for the concessions "Grande Porto" and "Costa da Prata". Both are currently operated under the shadow tolling scheme (SCUT) and will be transformed into a fully operational MLFF.

FAST FACTS

NAME OF CUSTOMER
Brisa/Via Verde and AENOR
COUNTRY
Portugal
COMPLETION DATE
Via Verde 1995; AENOR 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION

SALES DEPARTMENT
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STRATEGY

Q-Free's close collaboration with toll road operator BRISA has become a pioneering partnership. BRISA is now one of the world leaders in toll road operations and Via Verde is seen as the reference for efficient and environmentally friendly ETC operation.

IMPLEMENTATION

The design and build phase of the Q-Free/AENOR project will run into 2010 and will be followed by a five-year service and maintenance period. The Multilane Free Flow system will comprise 48 charging points and a total of 171 lanes.

ROADSIDE SOLUTION

Vehicle Detection/classification System (VDS) supplied by BRISA
Toll Plaza Computer integrating all plaza peripherals

CENTRAL SYSTEM

Back Office System
Vehicle Enforcement System (VES)

TESTIMONIALS

Full testimonials for these projects and their systems are available on request.