

# Driver support and dispatching by smartphones or tablet

## WebVLU

ebblo's WebVLU app is a slim, low-cost alternative to the on-board computer. It offers the most important basic functions for driver support, such as location of the vehicle. WebVLU can be integrated into the operations control system LIO with little installation effort. Fully functional on-board computers, on the other hand, have numerous other interfaces and functions that are not always needed.



Broadband data radio networks, precise locating sensors and high processing power have made smartphones and tablets a cost-efficient mobile computing platform. The WebVLU app, which is based on web technology, can be used on most smartphones regardless of the operating system. Thanks to full integration into the LIO control system, these vehicles can be dispatched by the operations control centre. They can be displayed on stop DPI signs as well as on all channels of the traveller information platform and integrated into the transfer protection.

### Areas of application

WebVLU is optimised for driver support and trip recording. The app features the essential basic functions for the monitoring and dispatching for vehicle operation. It is especially suitable for simple integration into the LIO control system, without elaborate installation on the vehicle. WebVLU is based on web technology and can

be used with the browsers of all common operating systems. This offers the transport operator maximum flexibility in the choice and use of devices.

WebVLU can be used in route operations vehicles, but can also only be used for location of service vehicles – depending on the intended use, a corresponding range of functions is made available to the devices. WebVLU can thus be used as an on-board computer solution for the entire vehicle fleet or as a supplement to existing on-board computers. Vehicles with WebVLU can be operated in the same LIO system together with other ebblo on-board computers.

With this solution, existing control systems can be extended temporarily or permanently with additional vehicles. In particular, service vehicles can also be easily integrated into the operations control system. The scalable architecture allows even very large fleets of thousands of vehicles to be equipped with WebVLU and integrated into the operations control system LIO.

### Functions for the driver

The operation of the WebVLU app was designed to be intuitive and easy to understand. Once the vehicle has been registered and the trip has been completed, the driver is shown the timetable deviation and the calculated arrival times at the following stops. The most important functions can be activated directly by pressing a button.

For additional assistance, the driver can view the map showing his current position on the pattern. If the size of the display is appropriate, the route sequence and the map view are shown simultaneously.

For voice communication with the control centre, the driver can send a request-to-talk or a priority request-to-talk to the control centre. The dispatcher calls back via the mobile radio network. Moreover, driver messages can be sent to the control centre and instructions can be received and acknowledged.

Depending on the desired range of functions, WebVLU offers even more options. The dispatch function includes path dispatch actions, reassignments and timetable offset. Path dispatch actions are shown to the driver both as text and graphically on the map. The EcoDriving function alerts the driver when the maximum permitted speed has been exceeded.

## Functions for the dispatcher

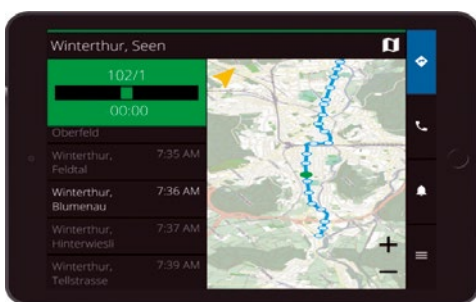
To the dispatcher, vehicles equipped with WebVLU are shown in the same way as vehicles that have a full-function on-board computer. The vehicles are shown and dispatched in the usual views, e.g. in the vehicle table, the route diagram or the map view. The vehicle details are also available.

The dispatcher can process requests-to-talk, set up voice calls with one or several vehicles, send instructions and receive driver messages.

Depending on the scope of functions selected, the dispatcher can also carry out path dispatch actions, such as spontaneous or planned short turns or diversions, driver reassignments, route/run reassignments or a timetable offset.

## Functions for the traveller

Vehicles equipped with WebVLU are fully integrated into the real-time journey information. They are displayed both on the ebblo stop DPI signs and on all channels of the ebblo Traveller Information Platform (Web Display Feed, Internet Service, SMS Service). Moreover, the real-time information can be passed on to external systems via VDV or SIRI interfaces.



Timetable deviation with stop sequence

## Limits of use

The use of the app solution on smartphones or tablets is not possible or reasonable in any operational situation. The use of an on-board computer is necessary if peripheral devices such as destination displays, passenger counting systems or ticket printers are to be connected in the vehicle. This also goes for use in areas without GPS coverage where connection of an odometer is necessary.

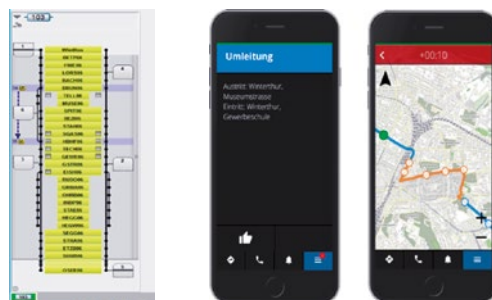
The WebVLU has all information about the intended route path and hence will also work if communication with the control centre is interrupted for a short time. However, permanent autonomous operation beyond the current pattern is not possible.

## Licence

To provide a tailor-made solution for every use case, ebblo offers the WebVLU app with different ranges of functions. More detailed information on request.

## System prerequisites

- Operations control system LIO with passenger information server
- Smartphone with current operating system, recommended: Android, iOS, Windows or Linux
- Browser with the current versions of GeoLocation and WebSocket API, recommended: Google Chrome, Safari
- SIM card with data flat rate



Diversion as seen in the control centre and by the driver

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