RTiG INFORM

improving public transport through technology

What's on

The calendar below shows key events over the next few months, from RTIG and our associates. For further details of RTIG events please contact secretariat@rtig.org.uk

RTIG Committee
18 September 2019, London

PTIC
18 June 2019, Birmingham

Workshop
26 June 2019, Sheffield
Innovation in Data Analytics

In this issue:

NEWS AND EVENTS

Business Plan 2019

The proposed business plan for 2019/20 was approved at the AGM and is available on the website.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved in any of the work items, then please get in touch with Tim tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk

Newsletter Frequency and Email Alerts

The newsletters are produced on a monthly cycle.

They will be posted on the RTIG website and emailed out to the newsletter contact list.

The email list has been re-started having been reduced to core RTIG member contacts to ensure it is compliant with data protection laws.

If you think a colleague or contact would benefit from receiving the RTIG newsletter then please ask them to fill out the form on the website or use the QR Code.

Membership Invoices

It's the start of the RTIG membership year so we are issuing invoices.

NEWS AND EVENTS

If your arrangements have changed in the last year please get in contact with Dave Rawding Dave.Rawding@rtig.org.uk to let us know so we can make sure we get the invoice to the right location and ensure any PO references are included.

Innovation in Data Analytics Workshop

Our next workshop will be on 26th June 2019 kindly hosted by SYPTE in Sheffield.

The focus is "Innovation in Data Analytics".

During this workshop we will hear from Authorities, Operators and Suppliers on how they are using data analytic tools to explore and present public transport data to achieve maximum impact.
We will look at how real time data can be used as part of funding bids and business cases and how it can be used to tackle congestion and help service provision and quality.

To book your place visit:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/innovation-in-data-analytics-tickets-61161251951?aff=JuneNewsletter

SIRI Updates

As previously raised minor updates to SIRI are being proposed.
This work is taking place over the next couple of months.
If you understand SIRI and want to be involved in commenting and reviewing the proposed changes then please get in touch with Tim tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk

NEWS AND EVENTS

Working Groups

With the new business plan comes some new working groups to help deliver the outcomes.

These working groups are now underway, its not too late to become involved – just get in contact:

Integrating Disruption Information

There are many different systems where disruption information is available which are not normally part of the customer information process. This group will investigate how to practicably integrate the disparate systems in use across public transport: to provide more and consistent disruption information and if appropriate, to produce an advice document

Procurement Advice

This group is working to produce a 'Dummies Guide' to real time system procurement. An initial draft is already available.

We are still looking for volunteers to become involved in these groups which are about to be starting work:

Maintaining an efficient and effective RTI system

Whether you have you have just invested in your shiny new or upgraded system or if you've been running one for years, the challenge of how you maintain it is common to everyone.
We aim to provide an advisory guide on the best practice for keeping a real time system working efficiently and effectively.

RTIG INFORM

N E W S   A N D   E V E N T S

Accuracy and quality of real time predictions

Following questions at the last two workshops there it is clear that there is not sufficient common understanding across the community on how to effectively measure the performance of predictions.
This group will produce a guide on how to measure the quality and accuracy of predictions.

If anyone wants to become involved in any of the groups then please feel free to discuss or commit by getting in contact with Tim
tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk .

I N

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N E W S

Bus Services Act 2017 Update

The latest updates from the DfT Bus Open Data Programme is:

We want the information on local bus services to be available to all passengers across England and to be as good as or better than that available to rail passengers and bus users in London

NaPTAN

The Bus Open Data project team has been working to create a tool for users to help improve the quality of NaPTAN data. NaPTAN stop identifiers are fundamental to bus data and will be critical to the success of the Bus Open Data Digital Service. However, NaPTAN quality checking software from Passenger and ITO World has detected thousands of data errors, with Passenger estimating a 4% NaPTAN error rate. We are aiming to solve this problem through the creation of a new NaPTAN tool that will allow users to make NaPTAN changes through a single one-off update, through a spreadsheet.

The decision to pursue a one-off change with the new tool, rather than reforming the current DfT NaPTAN system was taken because of considerations regarding future usage. In the future open data, and in particular location data, may enable automatic correction of NaPTAN data with a higher certainty – potentially making the existing system unnecessary.

Early testing of the tool, conducted with Nottinghamshire County Council was successful and the focus will now be upon testing with other local transport authorities to establish whether NaPTAN changes can effectively be made through the spreadsheet based approach.

I N   O T H E R   N E W S

Data Quality

A key goal of the Bus Open Data programme is to improve the quality of data published through the Bus Open Data Digital Service and support the industry to become increasingly data literate. As part of this ambition, the Bus Open Data project team has been considering a number of approaches to improve the quality of data submitted to the digital service and help operators understand how to improve the quality of their data. These have been taken to Programme Board and Implementation Group meetings to get feedback from a range of stakeholders.

The Bus Open Data Digital Service will provide two separate levels of checks. The first stage will be a validation check to ensure that uploaded files are in the correct TransXChange format, ensure that they are in XML format, the correct schema, and that all mandatory fields have been completed. Once this stage has been passed, uploaded files will go through a second stage of enhanced quality checking which will provide a more detailed analysis of the data where approximately 20 checks are performed on the datasets identifying issues such as: missing stops, duplicate services and incorrect stop orders.

A web-based report and quality score is then generated for the data publisher listing any errors or warnings. This will allow the operators to understand the areas of data that can be improved before deciding whether to submit their data to the Digital Service. Data consumers will also be made aware of the quality of the data they are using to power their applications.

I N   O T H E R   N E W S

European Standards post Brexit

We have received a few questions recently about what will happen with standards such as SIRI in a post Brexit environment.

The UK's national standards body is the BSI and it is the BSI which is a member of international standards bodies including CEN, CENELEC and ISO.

In November the General Assemblies of the European Standards Organizations CEN and CENELEC approved a plan that secures BSI's full membership post-Brexit.

Both organisations are private bodies, and therefore not part of the EU's institutional framework, and BSI's continues its membership which enables UK industry and other stakeholders to continue their important work shaping and maintaining best practice standards used across Europe and internationally. They also mean that UK experts will continue as chairs, convenors, committee members and policy experts to work on maintaining and developing the European standards that are managed by CEN and CENELEC.

Importantly standards users in the UK can continue to be confident that the standards will meet their needs as they will be influenced, as they are now, by UK stakeholders.

In addition, preparations are still taking place across government to ensure that, in the case of the UK leaving the EU without a deal on 31 October to ensure regulatory continuity continue. This involves the introduction of regulations under the New Legislative Framework including, for certain legislation, a new UK regulatory mark that will be affixed to products or their packaging.

The role of this UKCA mark will be to support the authorities and provide clarity to manufacturers

IN OTHER NEWS

placing products on the market in the UK post-Brexit. In addition, on standards, the concept of 'harmonised standards' will be transferred into the UK legal order identically to become 'designated standards'. From exit day the relevant Secretary of State will cite designated standards for the purposes of providing a presumption of conformity with the applicable regulation, in the same way as the European Commission cites European standards.

The relevant Statutory Instrument enabling the creation of this framework for the majority of New legislative Framework regulations was formally adopted in the House of Commons on 20 March and will enter into force on the effective date of Brexit in the case of no-deal.

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'.

A 21st Century totem at the newly refurbished Walsall bus station.

M E M B E R S   N E W S

VIX Launch Battery Powered Display

Our new battery powered display option mounted outside the Cambridge Vix office.

Taking 5 minutes to install and has a 3-year battery life.

Working with our partners Axentia, we're expanding our portfolio of sign types, and are looking forward to rolling these out across systems in the UK and Ireland.

The launch of these displays marks the latest stage in our continued investment and commitment into our RTI solutions portfolio

MEMBERS NEWS

Bus Safety Innovation Challenge 2019

Transport for London are working hard to achieve Vision Zero: a commitment of zero deaths or serious injuries on London's roads and public transport network by 2041. London's Buses are key to this and we're pleased to announce the launch of the Bus Safety Innovation Challenge, which will help us achieve this. 🎯

The Innovation Challenge aims to identify new, innovative products and solutions which will improve the safety of the London bus network.

We are looking for products which will address known safety issues on London buses, or reduce the harm caused to known casualty groups.

https://madeby.tfl.gov.uk/2019/04/17/bus-safety-innovation-challenge/

Investing in new 'smart' tools to improve public transport information and data

Trapeze Group UK and Ito World have won contracts from TfN to deliver an 'Open Data Hub' and 'Disruption Messaging Tool' respectively. Both initiatives are part of Phase Two of the £150 million, Department for Transport funded, Integrated and Smart Travel (IST) programme.

A recent TfN customer insight survey (Ipsos Mori, 2019) revealed that there is a clear passenger need and opportunity to enhance the information passengers receive when travelling on public transport. Phase Two of IST – 'Customer information, collaboration and innovation' – will do this by extending the same open source fares data and disruption information experience that rail passengers currently enjoy, to bus and tram journeys.

MEMBERS NEWS

IST ultimately aims to deliver 'London-style' account-based ticketing with contactless capped payments on multi-mode, multi-operator public transport journeys across the North of England.

The Open Data Hub will be a pan-Northern tool for local authorities and operators to collate and host transport data such as fares and disruption information. This information will then be made openly available to suppliers of journey planning apps and other data developers to provide to passengers. The £260,000 hub is being delivered by global mobility technology solution provider Trapeze Group UK. It is expected to go live in December 2019.

The £500,000 contract for the Disruptions Messaging Tool was secured by transport and mobility data specialist, Ito World. The tool will allow for planned and unplanned disruption messaging to be rapidly shared across social media and on-street displays, to keep public transport customers up to date with anything affecting their journeys.

Barry White, Chief Executive at Transport for the North, said: "We are pleased to be able to award the contracts for both our Open Data Hub and Disruptions Messaging Tool after a competitive procurement process.

"This is a further investment in the North's public transport network and enables us to deliver improvements to the way passengers find out about and travel across the region. Wherever you are going, journeys on public transport should be simple and easy to plan for. By providing quality, open and reliable data, these 'smart' innovations will help make getting from A to B an improved and more seamless experience."

Johan Herrlin, CEO at Ito World, said: "We are delighted to be working on this pioneering project with TfN, who have had the foresight to understand the power of unified and quality data.

M E M B E R S   N E W S

More and more we are looking to shared mobility services as economic and environmentally sound alternatives to private car travel. However, we need easily accessible, accurate data if we are going to successfully navigate public transport systems – whether in rural or urban locations. Access to open data sources are a crucial piece of the data puzzle."

Tim Porter, CEO of Trapeze Group in the UK, commented: "The availability of accurate, consistent and reliable data is the foundation of any public transport service – and vital in order to deliver on our goal of increasing modal shift. Trapeze is therefore excited to be part of this project and to help deliver enhanced public transport services across the region."

ADMIN

Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2019-209 was appointed at the AGM on 12 March 2019. Membership is currently as follows:

Chair:

Members: Andrew Wilson (Hants), Graham Davies (WYCA), Russell Gard (React Accessibility), Darren Maher (21st Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), Chas Allen (Stagecoach), Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses), Meera Nayyar (DfT)

Contact us

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

Next issue

Issue 119 – Monday 1st July 2019.

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Wednesday 26th June 2019.

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