A Little Goes a Long Way

When choosing system components for self-service terminals, a crucial factor to take into consideration is how the unit will be powered: either from a mains power supply or independent of the power grid.

All components in self-service units with a general power supply of 12 V - like solar-powered on-street parking systems – must, therefore, use the limited, collected energy as efficiently as possible. If standard printers are to be used, the power supply will need to be converted. DC/DC step-up converters in this power class frequently convert 20% of the energy previously gathered using solar panels.

The Compact Plus printer from GeBE Elektronik und Feinwerktechnik GmbH can be connected directly to a 12 V supply and uses only a small amount of power during operation. When not in use, it automatically switches off, so this printing unit consumes almost no power in its standby mode. The host sends a data message to the printer to alert it when it is required for printing again. Depending on the voltage and current consumption, a print speed of up to 200mm/s can be achieved.

The controller enables a broad input voltage range of 11 to 26.5 V so that there is no need for a DC/DC converter, which enables more efficient use of energy. Printing can also take place even when only a low current can be taken from the power supply unit for the printer.

For more information please tick reader enquiry card number **171** or log on to www.**kiosk**europe.com