

PORTIS (Portable Ticket Issuing System) (Prototype)

The prototype machines, manufactured by Thorn EMI, were brought into use in the Bristol area from 3rd May 1982. They were also based at Redhill for the Reading to Gatwick Airport service. The machine was 220mm wide x 250mm high x 110mm deep and weighed 3.5kg. The top panel had rows of push buttons and a small dot matrix display. It was intended to replace the Omniprinter and Almex machines used by conductors for 'on-train' use. Much more detail of use to the passenger was shown on the ticket. A double ticket was issued for returns with the starting and destination stations transposed on the return ticket.

From the top line, the machine printed the starting station, the destination station, route if required, class, status, number of adults, ticket type, number of children, price, date, ticket number, the base station NLC, machine number, region, and finally the validity on the bottom line.

A feature of the PORTIS was that it could issue one ticket for any number of adults and children travelling together, the number of adults and children being shown on the ticket. The tickets were printed on thermally sensitised paper.

M/c.No.	NLC	Region	Base station	
6000	1234	W		Specimen only seen
	2222	W		Specimen only seen
	3216	W	Bristol TM	
6001				No tickets seen
6002	1234	W		Issued ticket seen, incorrect NLC
	3216	W	Bristol TM	
6003	2222	W		Specimen only seen
	3216	W	Bristol TM	
6004				No tickets seen
6005	3216	W	Bristol TM	
	9999	W		Specimen on Thorn EMI ticket roll
6006	1234	S		Specimen only seen
	3216	W	Bristol TM	
6007	3216	W	Bristol TM	
6008				No tickets seen
6009	3216	W	Bristol TM	
6010	3216	W	Bristol TM	
	5478	S	Redhill	
	8487	E		Specimen only seen
6011	1234	W		Issued ticket seen, incorrect NLC
6012	3216	W	Bristol TM	
	5478	S	Redhill	