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

Spring Meeting and AGM
19 March 2018, Leeds

PTIC
5 June 2018, London

Intelligent Transport 2018 (Russell)
1-2 November 2018, London (TBC)

* = To be confirmed

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

Spring Meeting, 19 March: Bus Data

A reminder that RTIG's main annual event – the Spring Meeting – will be held in Leeds on 19 March 2018. We will be hosted by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

The Bus Services Act 2017 is now on the statute books, *inter alia* obliging bus operators to provide a wide range of data about their services (see below). If there is one thing that RTIG knows about, it is the challenges in getting good bus data out of systems and into decisions (both professional and customer). So, we have taken this as a cue to put together a broad ranging programme of talks on the subject.

Representing current good practice, we will be showcasing the systems of our host authority. David Gill (WYCA) will speak not only about how things are done in West Yorkshire, but also about the years of hard work that have gone into a Yorkshire-wide system. Spreading the net still wider, Ginny Leonard (TfN) will give an update on the programme in place to update, improve and align systems across the whole of North England.

For the industry, we welcome presentations from Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses) and Russell Gard (R2P/Nimbus). Between them, they will be talking about the opportunities than an open data approach offers, not only to passengers but also to lively development within the industry. They will be looking at some of the real-world challenges that arise in getting it right.

At the core of the day, we are delighted to have an update from Meera Nayyar (DfT), presenting the progress on delivering the open data elements of the Act. She will inform us about the step-by-step mechanisms happening within Government in order to turn the legislative aims into concrete regulation, and to deliver the systems that are necessary to support it.

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

Finally we will be getting a perspective on how this initiative fits in with the future of mobility more generally, from Atkins (who are also, kindly, paying for lunch).

Registration is now open. Members should by now have received a direct invitation; please let us know in the usual way.

Bus open data: update

In the last issue we mentioned the work being done Deloitte under a "discovery" project for DfT, helping to prepare for the open data elements of the Bus Services Act. During the first half of February, a series of meetings was held around the country to brief industry on the initial findings.

One of these was embedded within the latest PTIC meeting (7 February). This was a lively event, and raised a number of issues, including in particular how the emerging approach could ensure the accuracy, timeliness, relevance and completeness of data – both as provided by operators and (more importantly) as presented to passengers.

The project team has now, we understand, presented to the Programme Board, and it is anticipated that DfT will begin to announce its conclusions, and consult on future approach, over the next few months.

AGM 2018

We'll be taking a small amount of time at the Spring Meeting on 19 March to hold our AGM. As usual the main purpose of this is to appoint the Committee for the coming year, and to discuss the Business Plan.

NEWS AND EVENTS

This year we will not be needing any ballots for Committee membership. We are therefore delighted to confirm that Ben Gilligan, Director of Public Transport at South Yorkshire PTE, will be the new RTIG Chair.

Other Committee members are largely continuing in post, but there are a couple of changes. Darren Maher (21st Century) is stepping back and being replaced by his colleague Richard Holland. Sherri Davis, our DfT representative, is moving on to work on dangerous vehicles (for which we have hopefully given her some useful background), and will be replaced by Meera Nayyar, DfT's Passenger Experience Team Leader.

Our thanks go to Darren and Sherri for their enthusiastic and insightful contributions to RTIG's work.

Current Working Groups

The following Working Groups are currently active:

- **Information presentation WG** – background work is underway to update the RTIG Guide *Meeting the needs of disabled travellers*, and to take forward the other group documents.

- **PTIC** (joint with ATCO and Traveline) – met at CPT in London, on 6 February 2018, with the main topic being the presentation of findings by Deloitte during its DfT discovery project (see main text). The next meeting is scheduled for 5 June 2018.

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 .

I N   O T H E R   N E W S

Standards update

There is more news than average on the standards front this month.

Most significantly, perhaps, is the proposed revision by CEN of all three parts of the NeTEx specification (Part 1 for routes, Part 2 for timetables and Part 3 for fares). Alongside this, there is a proposal to create a "Passenger Information Profile" specifically geared to the requirements of the National Access Point required under EC Directive.

For the UK, the move to Brexit is very unlikely to be relevant for this. Whatever may be agreed as part of the transition arrangements post-March 2019, it is almost certain that the Profile will be adopted here too (and indeed the UK expects to be closely involved in its creation).

Separately, IFOPT (the richer European version of NaPTAN) is up for review. A lot of IFOPT is now embedded in NeTEx, of course, but they remain separate for the time being.

Elsewhere, as the London EBSF2 demonstrator draws to a close – as noted in the Members' News – the specifications it has been trialling are moving closer to standardisation. One of the associated standards (CEN TS13149-7, covering on-bus network architecture) is up for review during 2018; comments are being accepted from now.

Finally, CEN has recently begun a range of new standards projects, specifically targeting urban systems. These projects cover the multi-vendor environment, traffic management, and systems for new mobility modes.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more about any of these projects.

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'.
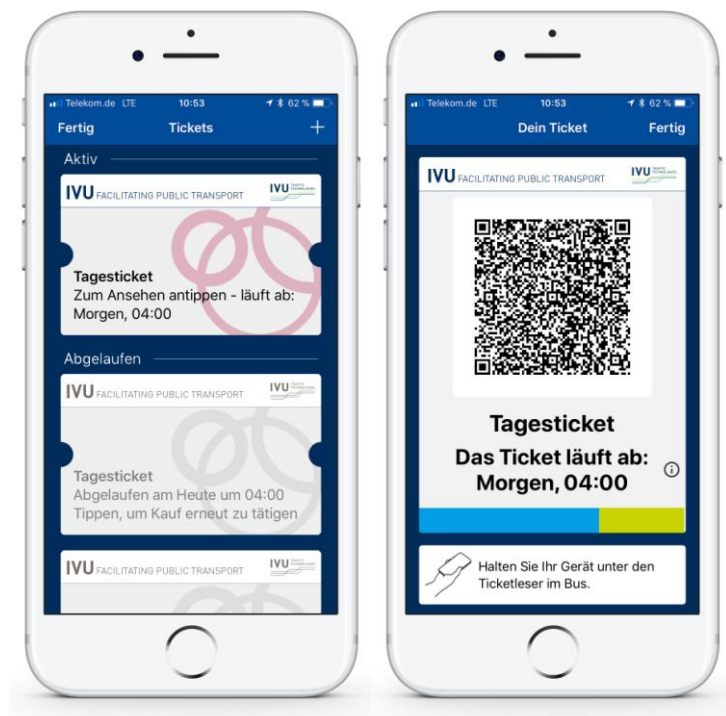
MEMBERS NEWS

Award for London's EBSF2 project

Congratulations to the team working on London's EBSF2 demonstrator project. The project won the award for "most innovative transport project" at the London Transport Awards event on 1 March 2018.

The aim of the project was to improve the way that bus operational systems integrate with each other, both on-bus and between vehicle and back office.

The EBSF2 London Demo project is a collaboration between TfL, Digimobee, Engie Ineo, Hogia, Init, IVU, Pilotfish, Trapeze and RTIG. In the project, four vehicles, operated by bus operator Metroline, were fitted with different manufacturers' on-board equipment. Using open standard protocols the data from and to these systems was transmitted to one of four back office systems, again, from different suppliers. For the first time, all of the different on-board systems were able to be seen on any of the back-office service control systems, thus proving interoperability.

In addition, the project looked at some of the physical challenges of dealing with on-bus systems. Currently every system on a bus (ticketing, CCTV, passenger counting, driver behaviour) requires a separate IT infrastructure. In this project, the aim has been to pre-prepare vehicles with standardised ducting etc, making it much easier both to install IT systems and to replace them within the lifetime of the vehicle. If adopted across the fleet, TfL anticipates that this will reduce retrofitting of equipment times by up to 40%.

The EBSF2 project is a testbed, and until it finishes in April 2018 it is actively monitoring not only operational aspects such as system uptime, but also factors such as installation time for equipment.

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For more information on the EBSF2 project please visit http://ebsf2.eu/.

PS It's too late to register, but the EBSF2 project as a whole has a "results event" in Budapest on 9 March, under the title "innovations in bus technology". We'll try to get some insight on what happens there.

IVU unveils new IVU.ticket app for mobile ticketing

IVU has unveiled its new IVU.ticket.app for mobile ticketing. The streamlined software comes complete with a connection search tool and generates VDV-KA compliant barcode tickets for bus and rail travel. Users can easily log in via their existing Facebook or Google accounts and store their payment method directly in the app for fast ticket purchasing.

When used with the settlement software IVU.fare, extensive evaluation functions are available to transport operators. In addition, the tried and tested on-board computer IVU.ticket.box is now equipped for cashless payment by credit card and debit card – and totally contactless payment without PIN entry is now also possible on request.

www.ivu.com

ADMIN

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), Darren Maher (21st Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), Chas Allen (Stagecoach), Tony Pettitt (Reading Buses), Sherri Davies (DfT)

David Gill was appointed Deputy Chair at the first Committee meeting of the year, and is acting as chair for the time being.

The Committee for 2018-19 will be confirmed at the AGM on 19 March 2018.

Contact us

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Next issue

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Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Monday 2nd April, 2018.

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