Example 22 **Accessible Bus Terminal with Accessible Lighting and Colour Contrasts**

City (country) **Espoo (Finland)**

good practice for people with …	kind of vehicle	kind of measure/approach
… motor impairment … visual impairment	city bus regional bus	engineering/technology approach financial support measure organisational/operational support

Project description

The Tapiola Action Plan (Tapiola is a district in the city of Espoo) for a new accessible bus terminal was carried out in 2006. The aims were to examine the suitability of accessible solutions produced in the ELSA programme (see example 28) and to estimate ways to utilize the solutions in the planning phase.

In the first phase material was collected from previous ELSA projects dealing with accessible public transport environments, from the SuRaKu project (Guidelines for the planning, construction and maintenance of public outdoor facilities), the Finnish Public Transport Association infracards and external as well as Internet sources. After experts had evaluated the feasibility of the assembled ideas and measures, they selected proposals for their own measures in Espoo. Before application began, certain areas were selected for special examination. Finally the results were implemented according to the planning phase.

The planning of Tapiola bus terminal demonstrates possible improvements of accessibility through small measures. Reconstruction of the bus terminal's entire lighting system was used to enhance accessibility by implementing a clear lighting hierarchy to highlight different routes. Embedded LED lights indicate the bus stops themselves.

The planners of Tapiola bus terminal point out that all measures proposed in the project can also be applied to the planning phase of other similar targets.

Within the ELSA programme there was another project dealing with accessible lighting and colour contrasts in public transport terminals and related environments. The target groups of this project were ageing and visually impaired people, a growing population in Finland whose interests need to be more fully considered in future independent mobility planning.

User tests were conducted in public transport stops in Espoo and other Finish cities. Entrance and platform areas, underpasses and stairs were selected for special examination. Working methods within the project were very widely and included among other field investigations, user and lighting surveys, accessibility surveys for plans, modelling and laboratory user tests of contrast markings. The outcome of the project was the establishment of new guidelines for the outdoor lighting of public transport facilities. These guidelines are now recommended for use in the planning and maintenance of public transport stops, terminals and related environs.

Sources:
ELSA: Tapiola Action Plan for an Accessible Bus Terminal,
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ELSA: Accessible Lighting and Colour Contrasts in Public Transport Terminals and Related Environments,
http://www.elsa.fi/English/hankeyhteenvedot/07_ELSA_hankeyhteenveto_VALOIS_en.pdf (06/11/2007)

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