

### @ Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority Glasgow, Scotland, UK

#### Progressive Commuter Rail Initiative; Safe Cycle Parking Secures Bonus Velo-City 2001 Conference and CycleMark Award

##### Project in Brief

**Project:** Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority (SPT)

**Location:** Glasgow, Scotland, UK

**Installation:** 112 Cycle-Safe® bicycle lockers at 22 mainline railway stations and two underground stations

The Scottish cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh will jointly host the international Velo-City Conference in 2001. They beat strong competition from other European cities – including Strasbourg in France and Gothenburg in Sweden – to win the privilege of hosting this prestigious conference.

The successful bid was helped along by a pilot project of the Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority (SPT). For almost 10 years, SPT has been working closely with other bodies advocating that people leave their cars at home and walk or cycle to work. While SPT already provides unlimited free transport for bicycles on its trains, this pilot project was intended to make the city of Glasgow even more “cycle-friendly” – with the ultimate objective of increasing bicycle commuting.

Specifically targeted at commuter railway stations, this project is designed to encourage commuters to cycle to their local stations and continue their journeys by train or underground. The cycle “Park and Ride Scheme” will help reduce air pollution and traffic congestion, release valuable town center and city center parking spaces for use by short-term users, and at the same time improve the health of car drivers.

SPT examined various lockers and security systems in use throughout Europe and the USA before selecting the Cycle-



*Attractive and Durable cycle-safe® Bicycle Lockers provide security at Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority*



Safe bicycle locker. They selected the Cycle-Safe ProPark locker because of its styling, strength, security, low maintenance costs and the fact that it has been used extensively throughout the USA for almost twenty years. The lockers were supplied and installed by Cycle-Works Limited, the UK agent for the product built by Cycle-Safe, Inc. of Grand Rapids, Michigan (888) 950-6531.

The project consisted of installing 112 Cycle-Safe lockers at 22 mainline railway stations and two underground stations. This represents the largest network of secure bike lockers in the United Kingdom.

Although the project was completely financed by SPT, it was essential that ScotRail and Railtrack agree to the siting of the lockers at the various stations. At most locations, the lockers have either been installed in station car parks as close as possible to the station building or within the station on the concourse or platform.

Since the Cycle-Safe bicycle lockers were installed, surveys have shown high levels of satisfaction, with users (who cycle an average distance of two miles to stations). George Brady, Head of Special Projects at SPT, explains, “Users are aware of their newfound freedom – they are not dependent on cars or buses to get to the station. And if for any reason the

cycles are not required for the evening 'station to home' journey, they can be safely left in the locker." To date the level of vandalism to the lockers has been surprisingly low – in fact, it's been limited to graffiti at two locations. (Thanks to Cycle-Safe's unique engineered composite construction, the graffiti was wiped away with a simple solvent.)

Renters of the lockers are given exclusive use of a high quality locker for a modest fee of £8 (approximately \$13 U.S. dollars) for a minimum rental period of four weeks. There is also a refundable key deposit of £10 (about \$16). Discounts are available for longer-term rentals and many of the lockers are now on rental periods for the maximum time of one year, costing £52 (about \$84). Since the lockers are generally located within stations it is essential for security reasons that certain



details, e.g. name, address, day and night telephone numbers of the renters are obtained.

George Brady adds, "The income from rental will obviously not cover the capital cost of the project, but consideration must be given to other benefits, improved health and increased rail revenue."

Undoubtedly, the Cycle-Safe installation had a public relations benefit as well – it demonstrated to Velo-City organizers that the city of Glasgow is truly committed to increased bicycle commuting.

Velo-City 2001 Edinburg & Glasgow Bid Web-Site:  
[www.timedawnsn.demon.co.uk/velocity/bid.htm](http://www.timedawnsn.demon.co.uk/velocity/bid.htm)

Edinburgh-Glasgow Bid Team Web-Site:  
[www.btinternet.com/~spokes/velocity](http://www.btinternet.com/~spokes/velocity)

## Project Partners

- Strathclyde Passenger Transport Authority (SPT)
- Scottish Office Transport Minister
- Strathclyde Cycling Campaign
- Lothian Cycling Campaign
- Cyclists Public Affairs Group
- ScotRail: CycleMark winner for Locker Project
- City of Glasgow: [www.glasgow.gov.uk/](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/)
- Sustrans: [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)
- Go Bike!: [www.gobike.org](http://www.gobike.org)
- Spokes: [www.spokes.org.uk](http://www.spokes.org.uk)

## Kudos to ScotRail

12 July 1999 – A coalition of cycling groups – the Cyclists' Public Affairs Group (CPAG), the CTC (Cyclists Touring Club) and Sustrans have awarded the third annual CycleMark awards to ScotRail. This government backed scheme give annual awards to those public transport operators who are judged, by their customers, to have improved services for cyclists.

ScotRail earns its first CycleMark award for its achievement as the most improved rail operator in providing services for cyclists. Among other accomplishments, Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive ScotRail has introduced closed circuit TV and bicycle lockers at 22 rail stations in the Strathclyde area.

## Visit these Bicycle Advocacy Sites on the World Wide Web

### Bike Map

[www.bikemap.com/photos](http://www.bikemap.com/photos)

### Chainguard

[www.serve.com/bikesrus/chainguard](http://www.serve.com/bikesrus/chainguard)

### Now Bike

[www.dataform.com/nowbike/nowbike](http://www.dataform.com/nowbike/nowbike)

### Bicycle Transportation Alliance

[www.lelpport.com/~bta4bike](http://www.lelpport.com/~bta4bike)

### Victoria Transport Policy Institute

[www.islandnet.com](http://www.islandnet.com)

### Cascade Bike Club

[www.cascade.org](http://www.cascade.org)

### Car-Free

[www.car-free.org](http://www.car-free.org)



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Cycle-Safe also manufactures inverted "U" bicycle racks and a wide range of useful cycle locker accessories. For additional information, please call us or visit our web site for details.