



Welcome to the mobile 'smarthome'



Michal Provázek, CEO

The latest, state-of-the-art, smart technology is now available to make any leisure vehicle a 'smarthome'. The CaraControl unit from Leisure Telematics International, inspired by the CEO's passion for caravanning, provides the convenience of controlling all appliances in a caravan or motorhome with a single app on your mobile phone, wherever you are. Now RVs are even more like a modern home.

Words John Rawlings - photo Enrico Bona



Despite having its roots in the IT industry developing industrial hardware and software, a passion for caravanning by the founder of Leisure Telematics International, Michal Provázek, resulted in the development of CaraControl - a unique, single device to remotely control and monitor all appliances in a caravan, motorhome and mobile home (or small boat), effectively turning them into a modern 'smarthome'. Using the CaraControl App provides the convenience of remotely controlling lights, heating, air conditioning,

hot water, water pumps, batteries, alarm and some smoke or CO2 detectors from anywhere at any time. Other information it provides includes: inside and outside temperatures, solar panel status, battery voltage (leisure and car) and levels of on-board fresh or waste water tanks. Other convenient features the CaraControl provides are a levelling assistant feature to show the user if the vehicle is level, or not, plus an integrated GPS means it can send a message to the user with its precise location. Also, with its Keyless-Go card, the CaraControl 'welcome home' feature will automatically turn the security system off and turn the awning light on when it detects the card within a certain radius of the vehicle, and set it again when leaving. The system is future-proof to enable it to unlock doors as well if, or

when, this facility becomes available.

"CaraControl is compatible with the basic functions of popular heating systems (3010 / 3020 / iNET Ready panels), while for Webasto systems it is currently able to turn them on or off" - says Michal Provázek, CEO of Leisure Telematics - "It is compatible with most of available airconditioning units as well as electroblocks such as CBE, Schaudt and others. As the CaraControl unit communicates via LIN-bus connector or infrared transmission (like a TV remote control), it does not affect any standard operation of any unit or appliance, so does not affect their individual warranties".

"We built the CaraControl in a universal way so it fits in any caravan or motorhome with any device installed in it" - continues Mr Provázek - "We also





support electroblocks such as Schaudt, CBE or Nordelettronica, or if the user doesn't have an electroblock at all, they can also use a universal power supply switch to switch off any batteries."

Security

If a security system is fitted, the CaraControl can monitor up to 16 wireless door and window sensors (supplied). It will notify the user via a text message (SMS) if the alarm is triggered by a window or door being opened while the security system is on. As an added measure, a 120 decibel alarm is also available to deter thieves from proceeding any further and to definitely wake-up any occupants.

Gas

The gas measurement system, also available as a separate, standalone item, monitors gas levels in up to two gas bottles (any type, including composites) at the same time using a wireless measuring pad. This system is easy to install, and also has a built-in gas leak detection and evaporation or inclination monitoring system.

Power

The CaraControl system uses Bluetooth low energy, so has minimal impact on the leisure battery in the caravan or motorhome (about 40 milliamps power consumption), and when away from the vehicle, it communicates with the user via GSM networks. It's also ready for narrow band networks in the future when 2G disappears. It is supplied with its own SIM card, with a monthly or annual fee, or the user can use their own.

Connectivity

The CaraControl App, available for both IOS and Android devices, free of charge, enables the user to turn on, off or dim up to 10 lights and monitor the thermostat control for hot water, heating and air conditioning systems. Being able to monitor the interior temperature remotely is a convenient way to ensure a

desirable temperature when returning to the vehicle, and extremely valuable for pet owners if they are left alone in the vehicle at any time.

If the user uses the manual controls for any of the appliances fitted to the vehicle, the CaraControl system's two-way communications system automatically picks-up a signal and adjust its readings accordingly (and vice-versa).

Although air exchangers aren't that popular on the market yet, the CaraControl unit can work with an auto gas extraction system. This means that if a gas sensor is fitted and there is a gas leak, or someone tries to overcome the occupants with a narcotic gas, the system will detect it and automatically start the air extraction system to suck the gas out.

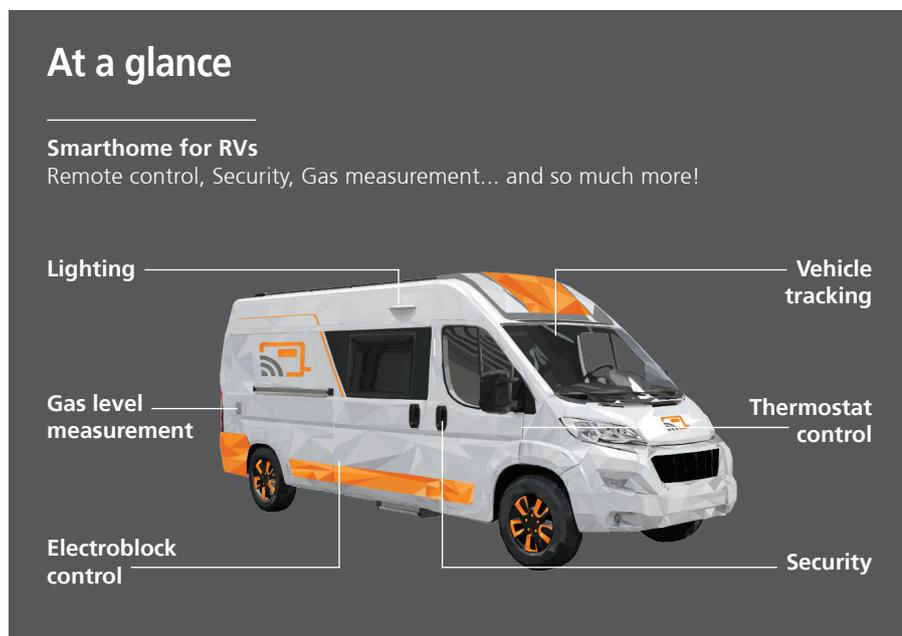
Availability

Although CaraControl was first introduced in 2016, it is still in the start-up phase of its launch, and currently only available in Europe, but Leisure Telematics International is keen to appoint more dealers across the globe – such as Canada, USA, Australia and Asia – and also hopes to supply OEMs directly, as it is able to customise its functions to their particular vehicles.

At the moment CaraControl is an aftermarket system for DIY or dealer-fit, currently available from dealers in Europe, or directly from the CaraControl E-shop, from approximately € 1,000 for the standard package.

All in one app

As consumers become accustomed to monitoring their own homes via their smartphones, it seems an obvious progression for them to have the technology to do the same for their leisure vehicles. While some appliances fitted in today's caravans and motorhomes can already be controlled via individual apps, the convenience of grouping them all together into one app means the CaraControl offers an important step forward in the clever technology now available for OEMs, dealers and, ultimately, consumers in the RV sector.



The system components