Welcome to three days of intense talks and showcases of automation in public transit.

Podcar City & Advanced Transit is a conference about autonomous vehicles reshaping the way we live our lives in the urban landscape. We are an open forum for the people behind automation in public transportation, similar to what is happening at a fast pace in the world of private autonomous vehicles.

This year’s conference is the tenth since the first in Uppsala, Sweden 2007 and takes place in the beautiful City of Antwerp in conjunction with the Antwerp Mobility Week. The organizers are Advanced Transit Association (ATRA), International Institute of Sustainable Transportation (INIST) and our local partner Crossroad in Antwerp, Belgium.

In this issue:
* Welcome
* Podcar Industry update
* Spartan Superway
* Organizers
* Antwerp Mobility Week
* Program (preliminary)
* Registration, Hotels & Venue

Organizers:

Sponsors and cooperating organizations:
Local Motors, USA

Local Motors recently announced the launch of their autonomous mini shuttle Olli in Washington, D.C. It is an intriguing concept, similar to the 2Getthere vehicle in Rivium, Netherlands (see separate update on 2Getthere on next page).

The Vehicle features the IBM Speech control software named Watson. It can be accessed through an app or by walking up to one of the station locations and ordering it from there. It has no timetable as it is based upon on-demand technology. It has room for up to 12 passengers. At the moment Olli can only operate at airports and campuses due to legal constraints. We look forward to hearing more about this solution at the Podcar City Conference in September.

Link to Local Motors: https://localmotors.com/olli

skyTran, USA

Since last year, several news items have reached us from skyTran. The recent ones from April are interesting - In April, skyTran secured a series B round of financing and also issued a press release about a deal in Africa where the first system will be built. In the press release, Skytran announced their intention to build a 40+ KM system in Lagos, Nigeria. The system’s implementation, initially for the Yellow Line of the Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority (LAMATA), will become part of a Lagos-wide new transportation network as a first step towards continued expansion in Lagos, Nigeria and the rest of Africa.

2Getthere, Netherlands

2Getthere is one of the oldest and most successful Automated Vehicle providers for public transit in the world with two long running installations in Rivium Netherlands and the Masdar system in Abu Dhabi. Recently 2Getthere announced that SMRT International Pte Ltd (SMRT International) and United Technical Services (UTS) are doing investments in 2 Getthere Holding B.V. (2getthere), a Netherlands-based company that designs and makes a family of Automated Vehicles (AV). SMRT International is acquiring a 20% stake worth €4 million (SGD 6 million) in 2getthere, while UTS is increasing its holding in 2getthere to 11% against the same valuation.

Link to 2getthere: http://www.2getthere.eu  Picture by 2Getthere

Beamways, Sweden

In collaboration with INIST, San José State University, and Encitra, the Beamways PRT team has been active in design and implementation of the SMSSV project in California. Furthermore Beamways is active in a series of virtual reality studies using Encitra technology together with 4Dialog in Sweden. The studies are used for potential ATN sites in the US, Sweden and Belgium.

Link to Beamways: http://www.beamways.com  Pictures by Beamways

BeamEd planning software by Beamways

Organizers:

Sponsors and cooperating organizations:
The Spartan Superway Project keeps growing!

Sustainable Mobility System for Silicon Valley (SMSSV) is an interdisciplinary project from San Jose State University to design a PRT (Personal Rapid Transport) system using renewable resources. It has grown significantly over the years and now over 50 students are involved in the program led by Professor Burford Furman and staff from INIST plus sponsors. The SMSSV team is focusing on the present mobility options, especially in dense urban areas that are becoming more and more unsustainable. Major issues that plague current options are:

* Traffic congestion
* Loss of productivity from time spent in commuting and/or parking
* Continued use of and dependence on hydrocarbon fuels
* Increased possibility of accidents that injure people and damage property
* Decrease in quality of life for residents (wasted time, increased stress, noise, smog, safety)
* High cost of ownership for private vehicles, especially new ‘green’ vehicles, such as EVs and HEVs
* Excessive consumption of raw materials in the production of automobiles
* Environmental degradation from greenhouse gas emissions and byproducts from wearing out of parts
* Inadequate mass transportation options (slow, limited service area, and relatively high cost)

Fundamentally different approaches to personal mobility are needed to address the problems listed above and to achieve sustainability. An automated transportation network (ATN) system utilizing ‘pod cars’ is one such approach (see for example: Irving, et. al. (1978), Rydell (2000), and Shawber (2012)). SMSSV propose to develop and bring to market the elements of a solar powered ATN system that will be scalable, replicable, and that can be located within existing rights of way in urban locales.
So where are the people who think about Autonomous public transit?

Desperate City situation? You are not alone.

Since the 60’s more and more people and cities have realized that the current modes of transportation are not sustainable and there is a strong need for better ways to get around. The list is growing - fast. Here are just a few of all those places that either have implemented a system or are seriously considering one:


If you consider your own city a good candidate for an Autonomous Transit Network you must come to Podcarcity. No other venue brings so much expertise into one single event yearly!

Organizers:

Sponsors and cooperating organizations:
ATRA is a diverse group of people brought together by the common realization that the transportation systems of the past can not meet the transportation needs of the future, or even the present. As a non-profit corporation, ATRA’s purpose is to encourage the development and deployment of advanced transportation systems that will benefit society. The Advanced Transit Association (ATRA) is an international association of active and retired transportation professionals, engineers, architects, urban planners, students, educators, and enthusiasts who promote the consideration of advanced transit options. Membership is open to anyone who is willing to take a fresh look at new ways to meet our mobility needs. We do not endorse any particular company or system, rather we strive to serve as an objective information resource to help decision makers navigate the often complex issues surrounding transportation choices particularly as it pertains to new technology.

ATRA Industry Group (IG) is a separate legal entity working alongside ATRA to promote and provide objective information about advanced transit systems. ATRA IG’s emphasis is on fully-automated, market-ready, land-based transit systems capable of operating in a network and providing an improvement over traditional public transit means.

INIST staff and partners have comprehensive skills and experience in the core disciplines needed to build projects that dramatically improve quality of life – project management, general design, energy analysis, innovative transportation solutions, public outreach and more. INIST does NOT compete with traditional consultancy studies. INIST provides conceptual designs in collaboration with students, professionals and advisors.

INIST establishes partnerships with top key professional organizations for best performance available on all levels of a project – architects, developers, transit specialists, solar consultants and virtual model providers.

Crossroad is a Belgium based Consultancy Company with the aim of helping clients to transform their business from a digital and Human perspective.

Digital - Design your digital touchpoints to create an excellent experience. Use process, data and text analytics to optimize service delivery. Increase performance by integrating systems, data and processes.

Service - Understand customers’ expectations and needs. Gain insight in your readiness to serve. Stay ahead, create your service strategy based on user centric data and observations.

Human - Translate your service strategy into a customer centric culture and employee behavior. Organize your teams, competences and projects around the service you want to deliver.

Organizers:  
Sponsors and cooperating organizations:
Antwerp Mobility Week

Smart Mobility. Strong Economy

EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK takes place every year from 16 to 22 September, with the aim of encouraging European municipalities to introduce and promote sustainable transport measures and to invite people to try out alternatives to car use.

Since its introduction in 2002, the impact of EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK has steadily grown, both across Europe and around the world. In 2015, almost 1900 cities from 45 countries participated and organised activities during EMW. Over half of the participating cities implemented permanent measures, amounting to a total of 5 657, primarily focusing on mobility management, accessibility and new or improved bicycle facilities.

The Week culminates in the Car-Free Day, where participating towns and cities set aside one or several areas solely for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport for a whole day.

Each EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK edition focuses on a particular topic related to sustainable mobility. This year’s theme is ‘Smart and sustainable mobility – an investment for Europe’. It encourages people to think about the cost of mobility for themselves and for society and thus to choose the most cost-efficient mode when travelling, both at the individual and societal levels.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 19

10 AM - 4PM    Special program for study of the Rivium system - TBA
6.30 PM        Icebreaking Reception, City Hall, Antwerp

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20

8.00 AM        Registration & Coffee, University of Antwerp
9.00           Official Opening and Keynote Speakers
9.30 (Track A) Mobility as a service (MaaS)
               Operational Systems
               Project Developments
               Trends
               Interaction

9.45 (Track B) Discovery - Introductory sessions
               Team Formation
               Discovery - Ideation

12.45          Lunch at Venue

13.45 (Track A) Digital Payments

14.00 (Track B) Dream & Design - Elaboration Part 1

14.45 (Track A) Sustainability, Energy, Climate

16.00 (Track A) Ministerial Panel Discussion - Politics & Legal

16.00 (Track B) Dream & Design - Elaboration Part 2

17.30          Networking, pre-dinner drinks

19.00          Conference Dinner

Alderman Koen Kennis is a keynote speaker for the conference and leader of the Antwerp Mobility Week.

Organizers:

Sponsors and cooperating organizations:
**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 21**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00 AM</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Coffee, University of Antwerp</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00 (Track A)</td>
<td>Safety &amp; Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00 (Track B)</td>
<td>Dream &amp; Design - Elaboration Part 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.45 (Track A)</td>
<td>Multi modality</td>
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<td>10.45 (Track B)</td>
<td>Group presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00 (All tracks)</td>
<td>Networking lunch in the city</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.15 (Track B)</td>
<td>Postgrad poster session- Academic research</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.45 (Track A)</td>
<td>City of things / Enabling technologies</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.00 (All tracks)</td>
<td>Closing / Design &amp; student competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30 (All tracks)</td>
<td>Networking / Closing session</td>
</tr>
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Images from previous conferences in Sweden and Berlin with former Swedish Secretary of Transportation, former MEP Hans Lindqvist and Prof. Alain Kornhauser from University of Princeton among others

**Five cities considering ATN /PRT Technology**

- Greenville, South Carolina
- Tyresö, Sweden
- Sigtuna, Sweden
- San Jose, California
- Yas Island, Abu Dhabi

Organizers:

Sponsors and cooperating organizations:
The conference will be held September 19-21 2016 at the University of Antwerp. Register at podcercity.org

OFFICIAL CONFERENCE HOTEL

The Hotel for the conference is Hotel Lindner. To order a room with discount you email to

reservations.antwerpen@lindnerhotels.be

and in the email refer to

* Block ID. nr. 8417210 and code ‘PCC10’;
* First and last name;
* Check-in and check-out date;
* Credit card details (card number and expiration date) to guarantee the reservation.

Every guest will get an individual mail as confirmation. The rooms will be held for us until 15 August. After that date, the rooms will be free again. Reservation after 15 August is still possible, but on availability.

€110 Single, €145 Double + €2,39 tax/pp/n Wifi & Breakfast included
Electric charging available at parking
Parking is €18/day

A Selection of our Speakers as of July 4, 2016:

Bengt Gustafsson, BeamWays, Sweden
Christer Lindström, 4Dialog, Sweden
Ingmar Andreassen, LogistikCentrum, Sweden
Ingrid Evers, Crossroad, Belgium
Koen Kennis, City of Antwerp, Belgium
Magnus Hunhammar, Kompass, Sweden
Matthew Lesh, Local Motors, USA
Peter Muller, PRT Consulting, USA
Robbert Lohmann, 2getthere, Netherlands
Ron Swenson, INIST, USA
Shannon McDonald, Southern Illinois University, USA
Stefan Bergström, City of Sundbyberg, Sweden

REGISTER NOW!
GO TO WWW.PODCERCITY.ORG/ANTWERP