

# An intelligent parking meter with smart card

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THE PM 2000 — an intelligent parking meter with a smart card device that allows payment for the exact parking time to the minute — will go easy on the pocket and spare users the worry of being summoned over paying for less time.

A Malaysian-made meter which employs advanced smart card technology, it eliminates the usual complaints associated with parking meters.

It will be further improved with a remote data transfer facility, enabling the implementation of a multiscard system where a common card can be used at all locations.

The smart card payment system can also be programmed for the implementation of restricted parking concepts, useful to large cities with scarce parking bays. It discourages long time occupancy of prime parking areas, by increasing the hourly payment after the first hour.

User friendly to the core, the PM 2000 will still feature the option of coin payment. State-of-the-art electronic circuitry minimises coin jams and allows easy programming to accept any coin denomination.

Winner of the Silver Award at the Information Technology Exhibition 2000 (I-TEX), the PM 2000 is also vandal resistant. Made of high impact resistant zinc, it is well suited to stand the test of pilferage by petty thieves.

It was jointly developed through joint research between Kejuruteraan Elektrik Suria (M) Sdn Bhd and Sirim Bhd.

The PM 2000 was developed using 100 per cent local expertise and technology, with 93 per cent local components.

Syarikat Elektrik Suria's managing director K. Subramaniam said that the idea for the product was derived from studying the different models of foreign parking meters.

"We wanted the PM 2000 to address the shortcomings of the present models in the market, and be a viable alternative to the foreign meters being used presently."

He said that it was developed in-line with the Government's call for local SMIs' to develop products that will reduce Malaysia's dependence on foreign technology and cash outflow. Currently all parking meters here are imported.

This April, about 1,000 trial units of the PM 2000, will be installed in local councils in Malacca, Taiping, and Penang, who have expressed an interest in it.

If the trial period proves to be a success, Subramaniam hopes that the orders will start coming in.

A result of its win at the I-TEX exhibition, the product will be among the 1,000 new inventions from 44 countries to be featured at the upcoming 29th International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva, Switzerland.