



ASSYSTEM

Press release

## ASSYSTEM BREAKS NEW GROUND WITH FRANCO SBARRO IN THE FIELD OF THE INTELLIGENT CITY VEHICLE

6<sup>th</sup> March 2007 – **Faithful to its industrial engineering and innovation consulting vocation, at the International Car and Accessories Trade Show in Geneva, Assystem will present their demonstration vehicle 'Assystem® City Car' designed in collaboration with designer Franco Sbarro. This project concentrates on one platform, the result being over a year's research around the concept of an 'intelligent city car'.**

### ➤ **AN INTELLIGENT AND PLAYFUL CITY VEHICLE "MODEL"**

Technologies integrated into the demonstration vehicle, 'Assystem® City Car' whose innovation features are economically viable and correspond to the demands for industrial feasibility, are the result of several areas of thought around city mobility, Man-Machine interface, 'communicating vehicle' that is respectful of the environment and active and passive safety.

- **Man-Machine Interface**

**An augmented reality display:** Assystem has developed a system to reproduce the external environment on a windscreen screen. This process is possible thanks to 4 external cameras strategically positioned around the vehicle for '**augmented reality**', a more visible display of information that is an aid to driving and safety such as the reinforcement of obstacles and sign identification (e.g. signs, traffic lights, pedestrians...) and infrared vision for night driving. This system integrates several telematic subsystems for navigation, telephony, hi-fi, video, and tracker.

**The integration of biometric technology:** a camera on board the vehicle analyses the iris of the driver's eye. This device allows the driver to be identified before the vehicle starts up and to control their concentration behind the wheel, such as tiredness for example.

**On board atmosphere 'on demand':** The driver can choose their visual and sound atmosphere on board depending on their mood. Assystem has developed several 'moods' including classical, sporting, vintage or avant-garde. It is also possible to have the dashboard displayed and background noise 'on demand' recreated depending on their mood.

- **The 'communicating vehicle'**

A playful city vehicle, 'Assystem® City Car' is equipped with a whole range of communication functions intended to ensure it is available and amenable. It thus permanently interacts with:

- The multimedia world (Internet, Telephone, digital TV...),
- Its environment – other vehicles and road infrastructures – for safety,
- Its driver (downloading of unit updates) for the availability

- **Respecting the environment**

Two 'Assystem® City Car' components contribute to better environmental protection:

- A system of two autonomous motor units for a more energy-saving hybrid motorisation
- A 'dual frame' modular structure to reduce weight
- A choice of material - aluminium and plastic - for recyclability meeting European demands.

Through the 'Assystem® City Car' demonstration vehicle, Assystem and Sbarro give you the chance to see exploitable innovations for new city vehicles in a real-life situation and in varied fields such as driving assistance, management of the immediate environment and on board atmosphere.

- **Active and passive safety**

A meticulous design for optimum safety led to an oval shape that enables the car to veer off course in the event of a frontal impact, an ideally placed axle system to reduce intrusions in the event of lateral impact and reduced mass of the vehicle thanks to the 'Dual Frame' principle patented by F. Sbarro and lower centre of gravity offering better stability.

With the wheel layout in a diamond shape, improved contact distribution with the ground and a centre of gravity situated behind the central axle system, Assystem has produced very promising vehicle handling calculations if strong deceleration situations round bends were to occur.

The big glass areas coupled with cameras provide improved peripheral visibility and its system of 'augmented reality' warns the driver in the event of approaching obstacles.

➤ **HUMAN IMPLICATION**

Assystem's car technology represents 15% of the Group's capability and employs 1300 people internationally of which 900 are located in France. An international team of 26 people were involved for over a year to create the demonstrator vehicle.

Throughout the project, this team defined technical specifications, simulated new layouts, carried out calculation studies, developed specific software packages and validated the technical solutions retained to achieve this demonstrator.

**About Assystem France:**

Assystem France, the French subsidiary of the Assystem Group, employs more than 5500 people. It is made up of 50 local offices throughout France. Assystem France covers all the Group's sectors of activity: Aeronautics, Automobile, Energy & Nuclear Energy, Technologies & Systems, Facilities, Industries, Naval & Defence, Life Sciences and Telecommunications.

For further information, please visit our web site: [www.assystem.com](http://www.assystem.com)

**About the Assystem Group:**

Assystem is a leading European provider of engineering and innovation consultancy services, strategically focused on the application of technologies in innovative products, production processes and infrastructures. Assystem groups together nearly 9000 people in 14 countries around the world, of which approximately one third are employed outside France.

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