

What's on

The calendar below shows key events over the coming year or so, from RTIG and other key industry bodies. For further details of RTIG events please contact secretariat@rtig.org.uk

Information presentation WG

19 September 2017, London

EBSF2 final event and London demo

19 September 2017, London

RTIG Committee

20 September 2017, London

CEN TC278 WG3 SG1

Sept/Oct 2017, Köln (TBC)

PTIC

3 October 2017, TBC

Smarter Travel LIVE (Londor)

19-20 October 2017, Milton Keynes

Intelligent Transport (Russell)

31 October 2017, London

RTIG Workshop

November 2017, Coalville (TBC)

* = *To be confirmed*

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NEWS
AND
EVENTS**New links with DfT**

The Bus Services Act, now a fully fledged part of UK statute law, is going to have a major impact on the industry over the coming decade (at least). However, it is essentially *enabling* legislation, and its real impact will therefore be felt only as secondary legislation emerges over the coming months and years.

Since one of the three pillars of the Act concerns obligations on operators to provide open data, it is of great interest to RTiG and its members what this secondary legislation looks like. With that in mind, we are delighted to say that DfT has accepted an invitation to rejoin the RTiG Committee.

Don't expect anything to happen quickly. While the general concept of a "national data hub" is the basis for their thinking, exactly what this means in terms of data, functionality, and processes is still a very open question.

For the immediate future, they are focussing on other parts of the Act (those to do with franchising and enhanced partnerships), and for these areas, you can expect to hear something to emerge later this year. For the open data aspects, though, there is a lot of devil-in-detail: ideas will be raised, discussed and validated with industry during the autumn, with a formal consultation on policy proposals due to take place before the end of this year.

The draft secondary legislation is not expected to be available for formal consultation until the following year. The current thinking is to have a "discovery" round of market engagement during the autumn, at which ideas will be raised, discussed, validated or otherwise with industry. Actual legislation, as well as the necessary systems development, is now expected to happen during 2018 or possibly 2019.

NEWS AND EVENTS

We are aware that people want to make sure they are pointing their systems in the right direction, so we'll be keeping a slot in the RTIG newsletter for relevant announcements on this topic. DfT also expects to set up its own information channels shortly – we'll let you know more when we have it.

RTIG air interface: JSON

The RTIG digital air interface protocol (codified as RTIGT030) is one of the more important of our technical products, both in UK and potentially in Europe.

As we announced in the July newsletter, we are now seeking to adapt the protocol to a more modern comms platform: namely, JSON. This should greatly simplify its implementation and reduce costs of operation.

Trapeze (which was one of the original developers) will be leading this work, on behalf of RTIG. The aim would be to produce and publish a JSON-based variant of the air interface, semantically compatible with the existing message set. The resulting work will, of course, be published openly to RTIG members, for adoption either by other suppliers or by operators/LAs specifying and buying systems.

If you are interested, there is still scope to be involved: just get in touch. If you don't have the time right now, don't worry – you will have plenty of opportunity to comment on draft specifications as they emerge, over the rest of the year.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Next RTiG workshop

We are planning the next RTiG workshop, around communications, where our friends tell us there are some interesting industry developments afoot. Although we were hoping to have this organised for shortly after the summer break, for various reasons this is now expected to happen in November.

We will of course let you know when we have something more specific to announce. In the meantime, there are a number of other events in September/ October that you might like to go to – see the [diary](#) on the front page, and also [this](#) story.

Current Working Groups

The following Working Groups are currently active:

- **Information presentation WG** – the group met on 6 June, in London as usual (see main story). The next meeting is now planned for 19 September.
- **PTiC** (joint with ATCO and Traveline) – the group met on 25 May to discuss various issues of data standards and management. The next meeting is on 3 October.

If you don't yet participate in one of these groups but would like to do so, please contact us at secretariat@rtig.org.uk.

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Upcoming events

This autumn is well stocked with events relevant to RTIG members, quite apart from our own activities.

The first of these is part of the **European Bus System of the Future 2** project (EBSF2). The event will be free of charge and is open to all, although you do have to register.

The event will not only explain the project's work in building interoperability into multi-vendor on-bus systems – it will have a live on-site demonstration. For more information and to register, see ebsf2.eu/events/ebsf2-london-demo-event-it-standard-introduction-existing-fleets.

A month later, as previously announced, the **Smarter Travel LIVE! 2017** event takes place in Milton Keynes on 19-20 October; RTIG members are eligible for a 25% discount (contact us for details).

There are over a hundred expert speakers in up to six parallel streams over the two day period, as well as some innovative sessions for projects to showcase their successes and ideas. The conference programme is available at landor.co.uk/smartertravel/2017/programme.php.

Shortly after that, there is the **Intelligent Transport 2017** conference in London (31 October), for which once again RTIG members have a 20% discount.

This event incorporates the next iteration of Russell's annual RTPi event, this year alongside three other streams (Smart Ticketing and Payments, MaaS, and Harnessing Passenger Data). Full information is on the website at www.intelligenttransport.com.

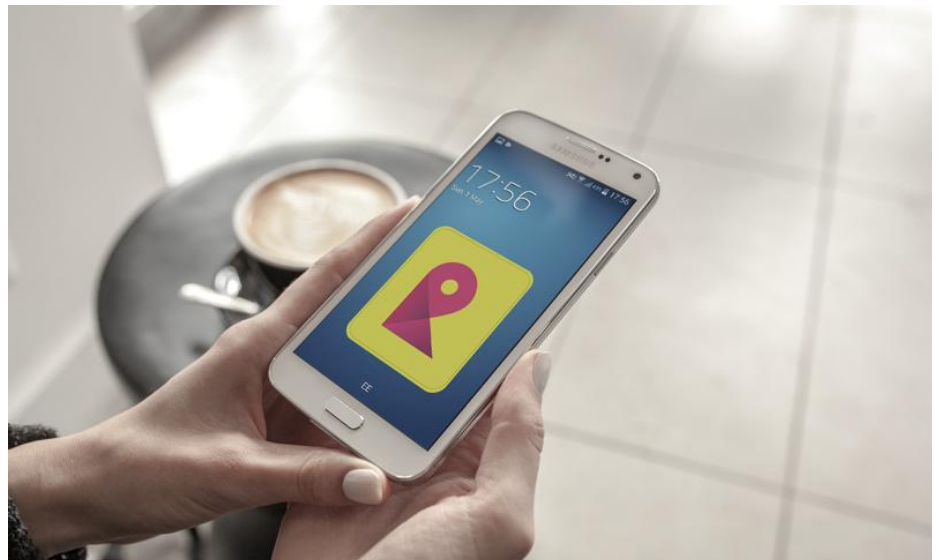
M E M B E R S N E W S

Keeping in touch with you

As well as keeping you up-to-date with all the latest news from RTiG, this newsletter aims to provide a community forum for members. We therefore offer RTiG members the opportunity to submit a short article here on any issue or innovation that might be of interest to the community.

There are two ways of becoming involved in this:

- ▶ Email pieces to us when you have them – press release format is fine and pictures are welcome.
- ▶ Nominate a marketing contact who will be included in the editor's monthly process of 'chivvying'.



M E M B E R S N E W S

REACT Technologies, in partnership with r2p, release innovative app

REACT Technologies, in partnership with r2p, has released its innovative React System app on the Google Play Store for selective testing in Poole, Essex and Derbyshire. The company is welcoming feedback on the app from local councils, display providers and end users to help improve accessibility on public transport for people who are blind or visually impaired, or are living with cognitive or sensory impairments.

The React System is the most widespread platform for 'talking signs' on public transport networks across the UK, activated using a hand-held fob. The React System has undergone updates recently and now uses a Bluetooth 'talk trigger' app on a smart device to activate audio announcements.

The system can also be customised for an individual by saving their 'needs profile'. If the display is capable, it automatically presents information in ways that are most accessible for that person.

If you are interested in providing feedback on the app, please contact REACT Technologies on 01457 861431 or email info@react-tech.com

www.react-tech.com

Engie Ineo launches new features for real-time passenger information

Travellers on the Réseau de Transport de la Capitale (RTC) in Québec City now have access to a new feature on the Nomade application. They can set up an alarm to alert them that a bus is approaching their stop.

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In April 2016, the RTC launched its CAD/AVL system 'Real Time Nomad', developed by Engie Ineo, together with the new 'Nomade' application for passenger information in real time (available on iOS and Android). After a year of successful use, the Nomade application received an award from the Canadian Urban Transport Association (CUTA) for quality and innovation. And now new features are about to be released.

Travellers can now create personalised alerts on their mobile phone to be warned in real time when a bus is arriving at their stop. The alert generates a push notification on the phone together with vibration and sound. The alerts can be customised by route, departure stop, arrival stop, departure time, alerts threshold and day of the week.

www.engie-ineo.fr

NASA GmbH orders on-board computers and software from IVU

The company responsible for public transport in across Saxony-Anhalt – Nahverkehrsservice Sachsen-Anhalt (NASA GmbH) – is integrating real-time data, connection management and e-ticketing.

NASA GmbH has ordered an integrated solution comprising a background system, on-board computers and ticketing software for its state-wide system from IVU for multiple transport operators.

The order covers 570 sets of equipment for buses and trams, including the IVU.ticket.box on-board computer with the IVU.cockpit operating system and IVU.ticket ticketing software.

In addition, IVU is equipping about 70 hand-held devices with software for mobile ticket sales.

M E M B E R S N E W S

IVU.fare is being used as the background system. The transport operators use this to administer fares and customer data and to process settlements. Standardised interfaces ensure a seamless connection to the state-wide INSA AVL.

www.ivu.com

SWPTI uses MENTZ platform to provide real-time information

For the collection, consolidation and dissemination of real-time data within its region, SWPTI (South West Public Transport Information Ltd) requested a concept for central real-time components which orchestrate data streams from required transport authorities and operators in standard formats. This included a Dynamic Data Integration Platform (DDIP) as data broker, an engine to calculate predictions from vehicle positions (AVMLight) and Journey Planner components to provide real-time information to the public.

The DDIP subscribes for standard interfaces such as SIRI ET (estimated timetable) messages from three data providers in the South West region (Ticketer, Swindon Bus and Yellow Bus). Alongside DDIP, SWPTI uses the MENTZ AVMLight as component which subscribes for SIRI VM (vehicle monitoring) messages to convert the bus positions to predictions (SIRI ET and SM as required). The AVMLight system ensures that real-time information from data providers in remote areas can be provided to the public. The baseline data is fed from the existing DIVA system which has been in operation at SWPTI since 2010 and contains all static timetable data which is necessary to match real-time positions and calculate predictions.

www.mentz.net

M E M B E R S N E W S

An evolution in bus stop design

CT Plus Guernsey, part of HCT Group, has installed *OmniSTOPdesign* after seeing it being tested by Omnibus developers last year. Lee Murphy, operations manager, was on a training visit at Omnibus HQ in Hollinwood when he and a colleague were shown the new software and they instantly realised that it represented a huge evolution in bus stop design for them. *OmniSTOPdesign* is now widely used by CT Plus Guernsey along with *OmniTIMES*, *OmniBASE*, *OmniROTA*, *Crewplan*, *OmniMAP* and *TransXChange*.

Lee and his colleague were already using *OmniSTOP* but when they made the switch to *OmniSTOPdesign* they were instantly able to develop their publicity into far more appealing and relevant products.

The software's flexibility has been key for CT Plus Guernsey and enables them to create a range of templates that suit the footfall of the particular stop. For low use stops, they can incorporate adverts. For high use stops they can switch between simple route numbers or destination listings against each time with just one click.

The new designs have impressed their customers who have commented on the clarity of the new signs as well as the reduction of white space, achieved because the system plots in a range of adverts to fill the gaps. *OmniSTOPdesign* has also speeded up the process of changing publicity displays.

www.omnibus.uk.com

A D M I N

Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2017-18 was appointed at the AGM on 15 March 2017. Membership is currently as follows:

Chair: vacant

Members: David Gill (WYCA), Andrew Wilson (Solent), Russell Gard (Nimbus), Jason Stevens-Read (21st Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), Martyn Lewis (Stagecoach), Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses), Sherri Davies (DfT)

The RTiG Chair is vacant as a result of David Brown's departure from TfN. David Gill, Deputy Chair, will act in this role for the time being.

Contact us

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<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8557065>

Next issue

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Please send all contributions to newsletter@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Monday 28 August, 2017.

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