



## Better transport through technology

### October 2008 Newsletter

#### News from ITS United Kingdom

##### **ITS United Kingdom Calendar**

Monday 3 November	<b>Wales Interest Group</b> , Cardiff
Thursday 6 November	<b>Procurement Workshop</b> , Birmingham
Tuesday 11 November	<b>Automotive User and Smart Environment Interest Groups joint Meeting</b> – London
Wednesday 12 November	<b>Road User Charging Interest Group Conference-</b>
17- 20 November	<b>ITS (UK) Stand and Special Sessions</b> World Congress, New York
Tuesday 25 November	<b>Public Sector Liaison Group</b> , telent, Warwick

##### **Foundation Members' Dinner held in the City of London**

President of ITS (UK), Steven Norris, hosted the second annual Foundation Members' Dinner on 17 September at the Grange Hotel in the City of London. Some 60 Foundation Members attended this informal and friendly gathering.

##### **ITS (UK) receives delegation from the Chinese Embassy in London**

A high-level delegation consisting of Mr Wang Baoqing, Minister Counsellor of Science and Technology; Mr Wang Zhongcheng, 2<sup>nd</sup> Secretary of Science and Technology; and Mr Gu Junzhan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Secretary of Science and Technology, visited ITS (UK)'s office during September to meet the Secretariat and several ITS (UK) Members, who had volunteered to come along and put together an informal briefing on current UK ITS activity for the benefit of the Chinese visitors. Professor Wu Jianping from WSP Group was able to assist with facilitating the visit. Prof. Wu has been instrumental in building and maintaining good relations between ITS (UK) and Chinese colleagues for several years, including leading an ITS (UK) / DTI delegation to Beijing and Qingdao in 2004. Also attending were Mr Borja Urquiza, Mouchel; Mr Dan Sandhu, ACIS; Mr Tony Wyatt, innovITS; Mr Russell Smith, Richmond Management; Ms Katherine Rogers, Parsons Brinckerhoff; and Ms Silke Elvery, Transport for London. This ensured that the visitors received a wide briefing on topics ranging from traffic management and managed motorways, through road pricing, to the latest innovative bus information systems such as London's i-Bus and Kent's Fastrack. At the end of the briefing, it was agreed as a follow-up to arrange discussions between ITS (UK) and the newly formed ITS China, during the 2008 ITS World Congress in New York.

##### **It's a fairway forward for ITS (UK)**

This year, the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual ITS United Kingdom Golf Day took place in the south of Wales, at the well known Celtic Manor, on a dry sunny day. Twelve ITS (UK) golfers of varying

abilities (which proves the egalitarian nature of the Society), not only enjoyed playing a round of golf but also carrying out some productive networking. Golfers have shown great eagerness to participate in the 2009 Golf Day (which is in the pipeline), with plans to hone their skills in the meantime.

#### **'Is our ITS Toolkit the right one?' – ITS (UK) Workshop**

The intention of the Workshop held on 14<sup>th</sup> October was to discuss the recent ITS (UK) 'Think Tank' Action's requirement to determine if an 'ITS Toolkit' is a true reflection of ITS capabilities. However what became evident from the outset was that there was substantial confusion on what actually constitutes an 'ITS Toolkit' and this provoked a prolonged and useful discussion to place some clarification on this status. The outcome from this discussion was a series of 'strategic', 'technological' and 'enabling factors' options but more significantly it was agreed that the term 'Toolkit' did not accurately reflect the diversity of ITS policies, procedures, processes and systems. It was unanimously agreed that a more appropriate and 'up-to-date' description should be devised and adopted to prevent future confusion of what is available from ITS. A second and equally important theme was the clear definition of Local Authority Procurement processes which coincidentally was the theme of a separate ITS (UK) Procurement Workshop later that month. In summary the Workshop drew out two highly relevant and important issues whilst recognising how these issues could be incorporated into future mid, short and longer-term plans during turbulent economic conditions that are having local, national and global implications.

#### **ITS (UK) Evening Reception - Houses of Parliament Terrace Pavilion**

ITS (UK) is actively planning the rescheduled Houses of Parliament Evening Reception to be held on the Terrace Pavilion between 7 p.m. and 10.30 p.m. on Thursday 11 June 2009. As the photograph shows the Terrace Pavilion occupies a highly prestigious location on the Houses of Parliament Terraces directly overlooking, and with access to, the River Thames



frontage. This is a unique event and we consider it to be an excellent opportunity for ITS (UK) Members to inform Parliamentarians, and others associated with Government, of the potential that ITS has to offer to assist many of the UK's transport issues. As a result we will be inviting an equivalent number of influential Parliamentarians and ITS (UK) Members however to make this event financially viable a variable sponsorship package has been devised; varying tiers are available between £1,000 - £3,000 + VAT per sponsor. This will enable a range of sponsorship options including 'pop-up' displays in the Terrace Pavilion with due recognition given to all material that is used to promote and record the event. A recently circulated e-mail is confirming the interest from those who have already registered however there is still opportunity to attend this event by contacting Maria Downs at ITS (UK) by e-mail [mdowns@its-uk.org.uk](mailto:mdowns@its-uk.org.uk)

**TRL Reports Published September 2008**

**PPR314 Effectiveness of Speed indicator Devices on reducing vehicle speeds in London by L K Walter and J Knowles (Price £35, Code X)**

**Other Publications**

**ARR 2007 Annual Research Review 2007 (Price £50)**

**CT120.4 Traffic Monitoring and Incident detection- Update (2005-2008) (Price £30)**

**Current special deals on conferences for ITS United Kingdom Members**

**The Annual Road Pricing Conference** will be held on **Tuesday, 4th November 2008** at Jury's Great Russell St, London.

The organisers have kindly offered a **10% discount** off the delegate fee to all ITS (UK) members. To avail of this facility please fill in the form provided in the attached weblink <http://www.its-uk.org.uk/events/event.aspx?id=90>

Weblink to detailed information about the conference and the agenda is as follows: <http://www.its-uk.org.uk/filelibrary/file/Road%20Pricing.pdf>

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**The Passenger Transport 08 Conference** will be held on Thursday, **13th November 2008** at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester.

The organisers have kindly offered a special discount rate to ITS-UK members at only £395+vat per delegate which gives you access to both the exhibition, conference as well as the drinks conference! For more details see attached web link.

<http://www.tenalpsevents.com/forthcomingevents/passengertransport2008>

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**The Digital money Summit** will be held on **Tuesday November 25th 2008** at The Dorchester, London.

The organisers have kindly offered a **15% discount** on the full delegate fee of £795 +VAT to all ITS (UK) members.

The web link to the booking form and all further information is as follows: <http://www.its-uk.org.uk/filelibrary/file/Digital%20brochure%20Final%20ITS.pdf>

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**The Integrated Transport London Conference** will be held on **Thursday November 6th 2008** at the Novotel hotel, London. The organisers have kindly offered a **15% discount (£1275)** off the delegate fee to all ITS (UK) members. This discount is available only until 23 October. Please quote reference ITL2008ITS when making your booking. The web link to the booking form and all further information is as follows:

<http://www.integratedtransportlondon.co.uk/signup.php>

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**The Transport Ticketing 09 Conference** will be held on **27 – 28 January 2009**, London. The organisers have kindly offered a **10% discount** off the delegate fee to all ITS (UK) members. The web link to the booking form and all further information is as follows: <http://www.transport-ticketing.com/64/index.php?>

## **Interest Group Reports**

### **Standards and Communications Interest Group tackles lawful intercept**

The SCIG met in its habitual location, the ITS (UK) office near the Tower of London, during September, and discussed the many interesting and challenging issues surrounding lawful intercept of ITS-related messages. The sometimes robust exchange of views left everybody better informed and opened up some avenues for further exploration which the SCIG will attend to at future meetings. The SCIG is led by Bob Williams of CSI, who is also the UK's Head of Delegation to ISO TC204 among many other formal positions in the world of international standards for ITS.

### **New Interest Group is formed**

Following discussions and the all-important emergence of a couple of volunteers from within the Membership, ITS (UK) was able to launch a new Group during September – the CVHS (Co-operative Vehicle-Highways Systems) Interest Group. Andy Graham of White Willow Consulting will chair the new Group, assisted by Phil Proctor of the Highways Agency as Honorary Secretary. The scoping meeting for the Group was hosted by the Highways Agency in London and the strong interest from within the ITS (UK) Membership resulted in a very well filled meeting room and some lively discussion. To set the scene, Andy Graham spoke about *What is CVHS and why do we need an Interest Group?* Phil Proctor followed up with *what does the HA want?* and then Francis McKinney from Atkins covered the role of vehicle makers, Rana Ilgaz of TfL spoke about the TfL CVIS project, and John Miles from Ankerbold and Robert Cone from Traffic Wales gave an introduction to a new PIARC joint task force on a similar topic, which the new IG will link with in order to secure an international dimension. At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that the Highways Agency will produce a one page briefing on requirements emerging from Managed Motorways, and several Members generously volunteered for specific actions: Dr Neil Hoose (Imperial College) – CVHS Taxonomy, Richard Bossom (Siemens) – Existing projects list, and Paul Burton (Serco) – how can network managers best use data from CVHS.

### **Inclusive Mobility Interest Group Meeting**

'Smartcards and Accessibility' was the main theme for the second meeting of the Inclusive Mobility Interest Group on 29<sup>th</sup> September. The meeting heard from two presenters, Valentina Barker, ITSO and Dr John Gill, RNIB who each outlined the complexity of travelling and ticketing issues facing aged and less physically able travellers. Both identified the challenge and difficulties in journey planning, ticket purchasing, undertaking journeys and finally locating destinations. Ensuring public travel for those particular groups needs to be effective and 'smartcard' ticketing was seen as a means to alleviate some of the problems associated with such journeys. Following the presentations a useful discussion took place on issues highlighted during the presentations. Following this Dr Simon Edwards, the Interest Group Chair, presented a report from a recent DPTAC meeting on disabled travellers' needs and expectations. He then took the opportunity to outline how he envisaged the Interest Group to be structured as well as indicating the focus and topics for future meetings.

### **Road User Charging Interest Group**

Trevor Platt from T- Systems kindly hosted the Road User Charging Interest Group Meeting in September. The RUCIG Chairman, Andrew Pickford of Transport Technology Consultants, was very pleased to be able to introduce a large panel of Speakers. The meeting was attended by around 45 Members of ITS (UK), representing a broad range

of private and public sector organisations. Usha Elyatamy, IBI Group started the meeting with a report on “US Perspective on High Occupancy Tolling”, followed by Howard Potter of the Green Light Group, “An update from the Green Light Group”. Chris Humphrey of TTR spoke about “Sharing European Road Pricing Research”. Stefano Mainero, WSP covered “ECOPASS -The Milano Pollution Charge. The RUCIG was also very pleased to have for the *first time* not one but three very successful video links from: Paul Vorster, ITS South Africa who gave an introduction to ITS in South Africa, and also from South Africa it was a pleasure to have the participation of Alex van Niekerk, who spoke on “South African National Road Agency” followed by Matthew Kitchen, PSRC from Seattle who reported on “Puget Sound Regional Council Travel Choices Trial”. There was plenty of good feedback and positive comments which also increased networking opportunities in the UK and around the world.

### News from Members

#### **Kapsch TrafficCom meets tight deadlines to deliver 30,000 Transponder units**

Kapsch is delighted to announce that it has successfully met tight and demanding deadlines for the supply of 30,000 transponder units (tags) to Eazy Pass of Dublin. The units, supplied with a mixture of car and HGV fixings, are now successfully being used on the M50 free flow tolling road system in Dublin. The National Roads Authority disabled its old toll plazas on the M50 in readiness for barrier free operation at the end of August. Eazy Pass is now accepted at all toll plazas in Ireland, including N4/N6 Kilcock-Kinnegad, N8 Fermoy by-pass, Dublin Port Tunnel, East-Link, M1 Dundalk Western Bypass and of course the new barrier free M50. Commenting Dermot MacEivilly, CEO said ‘ Kapsch TrafficCom have worked with Eazy Pass since we pioneered electronic tolling in Ireland in 2001. They have been our principle supplier and a key partner for a number of years and we are very pleased that they were able to meet our requirements at this juncture in the expansion of electronic tolling in Ireland.’



#### **Journeyplan looking forward to the future**

JourneyPlan Limited, the Journey Planning Software supplier has announced changes to its board and management and a new focus to its business operations. Following a recent strategic review the company will now focus entirely on delivering software services. The day-to-day management of the company will pass to Angus Whitton who will become the new Managing Director.

**Eduard Tulp**, the industry recognised journey planning technology expert, remains as technical director and Iain Logan with his transportation and data expertise will join the board as a director.

**John Clarke**, Chairman, explained that “the new management focus now puts JourneyPlan in a sound position to deliver greater value to its customers and shareholders and to better build the business for the future. We also want to thank our interim CEO, Aubrey Thompson for his invaluable assistance in this review.”

**Aubrey Thompson**, interim CEO of JourneyPlan said: "The changes represent a new focus for the company and build on the recognised talents within JourneyPlan while establishing a sharper business focus based on software services. I am pleased to announce that the company has recently signed a ten years contract to deliver SMS services for Scotland through our long standing client Traveline Scotland." He added: "The new strategy will also mean that the web based services such as Planajourney ([www.planajourney.co.uk](http://www.planajourney.co.uk)) will cease as the company concentrates its business on the supply of journey planning software services towards the professional market and away from the consumer market." JourneyPlan's new Managing Director, **Angus Whitton** is one of JourneyPlan's major shareholders and a long standing director. He is also a non-executive director of the Federation of Small Businesses. For further information about JourneyPlan please visit [www.journeyplan.co.uk](http://www.journeyplan.co.uk) or call 01383 731 048.

### **TENET Appoint New Managing Director**

TENET is pleased to announce the appointment of Bill Hodson as Managing Director. Bill's new appointment will once again help in further strengthening the company's position as leading provider of geospatial technologies and solutions for customers in a range of Government and commercial markets across the world. After helping to build the UK business of SAIC, a large San Diego-based systems integrator, Bill spent two years at PA Consulting in London supporting the UK MoD and defence industry on a range of major programmes. Joining TENET Technology Limited in 2007 as Sales Director, Bill has relished the challenge of working in a central role in a fast-moving and fast-growing business. Now taking on the position of Managing Director in 2008, Bill remarked 'I've thoroughly enjoyed helping TENET to expand its business during my time as Sales Director. The Company is thriving in each of our core markets and beginning to develop in exciting new areas. I'm now honoured and delighted to be offered the opportunity to carry that work forward as Managing Director.'

## **International News**

### **ITS (UK) and ITS Taiwan sign Memorandum of Understanding**

During the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of ITS Taiwan and the associated conference, "ITS the next generation" in Taipei, Taiwan, ITS (UK) International Director, Richard Harris of Foundation Members WSP Group and Tan Ho-Chen, President of ITS Taiwan signed an MOU committing the two organisations to cooperate to promote the benefits of



ITS and to facilitate closer cooperation between the two organisations and membership. The MOU was witnessed by Fang-Lai Yu, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Taiwan, R.O.C. ITS Taiwan can be contacted through S.K. Jason Chang, Professor of Transport Systems, National Taiwan University.

*Signing the MOU in Taiwan, Tan Ho-Chen and Richard Harris (seated) witnessed by Fang-Lai Yu (standing)*

### **Barco Helps Put China's First Spacewalk In Full View**

Members Barco, a world leader in visualization and display solutions joins in the Shenzhou VII space program in providing large screen projection for the command and control of its first spacewalk.

More: <http://www.barco.com/traffic/en/pressreleases/show.asp?index=2149>

## **Caption Competition Time!**

**The Winner can choose between Chocolate, Wine or Champagne**

All the public transport systems experts in our readership – we await your witty and ITS –related suggested captions for this beautiful bus – and yes, it is in service, the photographer boarded it after taking this snap.



All entries to be sent to Rachael Louis, [rlouis@its-uk.org.uk](mailto:rlouis@its-uk.org.uk)

All replies to contain entrant's name, company name, email address and telephone number. **Official Rules:** The closing date for this competition is 21 November 2008. Correct entries will be placed in a draw from which the winner will be randomly chosen. The name of the lucky winner will appear in the November's Newsletter. ITS (UK) reserves the right to disqualify submissions that do not conform to the above entry rules.

**For more information about any of the items in this Newsletter,  
Contact [mailbox@its-uk.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@its-uk.org.uk)**

**News from Members for inclusion in the November issue should be sent to  
[rlouis@its-uk.org.uk](mailto:rlouis@its-uk.org.uk)**