# Parking Manager demo

## *User's Guide*

# Intertraff Parking Manager demo User's Guide

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# Preface

## About This Guide

This user's guide describes how to use the most popular features in Parking Manager 1.0, the Automatic Number Plate Recognition Software from Intertraff. This product runs under Microsoft Windows 2000 and Windows NT4.

This preface describes the conventions used in this guide. For an introduction to Parking Manager, see Chapter 1, "Introducing Parking Manager".

## Assumptions

This guide assumes you are familiar with the version of Windows you are using. If you are not familiar with Windows terms such as "dialog", "icon", "option", or "drop-down list", see your MS Windows documentation.

## Documentation Feedback

Intertraff is interested in your suggestions for improving both the print and the online documentation for the Parking Manager. We are interested in knowing what works and what needs improvement. Did you find errors, omissions, or confusing information? Tell us if you found information too difficult to find.

Tell us where you looked for information, and where you looked first.

Your feedback will help shape future versions of the documentation for the Parking Manager. To forward your feedback, use one of the following methods:

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All feedback will be gathered and considered for future releases by our Technical Publications Department. Your feedback is valuable and really appreciated.

# 1

# Introducing Parking Manager

This chapter introduces the Parking Manager demo, Automatic Number Plate Recognition for Windows XP SP2 and Windows 2000 SP4

## About Parking Manager demo

Intertraff Parking Manager is an ANPR (automatic number plate recognition) system which allows you to keep track of vehicles entering and exiting your premises. Once installed and running you will have the ability to connect live video input to your system and carefully monitor it.
By the way, this demonstration software license:

- **reads number plates only from AVI files**
- **reads only Italian license plates**
- **reads number plates from 1 lane only. Lanes 2, 3 and 4 do not work;**
- **does not support Frame Grabber card and Barrier Interface Board installation**
- **does not record more than 50 records in the database**
- **works only for 15 days**

The IPM demo installation package contains 1 AVI file. If you are interested to get more AVI files to check better the software performance please visit our web site

Each vehicle's registration plate read is saved into the database along with the date and time of capture, lane entry/exit details, and options to store images to disk for retrieval at a later date. You are able to manipulate the database by searching for records using a wide range of search methods enabling searches to be made with only partial criteria.

Options are also available to set audible alert tones to your system – to inform you that a specific license plate was captured by the system.

# 2

## Installing the Parking Manager demo

This chapter describes the IPM demo installation process. Topics in this chapter include:

- Reviewing system requirements
- Installing the Parking Manager
- Uninstalling

Before you install the Parking Manager demo, we recommend that you read the system requirements section to familiarize with the hardware and software requirements.

## Reviewing System Requirements

The following table outlines both the minimum and the recommended system requirements for installing and running the Parking Manager under Windows 2000 and Windows NT4.

| Equipment | Minimum | Recommended |
|---|---|---|
| Operating system | Windows XP SP2 or Windows 2000 SP4 | Windows XP SP2 |
| PC | Intel Celeron Processor 2.00 GHz or higher, a mouse, and an SVGA graphics display (1024x768 resolution) | Intel Pentium IV 2.00 GHz or higher, a mouse, and an SVGA graphics display (1024x768 resolution) |
| RAM | Windows 2000 – 256 MB Windows XP – 256 MB | Windows 2000 – 512 MB Windows NT4 – 512 MB |
| Hard disk space Required | 500 MB | 1 GB |

# Before You Install the Parking Manager demo

To ensure a smooth installation, we recommend you follow the procedure below before you install Parking Manager 1.0:

1. Exit all programs
2. Check for sufficient disk space. Your requirements will vary, depending on the type of installation you choose. See "Reviewing System Requirements".

# Parking Manager Hardware Installation

The Frame Grabber card and the Barrier Interface board are not supported in this demonstration software license. Please refer to the Intertraff Parking Manager non demonstration software license if you are interested to set up a real ANPR installation.

# 3

# Starting the Parking Manager demo Installation

The Setup program guides you through the installation process by prompting you for information and automatically determining your system configuration and available disk space.

**Note to Windows 2000 users**: If you are installing IPM demo under Windows 2000, you must have *administrative* privileges.
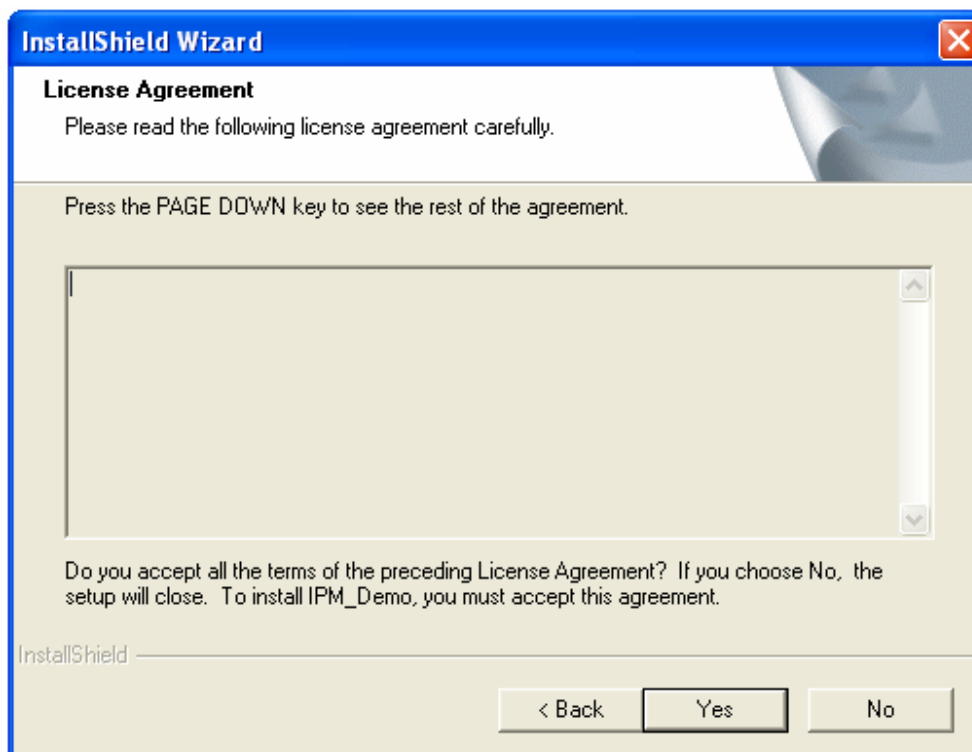
**To install the Parking Manager demo:**
Double click on the SETUP.EXE file
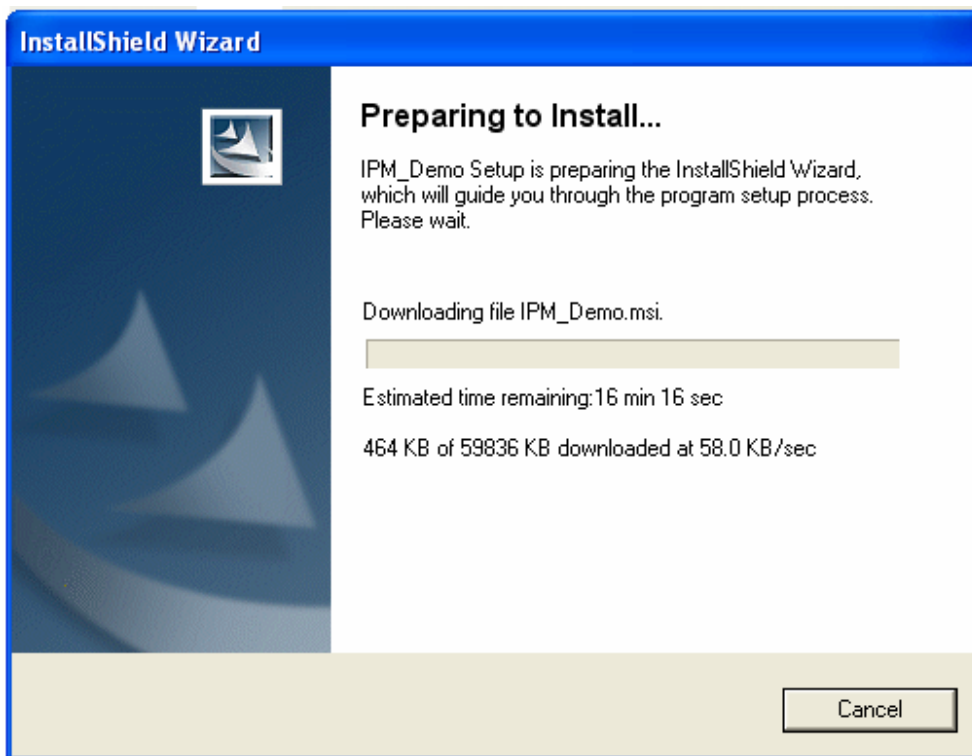


Install Shield will connect to Intertraff web site to download the IPM Demo. Once the downloading will be completed installation file will be Install Shield will install IPM demo on your Computer. See picture below.
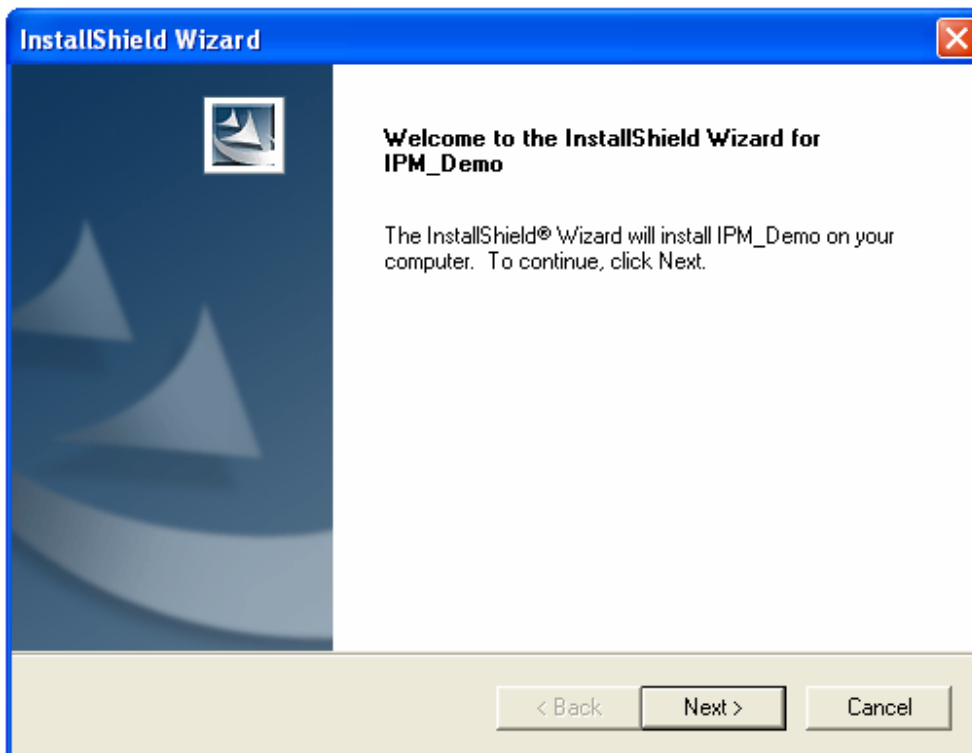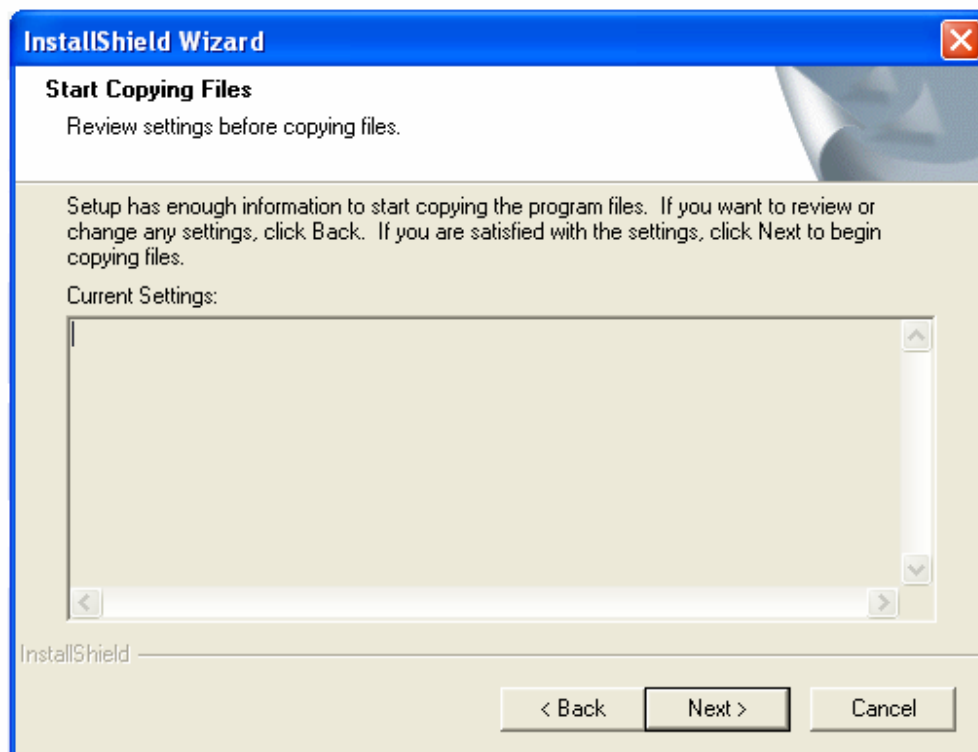
Please select <Next> to proceed

Please read carefully the License Agreement then press <Yes> if you want to proceed.
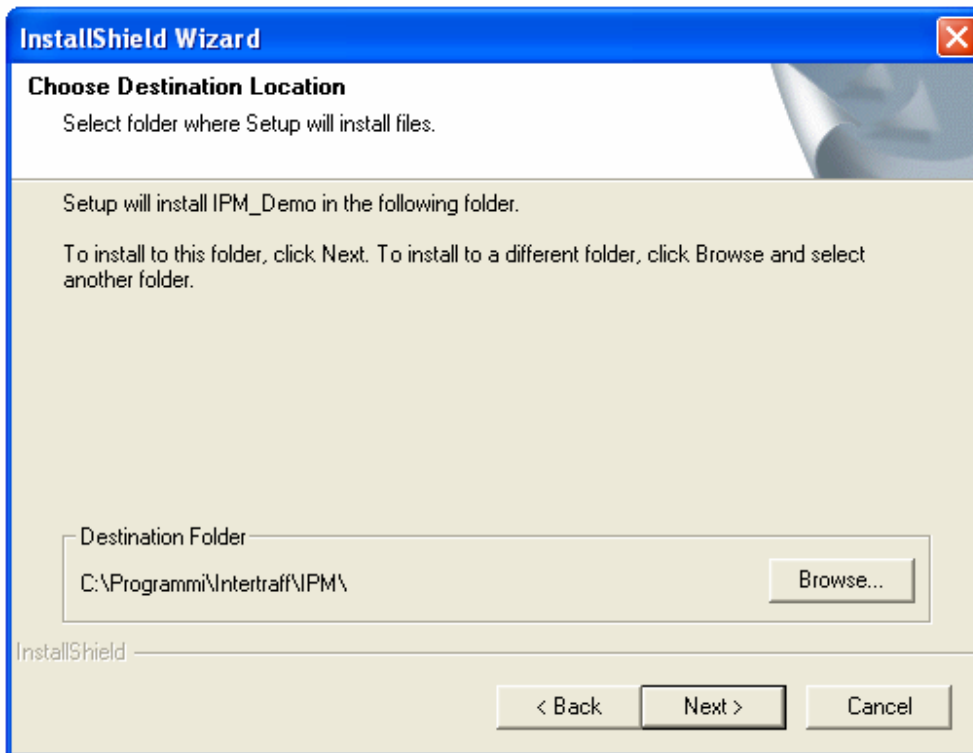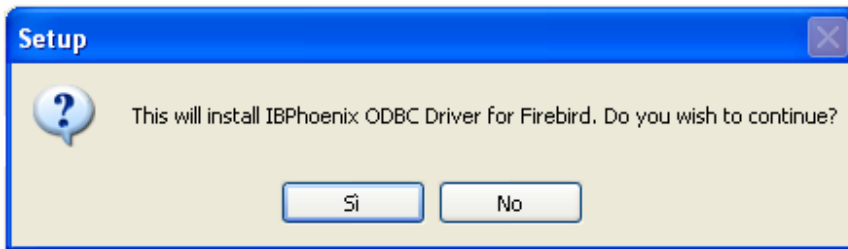


if you want to move to another destination folder please press the <Browse> button otherwise select <Next>
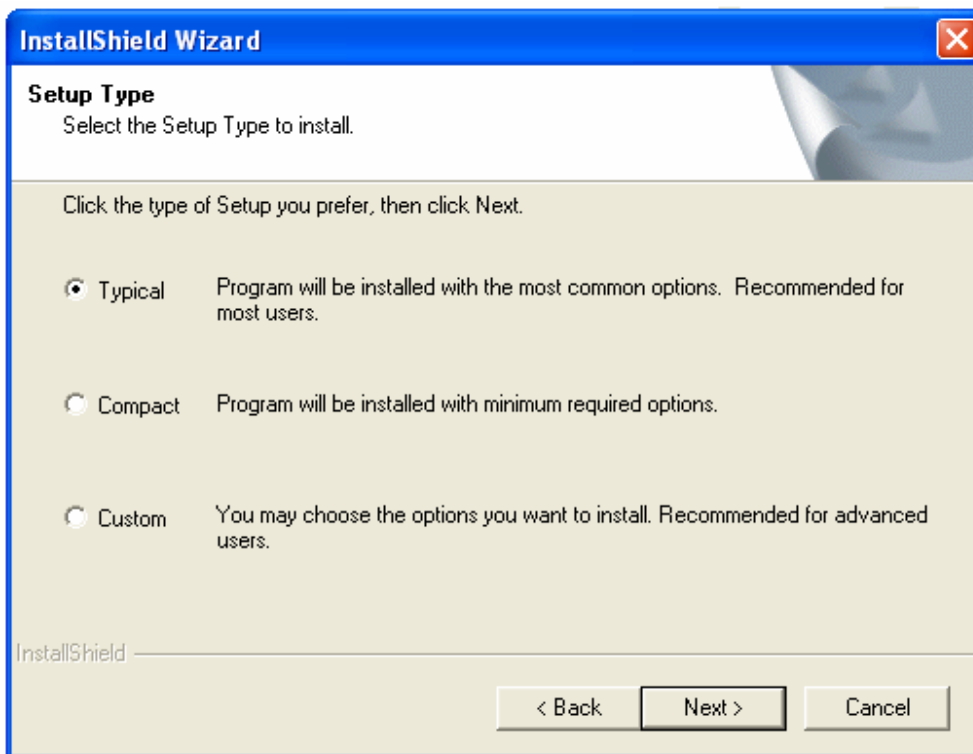
Click the type of Setup you prefer then click <Next>
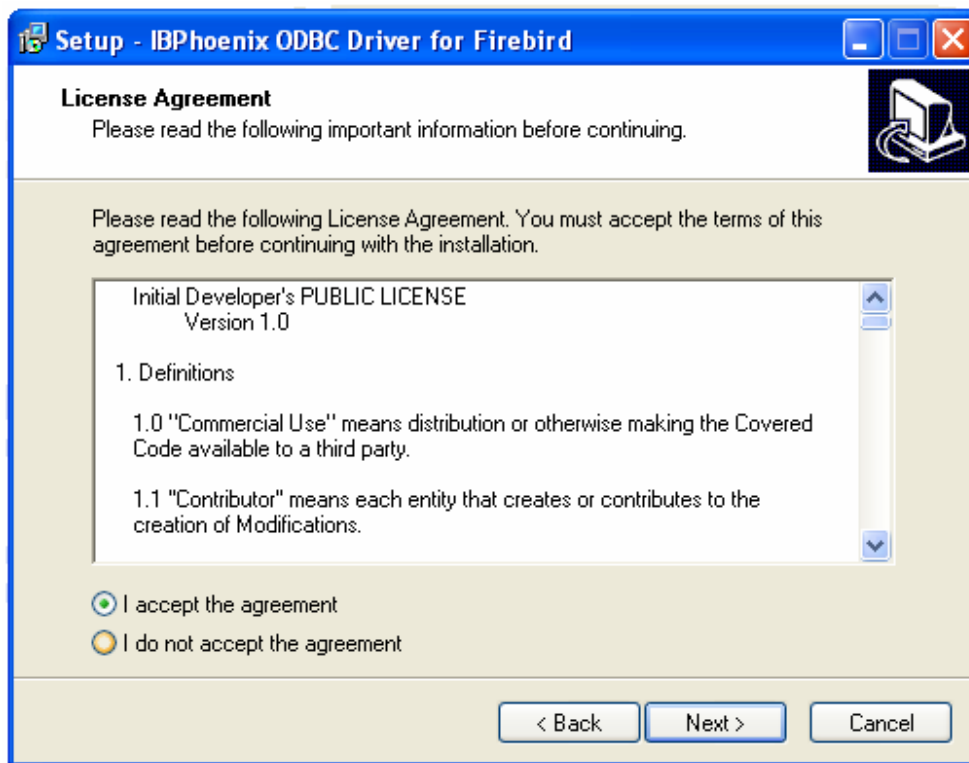


Review setting then please select <Next> to proceed
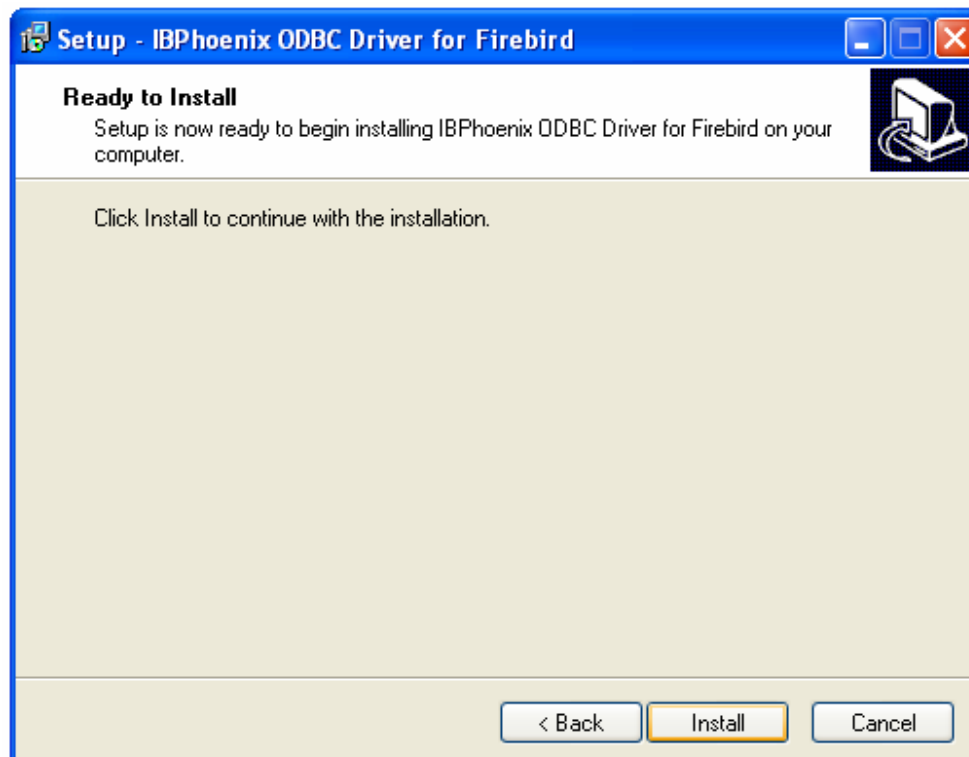
Please select <Yes> to proceed. IPM demo will start installing Firebird.



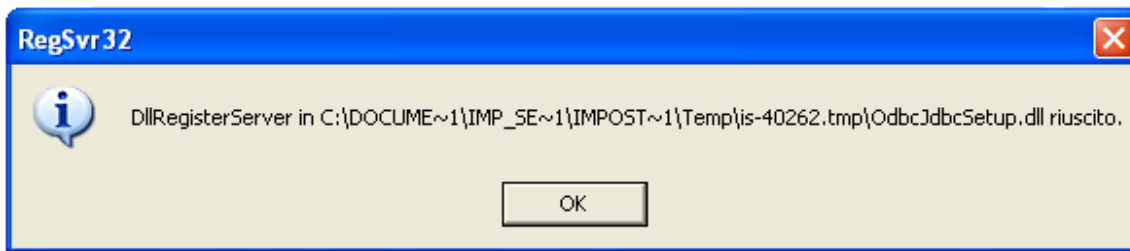Please select <Next> to proceed

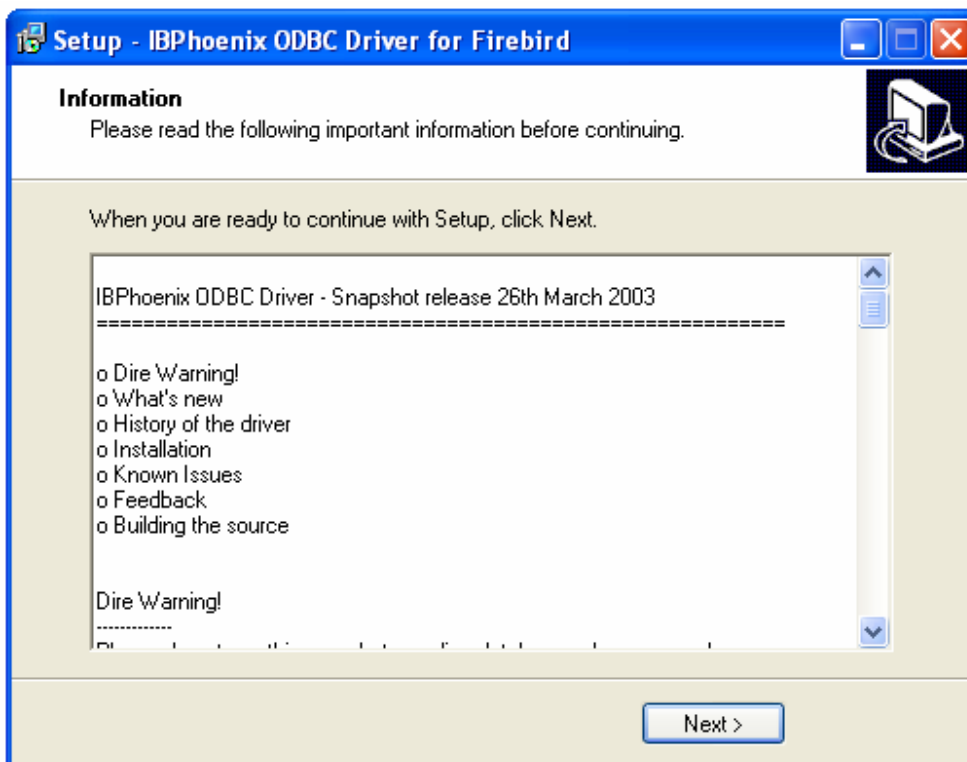Please mark <I accept the agreement> then select <Next> to proceed



Choose <Install> to proceed
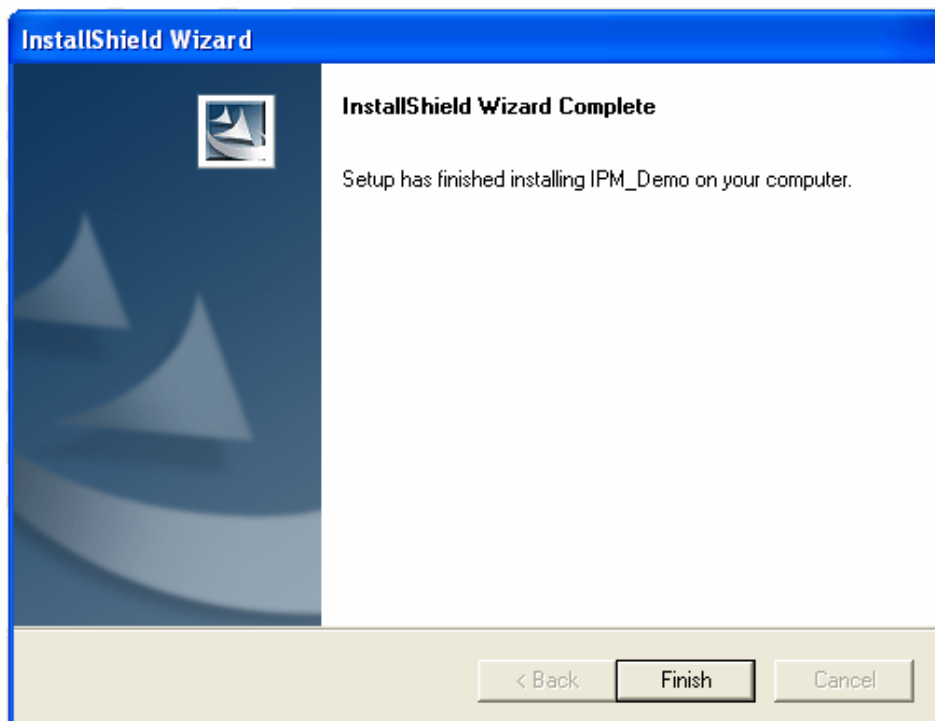
Here, just press <OK>



Press <Next>

Now that Firebird was successfully install, please press <Finish>



By choosing again <Finish> the Intertraff Parking Manager demo installation will be completed.

# Uninstalling Parking Manager

At some point, you may want to uninstall the Parking Manager. When uninstalling and reinstalling the Parking Manager, you can back up the Database folder which contains all pictures and data collected. The Database folder is located at the following path c:\\program files\intertraff\IPM

Note to Windows 2000 users:

To use the Uninstall feature, your Windows 2000 account must have *administrative* privileges.

To uninstall the Parking Manager choose Start, Control Panel, select the Installation icon then select IPM_Demo and press Remove.
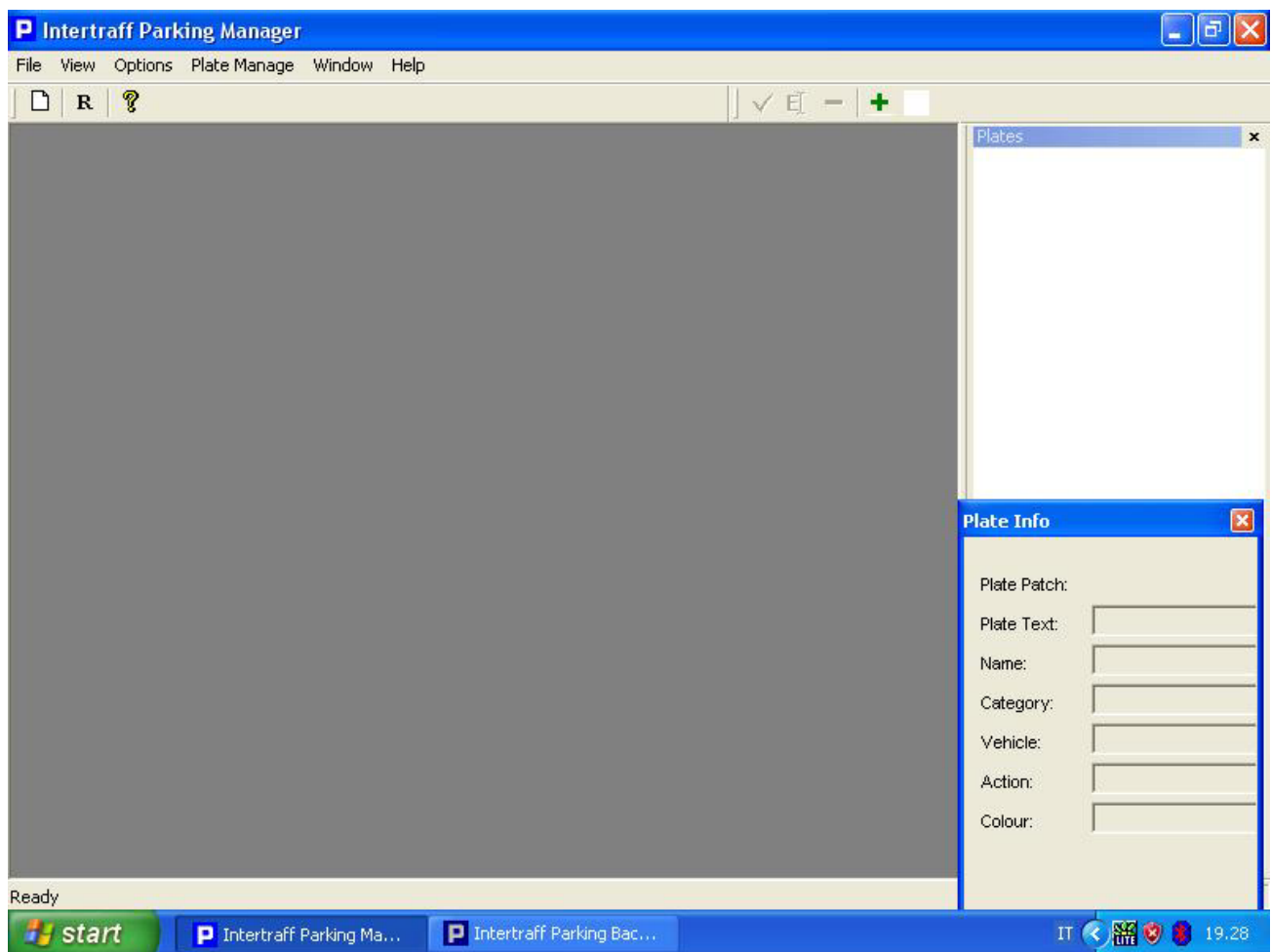
# 4

# Getting Started

Once you have installed the Parking Manager, you are ready to start exploring the program.

## User Interface

When you run the Intertraff Parking Manager you will see an interface as the one shown below:



IPM demo installation package comes with 1 AVI file sample. More AVI files can be downloaded from Intertraff web site. To start running the AVI file please select File, Display Camera and press <OK>.
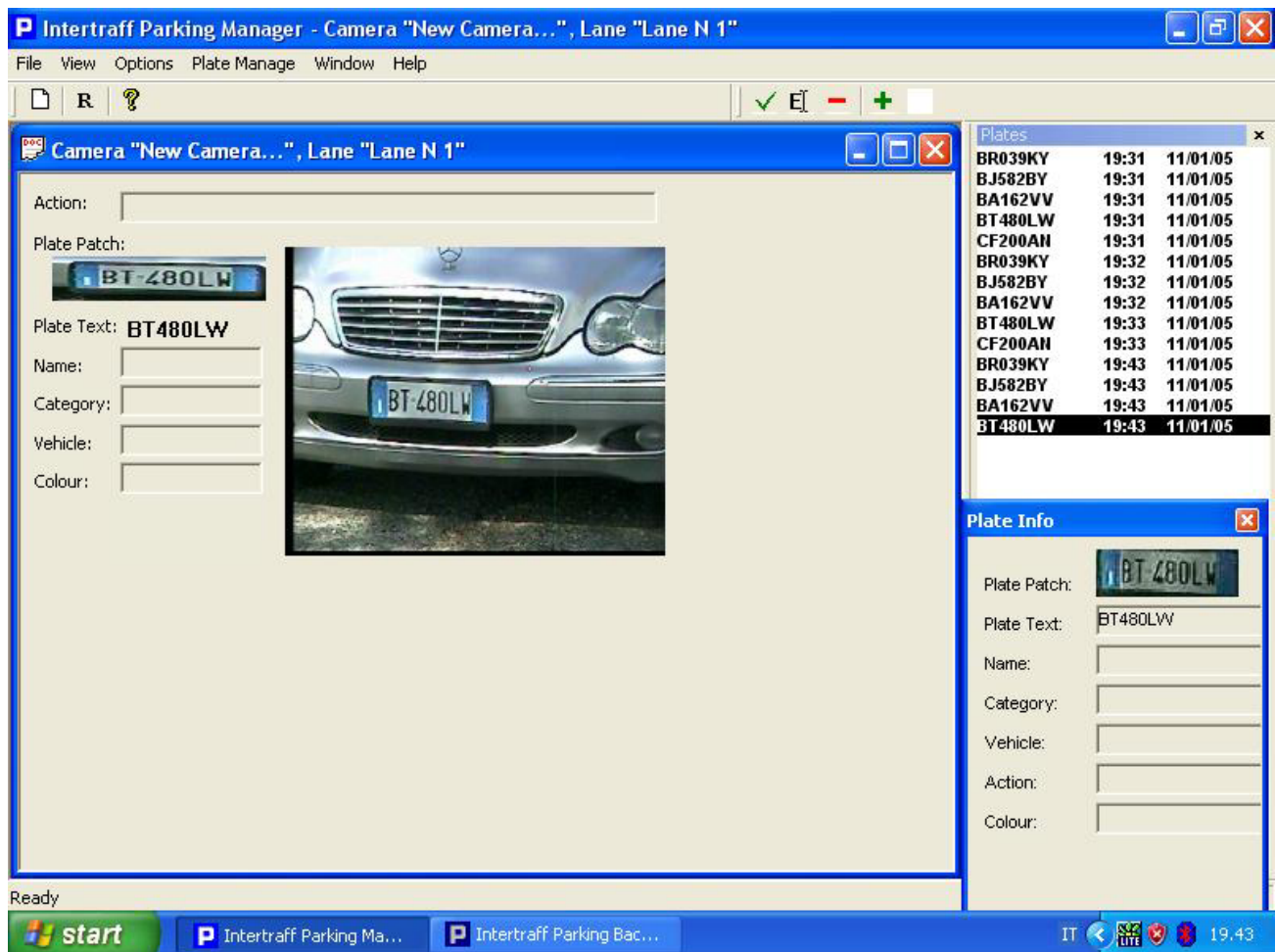
# Operation & Features

As you can see from the picture above the Parking Manager has determined the registration plate of the vehicle, then searched the database to see if a match could be found. A match was not found within the records, therefore the details of this employee have been not displayed on screen.

At the top of the plate patch you will notice a comment entitled Action, this would display any message associated with this vehicle or driver, such as 'Stolen' if the vehicle has been reported stolen or 'Invalid Pass' if their site pass is out of date etc.

At the right side of the interface you will notice a list box named 'Plates', each vehicle's transmitted plate will be displayed within this list. You can double click with the mouse on any of these registrations and the Intertraff Parking Backstage will be maximised displaying the vehicle and details related to the registration that you double clicked on.

An example of the Backstage maximised and set on the item in the list box which was double clicked on is shown in the picture below:
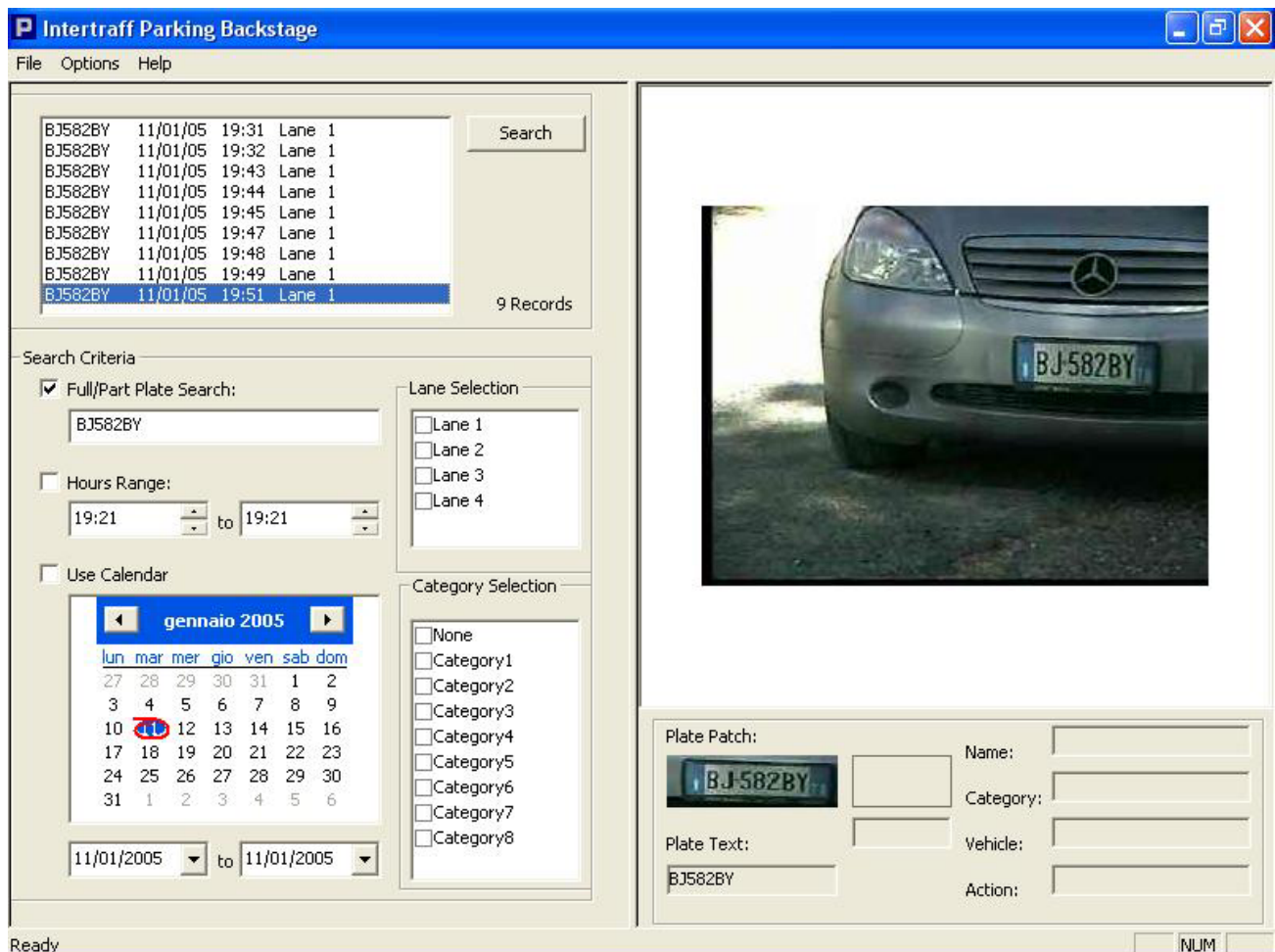
This list box will remain updating (with a scrollbar on the right hand side when the list exceeds the viewing size) until the Parking Manager is closed, each time the application is closed these details will be cleared from the list box. They can still be stored to disk, along with the captured image and plate patch.

To the bottom of the user details you will see either a photo of the driver or the colour of the vehicle displayed in a box, this provides the user with an immediate reaction to observe the colour of the vehicle or the driver entering. If a colour has been specified within the database rather than a photo, then the name of the colour will appear in the section above the colour.
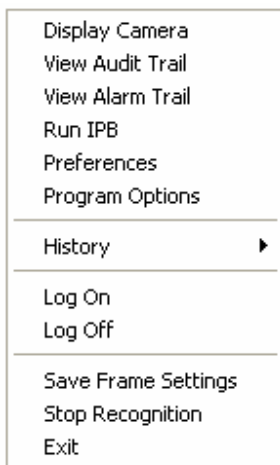
# 5

# File Menu Options

The following shows the menu options available and their functions:

# File

The file menu consists of the following options:

Display Camera
View Audit Trail
View Alarm Trail
Run IPB
Preferences
Program Options

History                    ►

Log On
Log Off

Save Frame Settings
Stop Recognition
Exit

# Display Camera

Selecting this option you will be able to choose the number of ANPR windows (up four) the Parking Manager will display contemporarily. Each window shall correspond to one camera.

# Audit Trial

This will simply list any useful events, such as when the application was started and closed, when a user selected a registration plate to view further details, when an image was stored etc. The events that are stored here can be customised to specific user's requirements.

# View Alarm Trial

The alarm trail is used in a similar way to the Audit Trail, but lists details of all vehicles where an alarm has been sounded.

# Run Review

This option will maximise the Intertraff Parking Backstage, see Chapter 8 for further details.
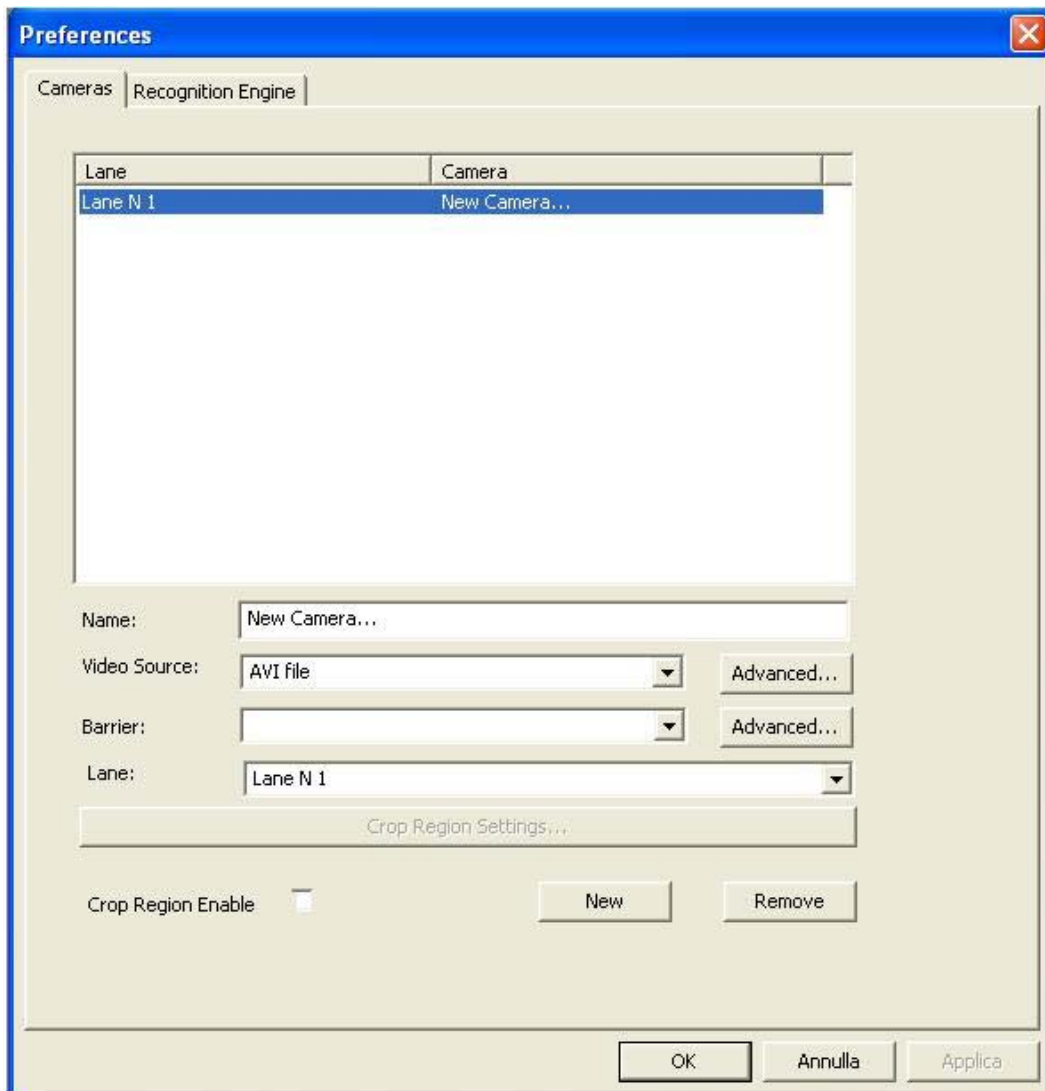
# Preferences

This menu is where all the setup changes are made, e.g. to add or remove a lane, add or remove cameras, setup ANPR Engine preferences etc.  It's basically formed by two TAB:

1.  Cameras
2.  Recognition Engine

# Cameras TAB

The options available within this section are shown below:

**Name:** This should contain a meaningful description of the lane, e.g. South Car Park Entry.

**Video Source**: The video source determines the video capture method being used. As said IPM demo supports only AVI file but, the IPM software license supports also video capture.

**Advanced**: If the video system is .AVI File, this shows the path of the avi file being used.

**Barrier**: These options enable you to setup and test a barrier to work in conjunction with the Parking Manager. This option does not work with this demo license,

**Advanced**: It allows you to setup and test relays to the system.

**Lane**: Each lane configured must have a unique identifier, which must be a numeric value, this number is used by Intertraff ANPR Engine to identify the lane being used.

**Crop Region Settings**: This option allows you to set an area to which the recognition engine will search for a plate, the active region is shown by an outlined shape, which can be dragged to position, as shown below:

**Crop Region Enable**: mark this option if you need to control the crop region settings.



**New**: Selecting this button will allow you to add a new lane to the configuration, you must set all the further settings on this page for the new lane before it can be used.

**Remove**: Selecting this option will remove the currently selected lane from the configuration. If you select this option accidentally, select the Cancel button to restore the original settings.

# Recognition Engine TAB

The options available within this section are shown below:



Recognition Engine TAB is for Intertraff ANPR Engine advanced tuning. Operator must be familiar with recognition model implemented in IPM before changing any settings:

**Font Configuration File:** is used to define fonts' templates for symbol recognition. This file is distributed in bundle with IPM.

**Number plate Percentage in the frame** and **Number plate width to height Ratio groups** specify, the parameters range to the ANPR Engine for plate patch localization. If this option is

too high the Engine may not attempt to recognise valid plates and if the setting is too low, it may increase performance and drop unreliable plate patch cases. Please use default values.

**Restrictions of frame processing** group is used to protect Engine performance. Frame processing is stopped when **Timeout** is called or the **Maximum Number** of candidates is reached.

**Discarding of similar plate numbers** group. Default value is **Discard the same plate numbers**. This setting allows discarding any reading which is identical to the previous. **Re-Admit Timeout** specifies the number of seconds between allowing the same vehicle back into the premises. On the contrary **No Discarding** will enter into the database any reading. **Discarding one plate's symbol difference** discards similar plates but using fuzzy comparison. So in case two readings differs one each other for 1 character only, the latter will be discarded.

**Inter frame Optimiztion** group is for reliable and fast recognition. The idea is to merge several preliminary readings of the same number plate, all coming from different frames, into one reliable result. Second idea is that IPM does not need to recognize every frame. Regular user should not change these parameters.

**Engine parameter's INI file** is for camera specific. This option allows you to choose between an Infrared Camera (used in low light conditions), a PAL camera (standard colour camera) or a CCIR camera (standard monochrome camera). IPM demo does not support INI settings modification.

**Set Default** restores default values into Recognition Engine TAB.

# Program Options

**Property Page**
The dialog shown below will appear:
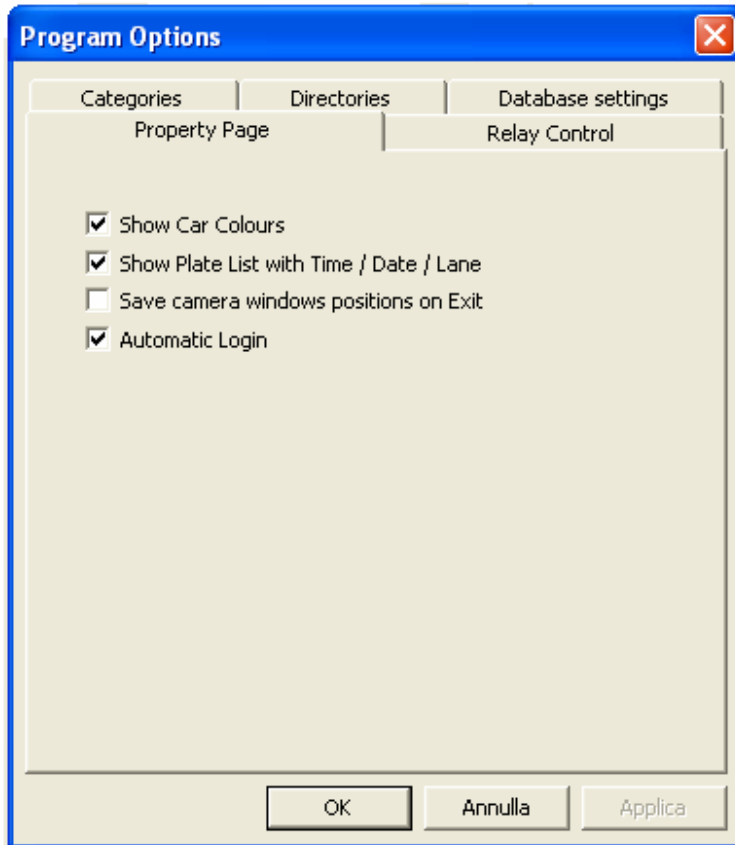


Preliminary note: all these settings will only take effect once the application will be restarted.

**Show Car Colours**
Selecting this option will display the colours of each car which is matched to the database.

**Show Plate List**
Selecting this option will display the list of plates on the right hand side of the screen as they are transmitted.

**Save camera windows positions on Exit**
Selecting this option the Parking Manager will display the ANPR windows exactly in the same position and size they were before the application itself was close.

**Automatic Login**
Selecting this option the Parking Manager will not require the ANPR Operator to log in any time the application restarts.

**Relay Control**
The dialog shown below will appear:
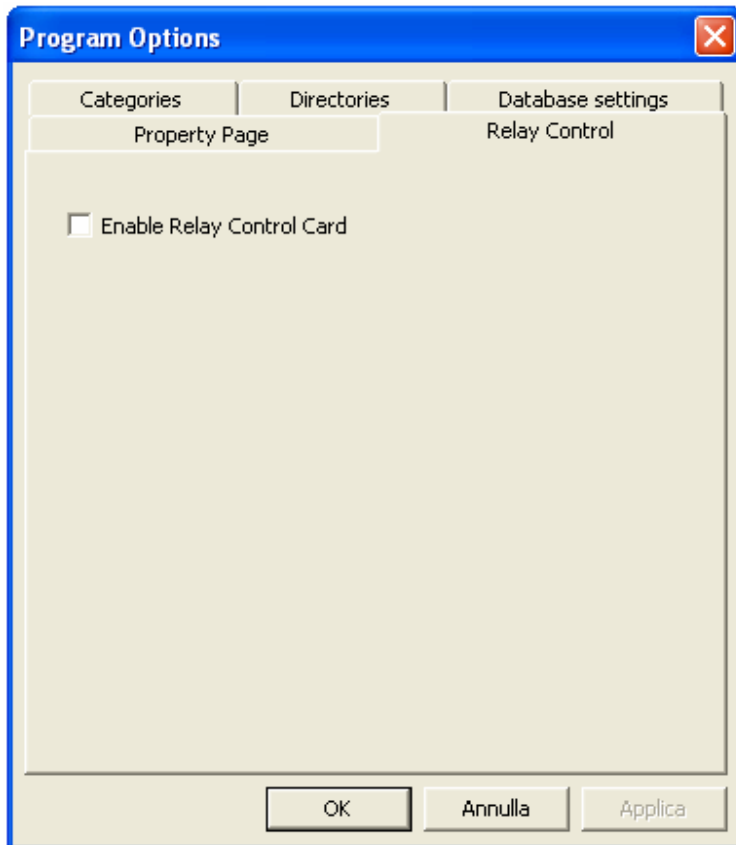


**Enable Relay Control Card**
In the IPM this option should be selected if you wish to make use of your relay control card, e.g. for linking to one or more barriers.
In this IPM demo software license this option does not work.


**Database settings**
This dialog is particularly important in case IPM is running unattended. The sub tab Automatic deleting of obsolete records helps installer to keep in the hard disk only a set number of records after that the older ANPR readings and associated records will be overwritten with the newer.
To enter this setting please mark **Enable** checkbox and choose **By count** and in the field on the right enter the number or records you want to save on the Hard Disk. When this value will be reached IPM will start deleting the older file.  In the **Timeout** enter the number of seconds after which you want the IPM to compare the total number of records present on the disk with the value entered in the by count field.
It's also possible to perform this control by setting a number of days after that the old records will be deleted. Mark the **Delete pictures in real time** if you need to go this way otherwise old pictures will be cancelled on IPM restart only. See the picture below for details.
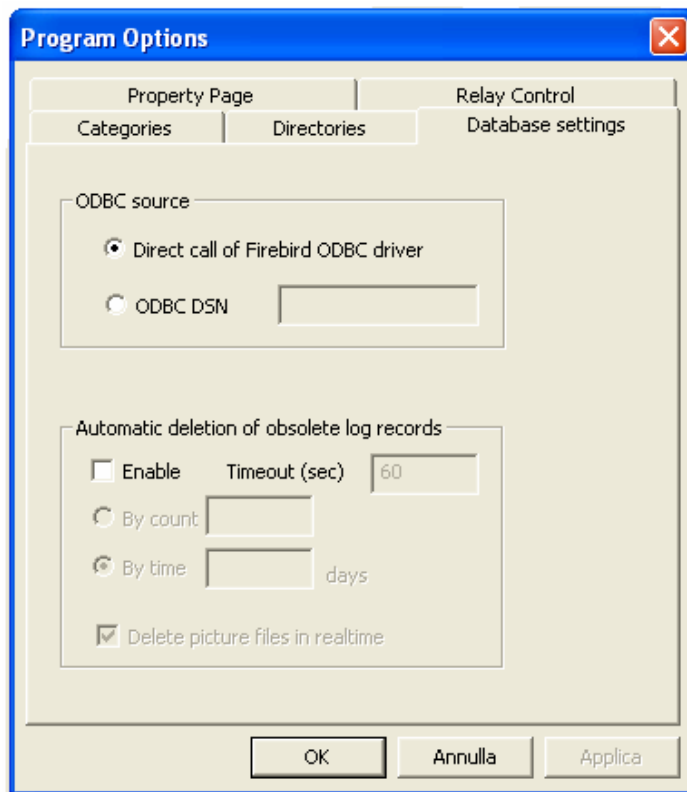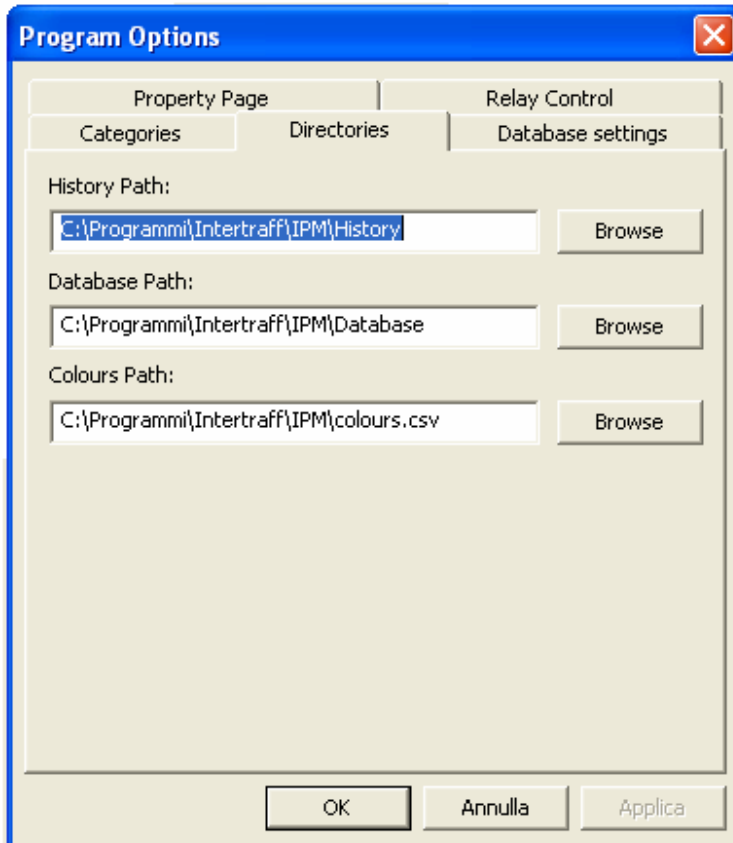
**Categories**

The dialog shown below will appear:
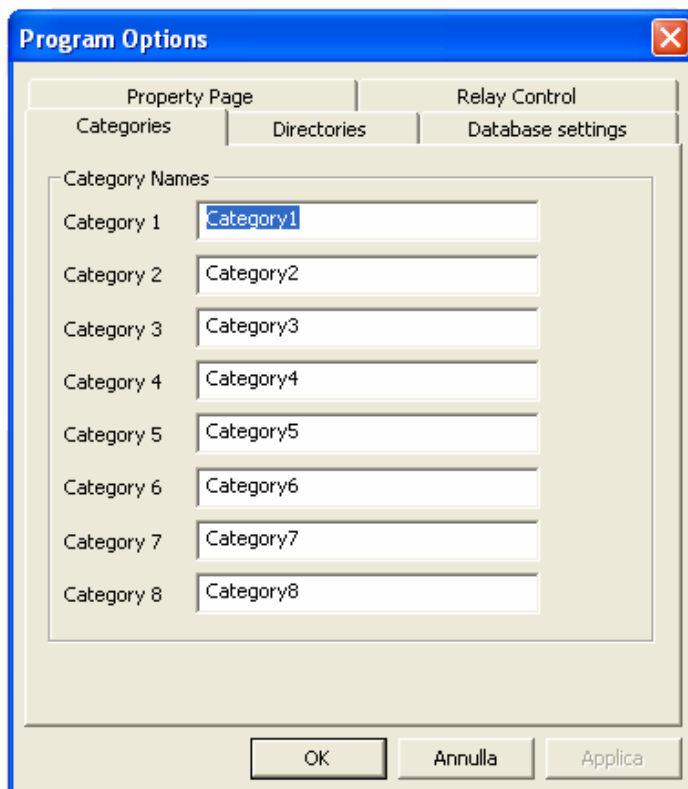
This is where you set each category within the database.

**Directories**
The dialog shown below will appear:



**History Path**
This directs the application to the path where the history file is located (the history file contains all the data relating to captured plates)

**Database Path**
Path where the database file is located.

**Colours Path**
Path where the file containing all the colour details is located.

# HISTORY

**New History**
This option enable you to generate a new History File (.bpz). The History file contains the full amount of data captured by the system. Before doing it please save the old history file through the History/Archive data option.
Pay attention. Generating a new history file, will delete the old one.

**Archive data**
This option enable you to save the History file which contains the full amount of data captured by the system.

**Log On**
Use this option to re-launch the password dialog box if you wish to logon as a different user.

**Log Off**
Use this option to log off as the current user to prevent other users using your level of privileges.

**Save frame settings**
This option enable you to save the ANPR windows position and size. If closes and then restarts the application will display the ANPR windows as they were displays before the application was closed.

**Stop recognition**
This option enable you to stop the ANPR Engine and any plates recognition.

**Exit**
This option will closedown the Intertraff Parking Manager.

# 6

## Options

The Options menu contains the following options:

```
Edit Database
Edit Parking List
Edit Access Controls
Edit Colours
Select Sounds
Passwords
Access Periods
```

**Edit Database**

The dialog that will be displayed is shown below:

This option requires the user to log into the system and to have all the ANPR windows closed. It allows you to Add, Delete, Edit and Search for records held within your database files. Use this dialog to get the list records currently stored.

If you select a record within the list box at the top of the dialog then all the details stored relating to that person will be displayed in the edit boxes below. If you wish to make any changes to these details (assuming your password level allows you), you can edit directly into the edit boxes and then press the Apply button to update the changes you have made. The Import and Export buttons will allow you to use different database files for different locations if required.

Particularly important is the< Barrier options> drug and drop windows. For any record the ANPR manager decides if:

1. Use Category DEFAULT;
2. OPEN barrier;
3. Keep the barrier CLOSE;

**Access Controls**
This option will display the following dialog:
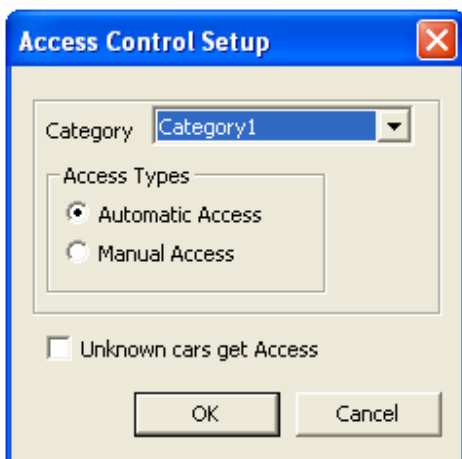


It allows you to setup Access Control preferences.

**Categories**
You would first select a Category then decide which type of access they are allowed using the Access Type.

**Access Type**
There are two options here:
• Automatic Access – this would raise the barrier to all
• Manual Access – this would prevent the barrier from being raised to any one automatically, it would have to be done manually

**Unknown Cars Get Access**
This option would give access to any vehicle which is not in the database (this could be used if a database was held only for suspect vehicles and not staff). Or in case the checking should be applied only on exit.

**Edit colours**
If you select this option you will see the dialog shown below:
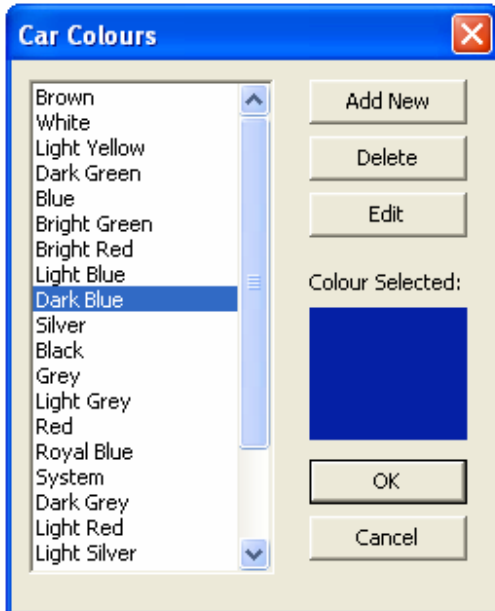


As shown above there is a list box on the left side of the dialog, listing all the currently entered colours.

**Add New**
Selecting this option allows you to select and add a new colour to the table.
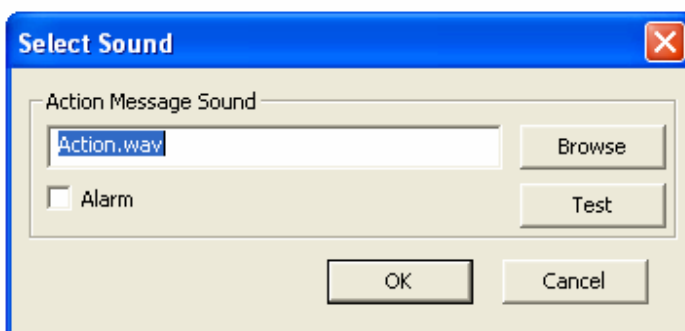
**Delete**
This option allows you to delete a colour from the listbox, first highlight, then press the Delete button.

**Edit**
This option allows you to edit a colour, either by name or RGB value.

**Select sounds**
If you select this option the dialog shown below will be displayed:

You have the option to select an alarm to sound any time an <action> message is display. For the <action> message definition please see the Edit database option described above.
To select a different sound you should press the Browse button and select another .wav file.
To test a sound you should select it first then press the Test button, if you do not want a sound for a specific event simply leave the <Alarm> unchecked.


**Passwords**
The passwords option allows you to view, add or delete password levels.
If you select this option the dialog shown on the following page will be displayed:
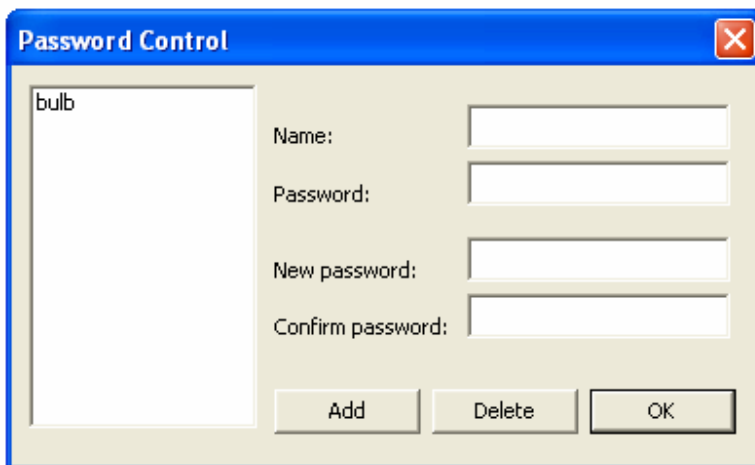


The above dialog will display a list of names on the left of all those persons who have the authority to gain access to Intertraff Parking Manager and Review.
When you first run the Parking Manager you will notice that a number of the menu options are disabled. A Username and password have been set to enable you to again access to the full level to setup your system. User 'bulb' and Password 'bulb' will allow full access.
Once you have full access you should select the Edit Menu and Passwords, this will display the above dialog box. If you do not want to use passwords on your system then there is a way around it. Access please the File/program Options menu and in the Property Page TAB please mark the check box Automatic Login.


**Access Periods**
This dialog allows you to setup specific times and dates when you would like the ANPR system to be monitoring vehicles.
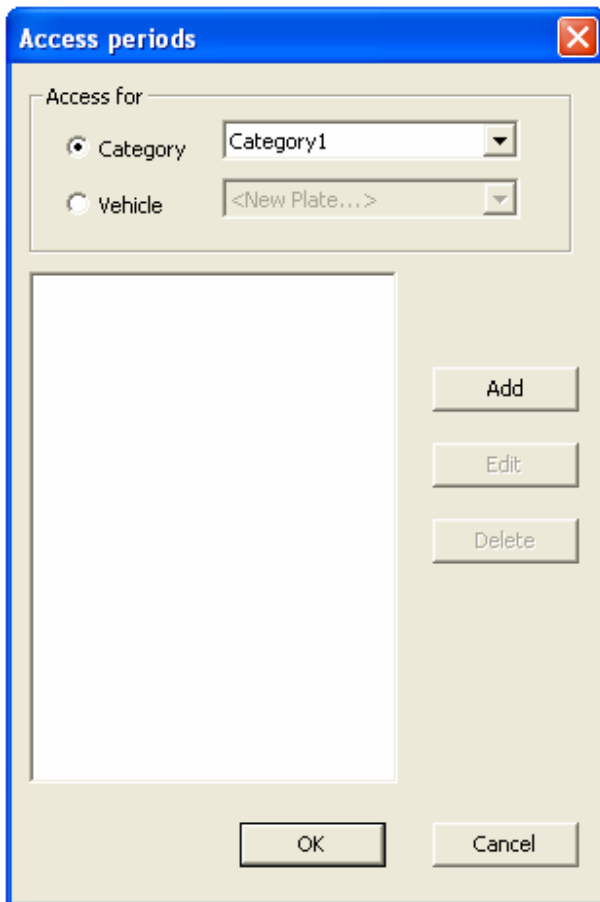
Access Periods allows you to set-up certain days of the week and times which it required monitoring to take place, this can be used when a premises is only open at certain times of the day – it prevents continuous monitoring if not required.

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# Plate Manage

The Plate Manage menu contains the following four options:
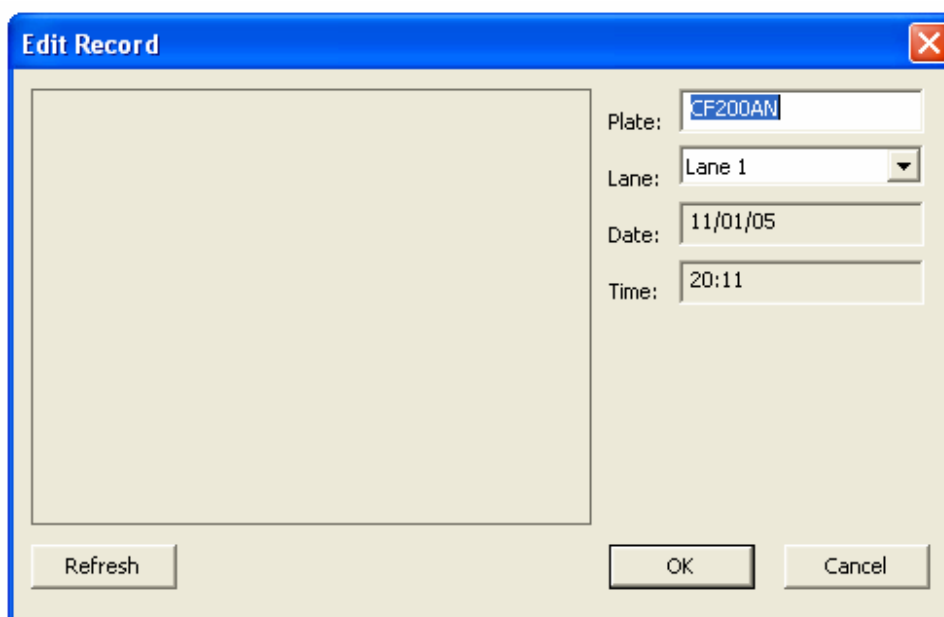


Accept Record, Edit Record, New Record and Delete Record. These will allow you to manually allow entry to vehicles as you require. The buttons are explained individually below:

**Accept Record**
When a number plate has been recognised it will be displayed within the plate list, if you wish to allow that vehicle to enter the premises via an access control method then this button should be selected and access will be permitted.

**Edit Record**
This will display the dialog below:



The number plate which was currently selected within the plate list will be displayed within the

Plate box, you may correct this plate if required.

**New Record**
This will do the same as above for the Edit Record button but the number plate will not be displayed within the Plate textbox.

**Delete Record**
This option will delete the currently selected record from file.

# WINDOWS
The submenu New Window can be used to open a new ANPR window. Cascade, Tile and Arrange Icons can be useful to automatically sort on the monitor all the active ANPR windows.

# HELP
**About BPM**
Selecting this option will display an About Box showing details of Intertraff Parking Manager demo version 1.0

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# Intertraff Parking Backstage

## User Interface

The following screen shows the user interface when selecting to use Intertraff Parking Managing Review, this can be run directly from the Parking Manager or from within the main windows program menu.



When the Parking Manager is launched the Review is also opened and minimised, allowing automatic updating of information from one program to the other. The Review is designed to work in conjunction with the Intertraff Parking Manager. The Review enables you to look back

through the history files, (files saved by the Parking Manager). These history files are stored in extension type .bpz.

# Stored Details

The .bpz file contains images of the captured vehicles along with a plate patch and relating details to the time, date, category and location of capture.
As you can see in the previous example the following details have been stored:

- Image of Vehicle
- Plate Patch
- Recognised Number Plate
- Date of Capture
- Time of Capture
- Location of Capture (Lane ID)
- Category

Also the user details additionally shows:

- Driver Name
- Vehicle Colour
- Action Message

The record which is selected within the listbox is that which relates to the image displayed on the right. The Plate Patch is displayed below the image (to the left) and the recognised plate (transmitted plate) is displayed below.
The remaining section of the interface contains a calendar and different search options.

# Calendar

The calendar will look like the one shown below:



You will notice that a red circle is placed over today's date. Any dates which relate to captured vehicles within the .bpz file will be shown in bold on the calendar.
There is a checkbox to the left of the calendar, labelled Calendar, if you wish to disable the use of the Calendar then uncheck this box.

# Searching Option

**Lane Selection**
On the right of the Calendar checkbox is an option group titled Lane Selection, this group contains 4 checkboxes, Lane 1, Lane 2, Lane 3 and Lane 4. If you wish to make a search on a specific lane (or specific selection of lanes) then you should select this lane(s) as appropriate.

**Full/Part Plate Search**
To enable this option you must first select the checkbox. You may then enter a full registration plate (without spaces) or Part of the registration plate.

**Date Range**
If you wish to search between specific dates then these dates should be entered here.

**Hours Range**
If you wish to search between specific times, then these times should be entered here.

**Example Search:**
This example shows how to make a search on all vehicles with the following criteria:

- Registration beginning with the letter T
- Entered the Premises between the dates of 1st April 2004 and 8th April 2004
- Entered between the times of 6am and 9am
- Entering only on Lane 1
- Search only for Category one (Employees)

You should select the following:

- Lane 1 checkbox within the Lane Selection
- "T" within the Plate/Part Plate Search
- Date options should be 01/04/04 to 08/04/04
- Time options should be 06:00:00 AM to 09:00:00 AM
- Category one within the Category Section

Press the Search button, all matching records will be displayed within the list box at the top left section of the screen.

# Menu Options
Intertraff Parking Manager Review contains the following Menu Options:

Open History File
Open Current File

View Audit Trail
Analyse In and Out

Log On
Log Off

Exit

**Open History File**
This option enables you to open a .bpz file (previously created by the Parking Manager).
Once you have selected this option you will be presented with a windows Open dialog to
locate the relevant file.
All the dates which this file contains captured vehicles of will be displayed in bold on the
calendar. Use the arrow button (at the top of the calendar) to move between months to locate
a date relating to the file. Once you find a date displayed in bold use the mouse to double-
click on this date and all the captured data relating to that date, (within the file) will be
displayed within the list box.
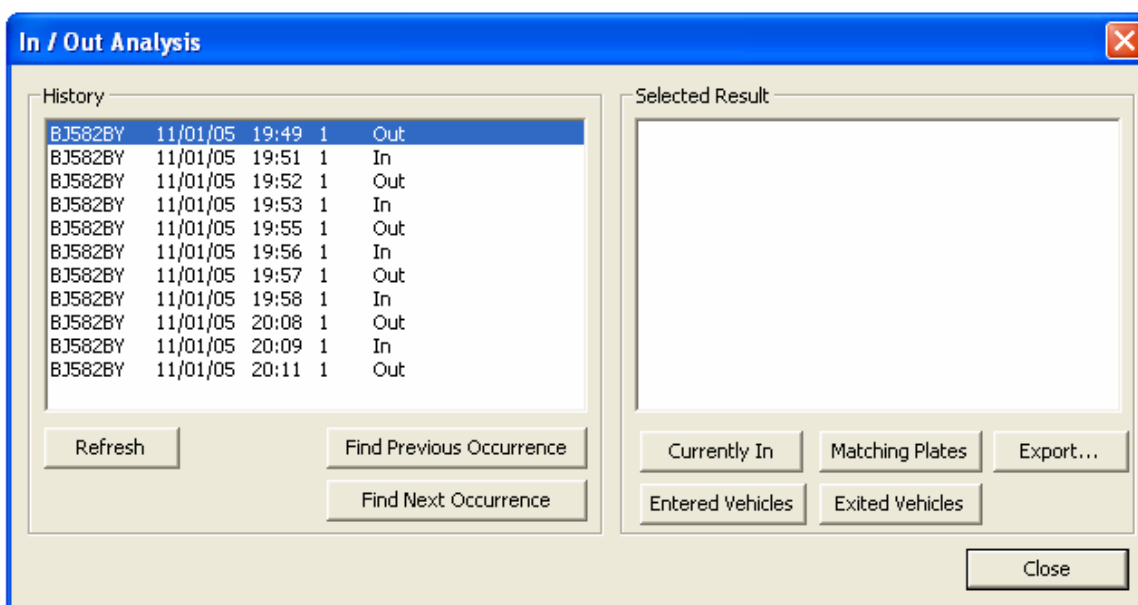
**Open Current Database**
This option enables you to open the current History file (.bpz)

**View Audit Trail**
This option will display a dialog listing any useful events.

**Analyse In & Out**
This option will display the following dialog:

The list box on the left, shown in the above diagram displays all the records held within the current history file which is in use. The listbox on the right displays some results when prompted by selecting the buttons below it. These buttons are explained below:

**Currently IN**
This option will display a list of all the vehicles who have entered the site but not yet exited into the listbox on the right side of the dialog.

**Matching Plates**
This option will find all the records which have a matching registration plate to the one selected within the listbox on the left hand side, and display these records in the listbox on the right hand side.

**Entered Vehicles**
This option will display all the records which have entered the site into the listbox on the right side of the dialog.

**Exited Vehicles**
This option will display all the records which have exited from the site into the listbox on the right hand side.

**Find Next Occurrence**
This option will move to the next record which has a matching registration, from the one currently selected in the listbox on the left side of the dialog.

**Find Previous Occurrence**
This option will move to the previous record which has a matching registration, from the one currently selected in the listbox on the left side of the dialog.

**Close**
This option will close the dialog.

# Log On
This option will display the password prompt to enable a user to log on with their own unique username and password which will provide them with a preset level of privileges

# Log Off
Use this option to log off as the current user to prevent other users using your level of privileges.

# Exit
This option will close your Parking Manager Review session.
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# Options

**Search Immediately**

If you are looking through a file containing no more than 1000 records then you may benefit from this option. Selecting this option will automatically begin a search as you have entered the criteria. You do not need to press the Search button at the top of the screen.
If you have this option selected and you are browsing through a very large file (with thousands of records) then this will cause your program to run very slowly, as it will be attempting to perform searches each time you press a key.

# Help

**About BPM**

Selecting this option will display an About Box showing details of Intertraff Parking Manager demo version 1.0