

Non-Members Edition

August 2023 – Issue 168

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

Webinars

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| August (multiple) | Accessible Information Regulations |
| 11 September 2023 | Customer information in 5 years – Data |
| 28 September 2023 | Customer information in 5 years – Online Information & Apps |

For booking details see the website.

Workshops

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 19 September 2023 | Designing the Next Generation of Bus Priority
<i>Birmingham</i> |
|-------------------|--|

- | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| November | Creating a real time system |
|----------|-----------------------------|

Working Groups

CCTV Technology & Best Practice
Procurement of Software as a Service

RTIG Board

7 September 2023, Virtual

PTIC

29 Sept 2023, Virtual

In this issue:

News and events: update on RTIG work

[CCTV Technology & Best Practice](#)

[Procurement of Software as a Service](#)

[Error! Reference source not found.](#)

[Accessible Information Regulations – Sector Sessions](#)

[Customer information in 5 years](#)

[Designing the Next Generation of Bus Priority](#)

[Sharing Performance and Statistics Data](#)

DfT News

[NaPTAN Public Meetings schedule](#)

[Providing Data to BODS for Flexible Bus Services](#)

In Other News

[Bus Centre of Excellence](#)

[Retention of CE Marks ?](#)

Members' news: [showcasing innovation](#)

Admin: useful facts about RTIG

[Committee members](#)

[Contact s](#)



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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 .

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 currently expect this to cover different camera and recording technologies, and good practice advice on management of images, installation and maintenance.

We've met a few times and a report is in development.

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

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.

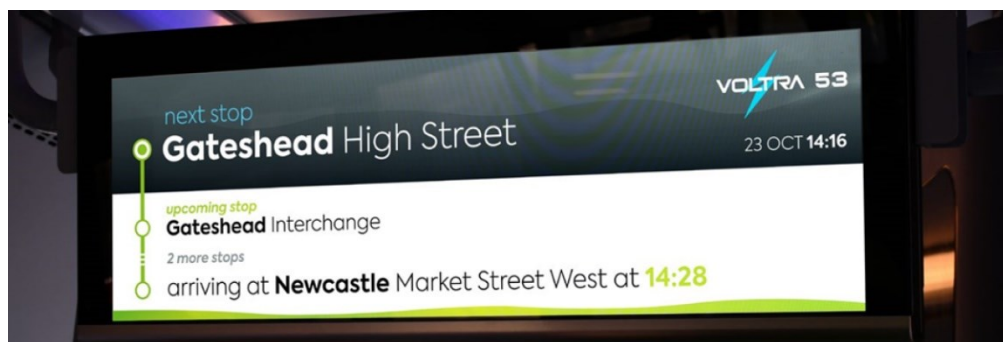
We have convened a working group to create guidance on how to better procure SaaS systems.

We've met a few times and a report is in development.

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

Upcoming Webinars

Accessible Information Regulations – Sector Sessions



In March 2023 the Department for Transport published a new statutory instrument before Parliament to introduce rules that will require almost every local bus or coach service to provide audible announcements and visual displays identifying the route and direction, each upcoming stop, and the beginning of any diversions.

It has been estimated that only 30% of buses outside London providing this information, which can be a major barrier for disabled people wanting to travel by bus or coach.

RTiG is a community group which seeks to establish, support and share good practice in the use of information and communications technology in public transport. With members from public authorities, transport operators, consultancies, and the systems industry, we have an impartial perspective and support the common good. We have an excellent relationship with national Government and work closely with other community groups.

As a result of our relationship with Government we have a grant from the DfT to assist with the implementation of the regulations for the smallest operators and we want to understand how to make it as easy as we can to apply.

With all this in mind we want to understand more about what suppliers need to help with implementation of the regulations and so would like to have a conversation with you to help with producing and encouraging others to provide what is needed to help ease the regulations path to adoption.

A proposed agenda for the conversations are:

NEWS & EVENTS

- Introduction to the Accessible Information Regulations
- Explore what help and support operators and their suppliers will require.
- What does each industry sector need to know?
- Where would you turn to for help and information?
- The DfT / RTiG grant – what should it cover?

This is one of a series of events engaging with operators, suppliers, authorities. The full list of events about the accessible information regulations can be found in this collection.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/on-bus-accessible-information-644989>

Friday 4 August 13:00 - Suppliers
Monday 7 August 13:00 - Authorities
Monday 14 August 13:00 - Operators
Tuesday 15 August 12:00 - Suppliers
Friday 18 August 12:00 - Authorities

The focus of each session will be sector specific but anyone is welcome to attend any event.

Customer information in 5 years



Over the next few years we know that many things about public transport and the way that we travel will change, the need to de-carbonise and improve air quality will become more urgent. There will be more electric and non-ICE powered vehicles and more micro mobility solutions available and there is much discussion about how to achieve these changes.

What about the information that public transport passengers and micro-mobility users will need to be find out about the services available and how to use them?

NEWS & EVENTS

In this series of webinars we will explore what customer information may look like in five years' time, starting with what data may be available, through the passenger's information journey to being on bus.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/customer-information-in-5-years-2461689>

Data**11 September**

This session will focus on what data will be available and where from.

Online information & Apps**28 September**

This session will focus on how information will be presented online and what technology may become available.

On Street Information**10 October**

This session will focus on what customers can expect on street and how it will be presented.

On Bus**26 October**

This session will focus on what customers can expect on bus and how it is presented.

Next Face to Face event

Designing the Next Generation of Bus Priority



Public transport, and buses in particular, are facing challenges at every turn: slow recovery from the covid collapse in passenger numbers, inflation increasing cost base, driver recruitment and retention, and of course traffic congestion.

How can we make the bus more attractive to encourage more people to use it?

NEWS & EVENTS

One way of making buses more attractive, and encourage former and new passengers onto buses, is ensuring that they provide a competitive and reliable journey time in comparison to other modes – both now and in the longer term.

It is vital therefore, as traffic levels and congestion continues to increase, that journey times do not become slower or less reliable as a consequence. Unlike some of the challenges we face, this is not under the control of bus operators – but traffic managers can make a difference, including through bus priority measures. Bus Back Better (the national bus strategy) has a lot to say about bus priority, and it forms a key element in many Enhanced Partnerships and Bus Service Improvement Plans.

Nearly 20 years ago the first standard approach to providing digital bus priority was published, and over a decade ago an interface between buses and urban traffic control systems was developed. This UTC interface is now well adopted with plenty of experience in its implementation.

However, in the last few years technology has progressed very rapidly, and there are now bus priority schemes that have been and are being introduced using different approaches.

This event is being jointly organised by RTiG and UTMC.

At this event we will:

- Review the historic bus priority landscape
- Hear from places trying new approaches
- Understand how traffic management is changing

During the afternoon we will break into small groups to help identify:

- What needs to be done to support the adoption of good practice?
- What needs to happen to help suppliers of bus and traffic management systems work together to achieve effective bus priority?
- How can bus operators and traffic managers work together?
- How do standards need to develop?
- What information is needed by implementers?
- How can business cases be developed and presented?

The event will take place at Millennium Point, Curzon Street, Birmingham, B4 7XG

<https://www.millenniumpoint.org.uk/getting-here/>

Book your place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/687978721877>

Past Webinars



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

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

Sharing Performance and Statistics Data



After more than five years of planning, work is going to start soon on developing a standard for performance and historical data for public transport services.

OpRa - A Future Standard for Operating raw data and statistics exchange

This will compliment existing standards such as NeTEx and SIRI.

In this event you will find out about the background to OpRa and development plans and the we want you to bring your use cases for

NEWS & EVENTS

historical and performance data to help identify what and how we need to develop the technical work.

The slide deck is on the website:

<https://rtig.org.uk/system/files/workshops/20230727%20Sharing%20performance%20data.pdf>

The recoding is on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/2YDAWKXnsr0>

NaPTAN Public Meetings schedule

NaPTAN will have meetings about twice every month – with sessions that are focussed on Bus Operators as well:

- 08th August– 2pm to 4pm – HAR/FLX – how we DRT
- 22nd August 10am -12pm – HAR/FLX – how we DRT

Will any of this help Beryl to get to see Beverly?

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/departement-for-transport-naptan-team-39414925573>

Providing Data to BODS for Flexible Bus Services



Following the consultation on providing data to BODS for flexible services some revisions to the proposal have been made.

The previous versions, the modified XSD file, and consultation slides and recording can be found on the PTIC website:

https://www.pti.org.uk/flexible_bus_services_BODS

The final versions will be available in early August on the PTIC website

Bus Centre of Excellence

Bus Centre of Excellence

New Resources

The new resources which have been added to the BCoE website this month are:

- [Motivations and barriers to bus usage \(Transport Focus\)](#)
- [Getting free pass holders back on buses \(Transport Focus\)](#)
- [How to tender for road passenger transport contracts \(DfT\)](#)
- [Guidance on New De Minimis Rules for Bus Subsidy Contracts \(DfT\)](#)
- [Bus Services and New Residential Developments \(Stagecoach\)](#)
- [Road map to zero - the transition to 100% Zero Emission Buses \(Stagecoach\)](#)
- [Joined-up Journeys: Integration & Interchange \(CILT\)](#)
[Factors affecting local bus demand and potential for increase \(CILT\)](#)

Retention of CE Marks ?

As we were going to press we have started seeing reports that the UK he UK will retain the EU's product safety mark indefinitely.

The CE (Conformité Européenne) mark is used by the EU to certify that a wide range of items – from electrical goods and construction materials to medical devices and toys – meet safety standards.

IN OTHER NEWS

The safety marking had been expected to be replaced by a new UKCA and UKNI (UK Conformity Assessed) mark for goods sold in Great Britain from the end of 2024

More on this topic as it becomes available.

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 'chivvyng'.



A Navaho Transport systems destination blind on the ADL Enviro 400 EV

Contract awarded for new TfWM travel app



Plans to launch a region-wide travel app giving everybody access to all transport modes in one place for the first time have taken a major step forward.

Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) has appointed FOD Mobility Group to help design, develop and deliver the new mobility as a service app using their Mobilleo MaaS platform.

The app will offer customers a new approach to travelling around the West Midlands. Users can plan journeys, receive live travel information, book and pay for all local transport options – including buses, trains, trams, e-Scooters, walking, cycle hire, taxis, Demand Responsive Transport (DRT), car rental, car club and parking. Wherever the user wants to travel to, the app gives them the most convenient, cost-effective and sustainable option, tailored to their individual preferences.

Alongside FOD Mobility Group, TfWM is working on the project with a range of partners including consultants Arcadis – providing behaviour change advice, Brompton Bike Hire and Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Car Club. Other project partners include ITO World – who provide real time public transport data across the West Midlands, Euclid and Unicard – responsible for integration with our Swift smart travel scheme. Local authority and transport operator partners will also collaborate on the app development.

The development has been funded from the Department for Transport's Future Transport Zone programme.

EPM Bus Solutions parent company announces rebrand to Velociti Group



UK-based EPM Transport Solutions, transport technology specialists and parent company of EPM Bus Solutions, Omnibus Solutions, 3Squared, and FabDigital has announced it has rebranded to Velociti Group.

The company launched the new identity, including new name and logo, to better communicate its purpose to deliver innovative software and specialist consultancy to power public transportation. This new fresh identity represents Velociti's dynamism, agility, and energy. Along with the brand-new look, Velociti Group's innovative message is 'The Future. Accelerated.'

Through pioneering technology and a first-class approach to implementation, Velociti Group tackles the challenges faced by those seeking to create an improved and greener future for customers, operators, and infrastructure owners, in both rail and bus sectors.

Management Committee Members

The Management Committee for the year 2022-2024 was appointed at the EGM on 19 January 2023. 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), Triumph Okojie (DfT)

Contact us

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

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

Next issue

Issue 169 – Friday 1st September 2023.

Please send all contributions to secretariat@rtig.org.uk at any time up to Tuesday 29th August 2023.

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