

PARKING NEWS



Convenient parking in a world cultural heritage site

The Old Town of Graz in Austria has been a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since 1999. However, it coexists with modern architecture and a state-of-the-art convenient parking solution, which is causing quite a sensation.

With a population of 280,000, Graz is the second-largest city in Austria. As the largest intact old town in Europe, it has been a UNESCO world cultural heritage site since 1999. Nevertheless, Graz has also been causing a stir by integrating modern architecture very successfully into the historic Old Town. The most recent example of this is the new “Rondo Home & Business” building. This residential and office building pursues an urbanistic vision that runs right through its space to the fully automated parking solution from Westfalia.

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LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION IS ON ITS WAY

People and machine in a Westfalia CAR-SAFE® [\(page 02\)](#)



BOUND FOR SCANDINAVIA

Westfalia wins 5:0 in Copenhagen [\(page 03\)](#)



BOOM TOWN DUBAI

Everyone aims high in the Persian Gulf [\(page 04\)](#)



Convenient parking in the world cultural heritage site

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→ First-class parking

At first glance, the most impressive feature of the Rondo is the striking curved form of its exterior. The builder, Graz-based ÖWGES Gemeinnützige Wohnbau Ges.m.b.H., has made the interior just as inspiring and eco-friendly. Besides the automated parking garage, the facility offers three alternative energy systems -- solar collector, earth-tube collector, and waste heat collectors -- which work together to form a passive or low-energy use facility (including A/C).



RONDO Graz, entry/exit cabin

Rondo's parking solution is also visionary and environmentally friendly. For the first time a state-of-the-art automatic parking garage has been built in Graz by Westfalia. One distinctive feature of the facility is that the entry/exit cabins are full of light and bright colors, which impart a wonderful ambience, not typical of conventional parking garages. The ultra high tech facility requires customers to use simplified touch screens, which make the whole parking process intuitive and easy to use. Conveniently, the withdrawal process is triggered when paying at the ticket machine. Users of the Westfalia CAR-SAFE® in Graz can pass the time during the brief wait by following the process live on

a flat screen, or catching up on the latest news on the continuously updated news ticker.

More convenient and efficient

As Mr. Christian Krainer, one of Rondo's two managing directors explains, Westfalia was not only able to convince them in terms of parking convenience: "Of course, we inspected a few of Westfalia's referenced installations beforehand and were impressed by the aspects presented to us. Westfalia's years of experience in logistical areas and their maintenance system were important to us. The willingness to share the risk by signing an operator's agreement was also essential due to the novelty of the system."

The managing director of Westfalia Logistics Solutions Austria GmbH, Harald F. Suchentrunk, believes that this facility showcases our abilities: "The Rondo is a very attractive and presentable project that is setting new trends. Naturally, we hope that others will also recognize the

benefits of the system. Once again our installations offer proof that a Westfalia CAR-SAFE® is more convenient, profitable and efficient." ■

Key data

Project RONDO HOME & BUSINESS in Graz, Lend

Size:	100,00 m long 7,20 m wide
Concept:	2 independent car parks, each with own drive-in and drive-out box
Capacity:	2 systems with 100 and 98 parking spaces, 198 spaces in total
Builder:	ÖWGES
Operator:	APCOA

License plate recognition is on its way

The parking entry/exit cabin is the place where people and machine meet in a Westfalia CAR-SAFE®. That's why current research is concentrated on this interface. Not only the exterior appearance is continuously modernized, but the general handover process when parking and leaving the entry cabin is optimized according to the latest scientific findings. In addition, we conduct our own research projects -- for example researching technical improvements for vehicle measurement and license plate number recognition. In the future all license plate numbers on cars entering the system will

be recorded exactly as they appear. The clear identification and allocation of a vehicle to its owner not only brings added safety, but also speeds up the parking process itself. ■



Bound for Scandinavia



Copenhagen, Denmark, dockland

Westfalia has entered the Scandinavian market with three car park projects lined up straightaway in the Danish capital of Copenhagen. Enquiries have also been received from towns in Norway and Sweden.

The Danish capital of Copenhagen is a city like any other, that is at least where traffic and the parking situation are concerned. The first aspect is increasing more and more and the second is getting more and more difficult. Copenhagen is not like any other city when it comes to consistency in solving the problem. At the end of 2007, the local authority decided to build three fully automated CAR-SAFE®-systems from Westfalia. They are intended to ease the parking situation in the Danish capital in a fast, environmentally friendly and barrier-free manner.

Westfalia wins 5:0 in Copenhagen

In total, more than 800 parking spaces will be located at three locations. The biggest car park will be "Leifsgade" with 408 parking spaces, "Under Elmene" will offer space for 266 cars and "Norre Alle" space for 164. The decision itself was the result of an accompanying evaluation, where five arguments gave Westfalia a clear victory:

- Optimum use of space
- More safety for cars and people
- More convenience
- Improved environment friendliness
- Barrier-free access for families and people with disabilities

In particular the arguments of being barrier-free and environmentally friendly were very well received by the socially and environmentally conscious local authority. "As the whole park and search traffic will be eradicated in the streets and in the car park itself, the air will be considerably less polluted by harmful chemicals", underlines Jens Christian Olesen from the city of Copenhagen. In fact, the accrued driving output will be reduced due to the improved use of space and the fact that there is no need to look for a parking space – in the case of some projects by up to 100,000 kilometres a year. This is not only great for the environment, but also spares the budget of users. On top of that, a fully automated parking system also offers parkers more convenience; especially families and people with disabilities. The parking box offers so much space that not only is it convenient to load and unload the vehicle, but with a width of 4 to 4.5 metres, it is even no problem for wheelchair users to park their vehicle easily and conveniently.

With its decision, the Copenhagen local authority has assumed a trailblazing role in Scandinavia. The clear arguments in favour of Westfalia have also aroused the curiosity of other cities in Northern Europe. Thus, other cities in Denmark, Norway and Sweden may follow Copenhagen's example in the near future. ■



Safe parking in Copenhagen

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3 Fielding Questions

HARALD F. SUCHENTRUNK
Managing Director of
Westfalia Logistics
Solutions Austria GmbH



News: The demand for fully automated car parks appears to have risen dramatically. How do you explain this trend?

Suchentrunk: We are actually seeing a spectacular increase in demand. In general, we see that demand increases according to the number of completed projects. As soon as people can see with their own eyes and feel that the systems work smoothly and are widely accepted, they are easier to convince.

News: What regional differences are there? And how is the global market looking?

Suchentrunk: For example, in Central and Eastern Europe people immediately go for more space-efficient parking systems. In the rest of Europe, on the one hand there are very clear cost reasons, largely attributable to the nature of the soil, which are forcing these countries to strive for even more efficiency. On the other hand, the interest in environmentally friendly solutions, keyword "green cities", is also higher than elsewhere. We are even seeing a rethink in the USA. In the towns, the efficiency of parking solutions is becoming increasingly crucial there as well. We might even be able to get the first projects signed up this year.

News: And how do you see the future trend?

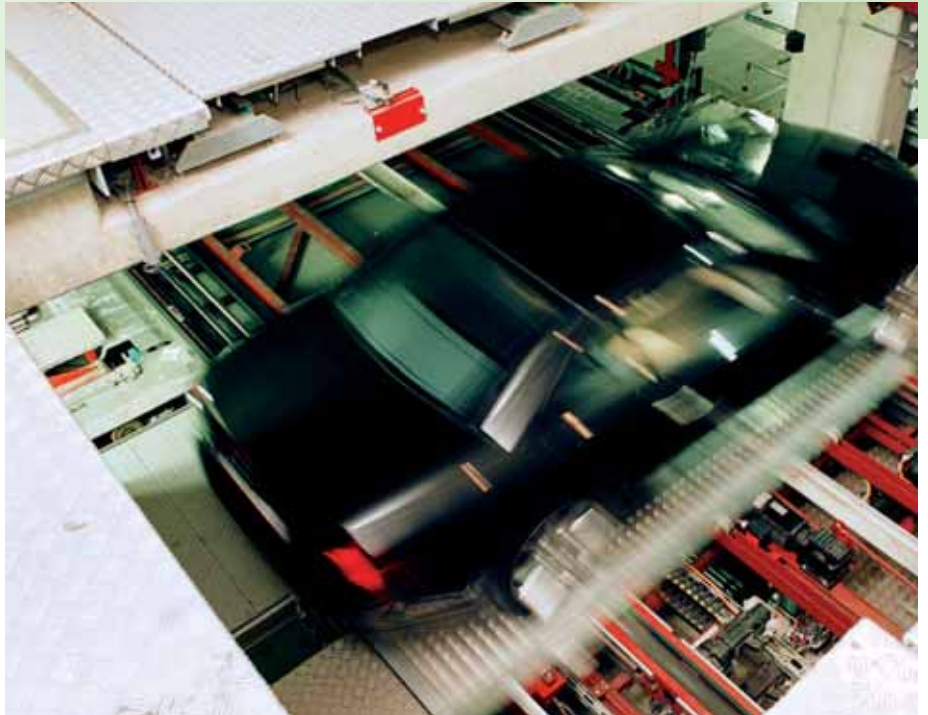
Suchentrunk: We have a number of innovative concepts where a new parking area can be created with a Westfalia CAR-SAFE®. As far as technology is concerned, the trend is towards systems becoming even faster, even safer and even simpler.

Boom town Dubai

In Dubai everyone aims high, even when building, but only if sufficient parking spaces have been allowed for. Efficient parking solutions are therefore in great demand in the Persian Gulf.

Anyone able to create more parking spaces in the same space than others can expect a fantastic reception in the Emirate of Dubai, as ultimately, the maximum building height when constructing a new building in the up-and-coming metropolis depends on the number of parking spaces that will be created.

So, it is no wonder that the frequency of visits by the CEO of Westfalia for CEE and The Middle East, Harald F. Suchentrunk, has risen significantly: "Depending on the respective location, one-and-a-half times to twice as many cars can be accommodated in the same building volume as in conventional car parks by using Westfalia CAR-SAFE®-systems". This has also made property developers in the Persian Gulf sit up and take notice, as, based on the "park-



Coming soon to Dubai – Parking of the highest degree

ing space quota", the more parking spaces, the higher and more profitable the property project will be. In addition to the increased convenience of air-conditioned and four to five-metre-wide drive-in and drive-out boxes, the increased safety also goes down well with the exclusive circle of users. The safe custody in a closed system

("CAR-SAFE") also protects the vehicle from any "access by third parties", as in break-ins or vandalism. Given the density of luxury cars in Dubai or Abu Dhabi, this is definitely a good argument.

At any rate, Suchentrunk is expecting the first order from Dubai by the middle of this year. ■

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, city centre



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