

## improving public transport through technology

#### **October 2017 - Issue 102**

#### 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

#### **Smarter Travel LIVE (Landor)**

19-20 October 2017, Milton Keynes

#### **Intelligent Transport (Russell)**

31 October 2017, London

#### **CEN TC278 WG3 SG1**

TBC

#### **Information presentation WG**

14 November 2017, London

## RTIG Workshop – the future of communications

7 December 2017, Guildford

#### **Spring Meeting and AGM**

March 2018, details TBC

\* = To be confirmed

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# N E W S

## A N D

# EVENTS

#### RTIG workshop: 7 December 2017

We're delighted to announce now – after some delays – the date for the next RTIG workshop: it will be held at our secretariat offices in Guildford, on Thursday 7 December.

As well as the usual updates we are delighted to give you another chance to hear from London's experience in the EBSF2 project, which has been trialling a range of emerging standards for multisupplier system integration.

We'll also be talking about the current status of connected vehicle technologies, including what's been happening in Birmingham's trials of mobilebased services linking vehicles to traffic signals.

As ever, members have free places but nonmembers are welcome for a small fee. A full agenda will be circulated nearer the time.

## New open protocol for accessibility information - update

We mentioned last month that we have received submission regarding an update to the REACT suite of products.

We've now had a chance to look at the proposals in detail, and while RTIG is not able to formally recommend this solution – it is still subject to a few licence conditions – we do think it's worth serious consideration.

In our opinion, the new REACT proposals currently offer the most open, flexible and practical approach to disability-friendly public transport information. It offers good scope to become an industry norm, and we'd like to encourage all relevant suppliers to explore whether it is beneficial to them.



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## E V E N T S

With luck, this will enable a significant improvement in the cost-benefit calculation for accessible transport services.

RTIG is currently drafting a position paper which lays out its views and analysis in more detail.

#### **Current Working Groups**

The following Working Groups are currently active:

- Information presentation WG –
   unfortunately we had to postpone the
   meeting scheduled for 19 September, which
   is intended to focus on the update to RTIG's
   guidance on Guide Meeting the needs of
   disabled travellers. The next meeting is now
   planned for 14 November, in London as
   usual.
- PTIC (joint with ATCO and Traveline) the group met on 3 October to discuss various issues of data standards and management. The next meeting is currently being arranged.

If you don't yet participate in one of these groups but would like to do so, please contact us at <a href="mailto:secretariat@rtig.org.uk">secretariat@rtig.org.uk</a>.



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#### Don't forget ...

RTIG is supporting two commercial conference events this month – and members have access to beneficial delegate rates:

- Smarter Travel LIVE! 2017 is in Milton Keynes on 19-20 October; RTIG members are eligible for a 25% discount (contact us for details). The conference programme is available at landor.co.uk/smartertravel/2017/programme .php.
- The Intelligent Transport 2017 conference takes place in London on 31 October; RTIG members have a 20% discount. Full information is on the website at www.intelligenttransport.com.

#### **TfN and Traveline strategic partnership**

Transport for the North (TfN) and Traveline Information Limited have announced a strategic partnership to deliver a fares information project for the North of England and Great Britain.

Phase 1 will deliver single, return, day and longer season ticket fares for bus, ferry and light rail as part of existing information services and for publication as open data. TfN will concentrate on pilot development and stakeholder engagement in the North, particularly with SMEs. Traveline will provide technical advice and oversight during procurement and roll out, and will undertake supplier and stakeholder engagement across Great Britain.

Phase 1 Fares data will begin to appear on traveline.info in Q1 2018.



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In support of this project, TfN will be running a hack day with the Open Data Institute in Leeds on 10th October, where app developers and data enthusiasts will be provided existing fares information to create prototypes that improve the presentation of fares data for customers.

#### **DfT publishes LSTF impact summary**

UK readers will recall that a few years ago, DfT ran a programme called the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF), in which local authorities bid for a share of some £500m of funding for improvement schemes. The programme itself finished in 2015, and DfT has just published the summary report of an independent impact assessment.

The report makes a good ready-reference book for local project ideas, and evidence to support them. It also highlights some interesting "lessons learned", including:

- "The inclusion of both revenue and capital funding was a major strength of the programme"
- "Consider a longer funding period to allow for more effective implementation and provide better value for money"
- "Competitive funding programmes offer a way to encourage innovation and take good practice to the next level up, but they are not a substitute for core funding"
- "Structured opportunities for projects to share experience and to collaborate (e.g. through regionally-based or theme-based 'communities of practice') could improve programme outcomes"



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Unsurprisingly, RTIG strongly supports these conclusions, especially the last one!

The report can be found on the Government website at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/648822/local-sustainable-transport-fund-impact-summary-report.pdf.



## 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'.





# N E W S

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century brings RTPI to Plymouth passengers

Real Time Passenger Information displays in Plymouth have been blank for nine months. Now, thanks to 21<sup>st</sup> Century, passengers will be able to get up to the moment travel data once again. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century RTPI upgrade covers all 85 stops in the city and comes after the screens were turned off in December while a new provider was sought.

21<sup>st</sup> Century renovated existing equipment from the previous provider where possible, in order to conserve public funds. Repair was not possible to over half of the displays and where this was the case, 21<sup>st</sup> Century replaced the displays with a new, more versatile design that gives passengers accurate information on bus arrivals and departures, and allows more information, such as stopping locations and images, to be shown.

Operating through GSM, 3G and 4G networks, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century system uses real-time information from buses meaning that the displays contain much more accurate arrival and waiting times. It also means that special messages, such as the effect of bad weather or last-minute route changes, can be displayed instantly. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century RTPI displays also have RNIB REACT technology to provide audio information for the blind and visually impaired via a special key fob. Plymouth Council is working with Improving Lives Plymouth, formerly the Hearing and Sight Centre, to test it and decide on the best way to make the fobs available.

www.21stplc.com



## N E W S

## Sales-Lentz optimises planning and scheduling with IVU.suite

Since the start of the year, Sales-Lentz, one of Luxembourg's biggest transport operators, has been managing its planning and scheduling using IVU.suite. Thanks to its powerful optimisation core, the standard system from IVU Traffic Technologies ensures the efficient and resource saving deployment of vehicles and personnel.

With around 260 vehicles and 400 drivers, Sales-Lentz operates 120 lines in the RGTR network, including routes to Belgium and France. The company also conducts charter trips for schools and factories, private hire, catalogue and group trips and night bus services. To more effectively coordinate driver duties in scheduled services with the separate and sometimes multi-day charter trips, Sales-Lentz implemented the IVU.suite planning and scheduling modules.

This standard system developed by IVU features integrated duty and vehicle working scheduling, which allows vehicle working periods to be synchronised with the drivers' break and relief periods. This not only avoids conflicts but also allows despatchers to utilise bus capacities more effectively and create more balanced driver duty schedules. An interface in IVU.suite allows data to be easily imported from the external scheduling system for charter trips, which means that planners at Sales-Lentz can instantly integrate these trips in the standard duty schedules. The first depot to implement the new system did so at the start of the year and since the end of February, all six depots run by Sales-Lentz have migrated to the IVU solution

www.ivu.com



## N E W S

## InREAKT receives German Mobility Award 2017

The 'Germany - Land of Ideas' initiative and the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) has honoured 10 digital innovations contributing to safe mobility with the German Mobility Award. Among the prizewinners was the research project InREAKT, which provides an innovative digital solution to make mobility safer and more reliable.

ItREAKT developed an IT based system which automatically recognises critical situations in a public transport environment and initiates appropriate measures to resolve the situation. A range of sensors are used to detect incidents and pass the information on to a central emergency management system. The system classifies the incident and triggers an integrated assistance reaction chain, where appropriate. The project started in 2013 and was completed in 2016 with the development of a demo system.

The project was led by the Studiengesellschaft fur Tunnel und Verkehrsanlagen (Research Association for Tunnels and Transport Facilities) with INIT and other partners. INIT was particularly involved in the development of the central event management system for coping with dangerous situations, which makes employees in the control centre aware of incidents and supports them by providing appropriate recommendations for action.

www.initse.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), Darren Maher (21<sup>st</sup> Century), Tony Brown (Atkins), Martyn Lewis (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.

#### Contact us

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#### **Next issue**

Issue 103 - Friday 3 November, 2017.

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Monday 30 October, 2017.

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