RTIG INFORM

improving public transport through technology

Members Edition **July 2022 – Issue 155**

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

Physical Workshops
21 Sept 2022 Improving Bus Services Using Data (Birmingham)

RTIG Virtual Workshops
12 July 2022   Introduction to Standards
11 August 2022 Introduction to the Display Interface Protocol
22 August 2022 ABODS: Local Authority Workshop
25 August 2022 ABODS: Operator Workshop

For booking details see the website.

Working Groups
Procurement of Software as a Service
CCTV Technology & Best Practice

Committee
8 September 2022, Virtual

PTIC
29 September 2022, Virtual

Bus Open Data Service Events
the full list of regularly updated events here:
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bus-open-data-service-31561104991

NEWS & EVENTS

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.

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.

RTIG on Twitter

RTIG is now on twitter as @RtigInform

https://twitter.com/RtigInform

Photo Library

To help liven up RTIG printed and digital outputs we are interested in receiving any images of public transport information real time or otherwise that you would be happy for us to use.

We will of course credit the appropriate source if published.

If you have any material, you would be able to let us have access to please contact Tim tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk

Working Groups

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

NEWS & EVENTS

Hearing Loops

During the pandemic, bus operators introduced Perspex screens between the driver and passenger to help provide protection from COVID-19. This barrier increased the challenge for passengers and drivers who have hearing problems.

The use of audio induction loops (hearing aid loops) and other solutions will help to alleviate some of the resultant problems.

The requirement will form part of the future vehicle requirements as seen in the new zero-emission buses scheme.

We will be producing an advice note for operators.
If you want to be involved in the group creating this then please let us know.

CCTV Technology & Best Practice

In the 15 years since RTIG last produced guidance on CCTV there have been many changes in the technology available and its capabilities.

We are convening a working group to create updated advice on CCTV. We current expect this to cover different camera and recording technologies, and good practice advice on management of images, installation and maintenance.

If you want to be involved in the working group exploring this then please let us know.

To get involved in this group please get in touch
tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk

N E W S & E V E N T S

Procurement of Software as a Service

With an increasing move by software suppliers to supply services on a Software as a Service (SaaS) basis, the approach to procurement needs to change to reflect this shift.

Traditional procurement and contract arrangements need to be updated to reflect the requirements and expectations of SaaS.

We have convened a working group to create guidance on how to better procure SaaS systems.

We've had our first meeting and ideas for the report are being developed.

If you want to be involved in the working group exploring this then please let us know.

To get involved in this group please get in touch tim.rivett@rtig.org.uk

Towards Net Zero Carbon

The UK government has introduced ambitious goals for the UK to become net-zero carbon by 2050 and transport is the largest source of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions in the UK - damaging both the environment and public health.

In addition, the UK government's recent De-Carbonising Transport report outlines a strategy for reducing overall car use, promoting the "natural first choice" to be public transport and emissions-free modes of travel like walking and cycling.

We all need to address the climate crisis and RTIG is reviewing its activities to take the necessary steps to ensure our own climate impact is reduced; and to assist with and promote, the actions public transport takes to reduce its carbon footprint.

The report that is underway on the Environmental Impact of Displays is the first piece of work.

We want to know what we should do next?
How can we help you and your organisations better understand your impacts?
How can we help you reduce your impact?

Please let us know what we can do to help and what you want us to work on.

Standard Interface for CMS to RTI Displays

Transport for Wales would like to specify a standard interface between the Content Management System and RTI Displays, that suppliers would need to comply/work with to enable TfW to procure a single CMS that can interface to multiple displays from a number of suppliers.

The standard will specify the minimum capability that is to be expected of all displays supported through the interface (i.e. be able to represent real time vehicle arrival/departure information, text based messages and hold the scheduled timetable for at least that day's services).

The interface will cater for the following:
- Basic text based displays

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- Graphical displays - in addition to the minimum capability, also be able to provide additional information such as weather, news feeds, advertising, information videos etc.
- Off grid displays - these will not have ready access to power and may not have significant data bandwidth available to show graphical content.
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The first two parts:
- Part 1 - Architecture
- Part 2 – Core Content Messages

Have been published:
https://rtig.org.uk/projects/CMS_PID_Interface

The latest draft of Part 3 on Graphical content is available for review can be found at:
https://www.rtig.org.uk/projects/CMS_PID_Interface

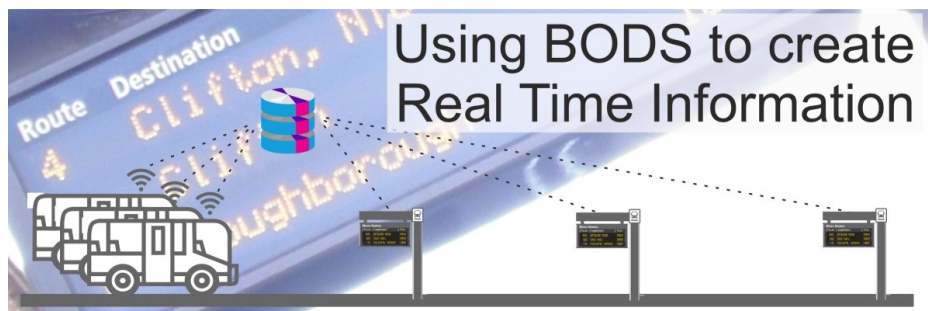The working groups are reviewing the graphical display.

Past Webinars

All our previous webinars have been recorded and available on our YouTube channel:

https://www.rtig.org.uk/youtube

## Using BODS Data to create real time information

With the introduction of the Bus Open Data Service from the DfT it is easier than ever to access public transport data. How can timetable and location data be used to create real time information for customers?

If you've never used public transport data before then this session will introduce you to the concepts of how you can use timetable and location data to create real time information for customers - the countdown information you see on a bus stop display or on a phone app.

You will find out how the the data from the Bus Open Data Service can be used and the importance, if you are a bus operator or supplier to bus operators, of making sure the data you supply to the different data feeds matches.

https://youtu.be/ZVGIrmSSlzk

Sharing Disruption Information
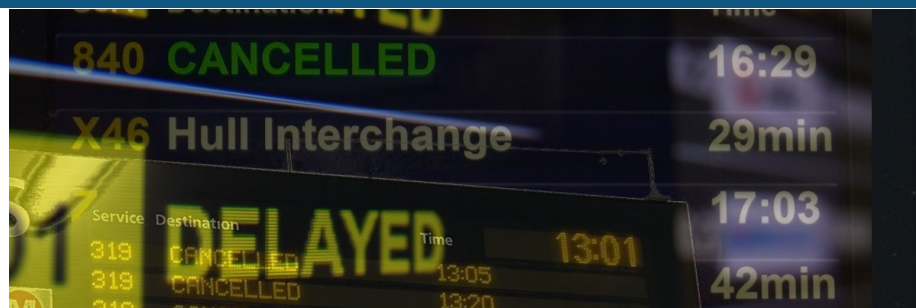
Passengers expect more information about disruptions and the impact on their journey than ever before.

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Transport Focus research into bus passengers' experience of delays and disruption found that passengers wanted better information, particularly real-time information and a greater customer focus from bus drivers, particularly in respect of information provision.

if you know about a disruption either in advance or in real time as it happens, how can you share information effectively between systems so that all passengers receive the same information no matter what App or website they choose to use?

In this webinar we will look at how SIRI, GTFS and other formats can be used to shared disruption information efficiently between back office systems and customers.

https://youtu.be/BDQlhQmCIns

Upcoming Events

Introduction to Standards

This is a joint event with the BSI and our friends at ITS (UK) to present a webinar for ITS practitioners who want to find out more about how standards are developed and used in the transport technology sector. It will cover public transport standards as well as those for CAV, traffic management, comms etc!
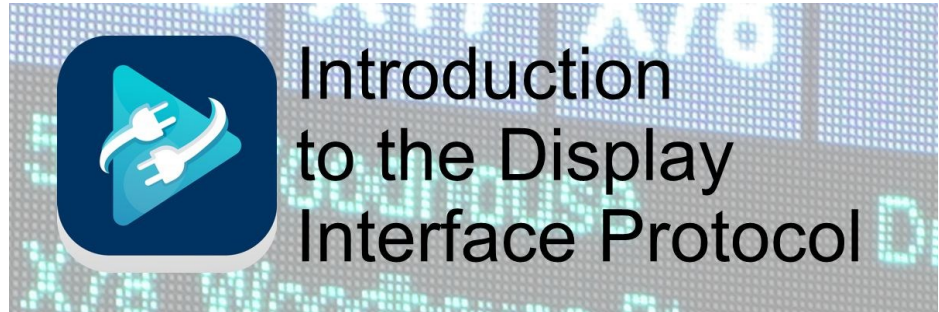
A full agenda will be posted nearer the time.

12 July 10:00 – 11:30

You are welcome to book your place now using the eventbrite link.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/its-uk-rtig-bsi-introduction-to-standards-webinar-tickets-294910153207

Introduction to the Display Interface Protocol

Earlier this year we released the first part of a standard for the way that displays communicate with content management systems.

These first parts have been developed in conjunction with Transport for Wales as part of their Welsh real time system developments.

The standard specifies the minimum capability that is to be expected of all displays supported through the interface (i.e. be able to represent real time vehicle arrival/departure information, text based messages and hold the scheduled timetable for at least that day's services).

In an earlier webinar we introduced MQTT, the underlying technology, in this session we will look at the principles behind the standard interface and how it uses MQTT and some architectural considerations if you are planning to use the standard.

Thursday 11 August 13:00
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-the-display-interface-protocol-tickets-375993926957

Improving Bus Services Using Data

Managing bus services is increasingly complex with changing customer needs and expectations, increasing congestion and the introduction of Bus Partnerships .

Providing quality information to customers and understanding network performance is more important than ever before. The use, and presentation, of data can help ensure routes are as efficient as possible, customers are properly informed and the inevitable operational challenges are managed effectively.

In this day conference you will find out how operators are using data to manage bus services in more efficient ways than previously possible to optimise schedules and live operations.

You will hear about ways data is being used for:
• Reporting and analysis. Monitoring route and network performance, as well as identifying where there are congestion and delay hot spots and future network planning
• Bus priority at traffic lights.
• Information to customers.
• Live operations, allowing operators and traffic management teams to intervene in real time to identify incidents and delays so they can intervene quickly to reduce the impact to customers.

We are holding this event in Birmingham to ensure it is as easily to get to from as many places as possible.

The IBIS Birmingham New Street Conference Centre is located just 5 minutes walk from the main station Birmingham New Street Station.

Wednesday 21 September, 10:30 – 15:45
https://rtig-improve-bus-services.eventbrite.co.uk/

D f T   N E W S

Analyse Bus Open Data Workshops - August
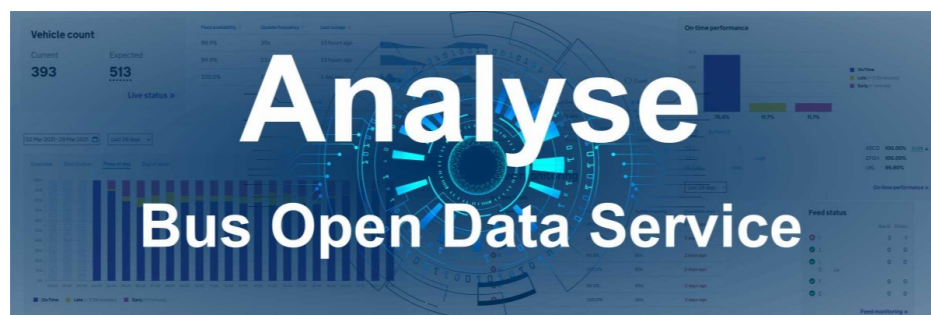
In August 2022 we will be holding workshops that will explore some items currently on the development road map and seek to identify what new features and functions local authorities would like to see in ABODS.

There will one focused on Authority requirements on 22nd August 14:00 - 16:00

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/analyse-bus-open-data-local-authority-workshop-tickets-372833002547

There will one focused on Operator requirements on 25th August 14:00 - 16:00

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/analyse-bus-open-data-operator-workshop-tickets-372840364567

Bus Priority Guidance Update

The National Bus Strategy, Bus Back Better, included a commitment to update the guidance to local authorities on implementing bus priority solutions across their networks. The DfT is now taking forward this commitment and have appointed the Arup/Aecom consortium to support them with the update to the Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/97: Bus Priority Guidelines.

This project represents an important opportunity to review and update LTN 1/97 on Bus Priority with a renewed focus on the value of a reliable and efficient bus system that can compete equally with car travel and provide choice and accessibility for local communities.

Research will cover all types of bus priority interventions (physical infrastructure schemes and technology schemes) available/soon to be available to Local Transport Authorities in England.
The project will look at current capacity, provision, and obstacles; and what is needed to embed good practice across Local Transport Authorities going forward.

Guidance will cover good practice on engagement with stakeholders on bus priority schemes, guiding Local Transport Authorities on how to identify and engage their stakeholders – including stakeholders who may be negatively affected by some kinds of bus priority interventions.

RTIG has been invited to be a member of the Steering Group for this work. We will keep you updated as the work progresses.

NaPTAN

New NaPTAN Upload service

We have been testing the NaPTAN Upload with a small group of users and in July we will be asking all data producers to take part. This also means that in July the new NaPTAN website will start to change as we accommodate more features such as Upload and the new Last Updated page. We will also be using this as an opportunity to gradually introduce a proper homepage, new help content and the new NPTG service.

Look out for the changes as they will happen incrementally over the coming weeks. If you have any concerns or issues, you can always contact us at naptan.nptg@dft.gov.uk

New Last Updated page

You can use this page to see when a local authority last updated their data.
We had to create a new Last Updated page so that uploads to either the new or old NaPTAN could be seen in one place. This will be available from next week and accessed from the new Website.

For a short while there will be two Last Updated pages. We recommend you check the New NaPTAN one first. If the local authority is not there, it is because they have uploaded anything

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since the 28 June 2022. The old page will continue to show the date that they last uploaded, until we retire it at the end of August.
Join the second tranche of Private Beta upload

We are getting ready for our GDS assessment to allow us to go into Public Beta. While we are preparing this, we wanted to invite anyone who was in a local authority and is uploading NaPTAN to contact us, and join the Private Beta.

We would get you an account on the new system and ask that you upload using New NaPTAN service. We might ask you to a feedback session to let us know how you are finding the system. If you'd like to be involved – please contact Adrian – adrian.falconer@dft.gov.uk

traintaxi: helping people back onto public transport

It's been a tough couple of years for public transport.
Therefore, our validated and maintained traintaxi data is currently available on free licence to bona fide users via our API.
Full details and the spec can be found at
https://cabguideuk.info/licensing-our-unique-data/

Since we started traintaxi in 2000, our data has helped many people bridge "those final few miles" when — for one reason or another — walking, cycling, bus or tram aren't realistic options. It facilitates modal switching from car to public transport, especially over longer distances.
paul@traintaxi.co.uk

UK-based sat-nav trial to augment GPS performance

London satellite company Inmarsat is testing an overlay system to improve the performance of GPS signals received in the UK.

Britain's withdrawal from the European Union means it is no longer involved in the bloc's Galileo sat-nav system, nor its augmentation service called Egnos.

Overlay systems can reduce the errors in standard sat-nav fixes from metres down to just centimetres.

They're particularly useful in giving planes additional assurance in landing.

This is especially so in bad weather. But in the future, they're likely to play an increasing role across the transport sector as

vehicles become more automated. Driverless trains, boats, trucks, buses and cars will be big beneficiaries.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-61723805

Arup-AECOM consortium to lead revision of local authority bus priority guidance for Department for Transport

An Arup-AECOM consortium has been appointed to update the UK Government's guidance to local authorities on delivering bus priority across England.

The work will be a key part of the Department for Transport's Bus Back Better: National Bus Strategy, which involves increasing bus priority schemes to help make services faster, more reliable, more attractive to passengers and cheaper to run.

The new guidance will assist local authorities in the planning, design and delivery of bus priority measures. In developing the guidance, there will be engagement with local authorities as well as other agencies to understand key requirements and best practice, while taking on board the latest technological advances to enable better bus services for communities across England.

MEMBERS NEWS

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 Journeo 28" stretched TFT, double sided, pole mounted unit in Nottingham

MEMBERS NEWS

UK's first off-grid bus station opens in Wellington, Telford

The council has worked with suppliers Etesian Green and Journeo to create an 'off-grid' station where power is generated by multi-directional wind turbines and solar panels producing renewable, carbon-free energy.

The management platform is one of the most advanced in the UK and features real-time arrival and departure information on intelligent display screens throughout the station, along with live updates on disruption, delays and events.
Telford & Wrekin Council opened the UK's first bus station to generate its own electricity, in a bid to further reduce the carbon footprint of the borough and meet our ambitious target for net zero by 2030.

Energy available day and night will be harnessed, with each individual shelter generating approximately 820 kilowatt-hours a year, enough electricity to supply a house for three months. This energy will power the lighting, CCTV and live timetable information boards in the shelters.

Every shelter is constructed using hundreds of recycled plastic bottles. The shelter roofs are also put to work thanks to a low-growing plant called 'sedum', giving back to nature with pockets

MEMBERS NEWS

of urban wilderness, providing a home for insects and bees and absorbing carbon.

Over the lifespan of the bus station, carbon savings of 55 metric tons will be achieved, the same as planting more than 750 new trees.

It's not just energy saving measures that have been incorporated into the station; the passenger information technology includes improved accessibility and security features such as voice and push button announcements and CCTV cameras built into the digital screens

PATW Test High Bright Displays

It was on the hottest and brightest day of 2022 so far, that we decided to live test our High Bright, sunlight readable displays.

Here you can see the sun is shining directly onto it at midday, and it has a crystal clear image with a super sharp focus.

Contact us to find out more
https://www.patwis.co.uk/

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A D M I N

Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2022-2023 was appointed at the AGM on 23 March 2022. Membership is currently as follows:

Chair: Tony Brown

Members: Sonya Sparks (Essex), Graham Davies (WYCA), Russell Gard (React Accessibility), Darren Maher (21st Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), George Connell (Stagecoach), Simon Gold (Reading Buses), Meera Nayyar (DfT)

Contact us

Best by email: secretariat@rtig.org.uk.

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

Next issue

Issue 156 – Monday 1st August 2022.

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Thursday 28th July 2022.