

Newsletter #2 from Podcar City Berlin



OPENING THE FLOODGATE

September 11, 2012

By Larry Fabian

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Can urban policy tweaks create green cities? It may well be that a small public policy change can transform the fundamental structure of the marketplace. Isn't that what national banks – such as the Federal Reserve in the US – do? They tweak the prime interest rate up or down a notch, and that somehow alters the course of xxx Supply and Demand to rule the economy.

Hans-Josef Fell is a German politician credited with the impressive progress that Germany has made in renewable energy, which has jumped from a near-zero share in 2000 to about 20 percent today. His genius lies in a policy invention, the cost-covering feed-in tariff. This helped frame renewable energy legislation enacted in 2000. His invention is now being emulated around the world in countries where solar energy is encouraged.

Fell, a prominent Green Party Parliamentary leader, is a keynote speaker at the 6th Podcar City conference taking place September 19-20 in Berlin. Adding his insight to the thinking of those who envision the vast potentialities of Automated Network Transit is likely to move us a giant step closer to the next generation of urban mobility that is safe, secure and sustainable.



Hans Josef Fell - Wiki:

Hans-Josef Fell joined the Green Party in 1992 following years of interest in renewable energy and environmental protection. Fell worked on the city council in his hometown of Hammelburg from 1990 until 1998 and from 1996 until 2003 he worked in the county council in the Bad Kissingen district. He has been a member of the German Parliament since 1998. Hans-Josef Fell supported the shift in military training methods towards conflict deescalation, particularly at the Bundeswehr base in Hammelburg.

From 1999 to 2005, as spokesman of the Alliance 90/The Greens parliamentary group on the German Bundestag's research committee, Hans-Josef Fell helped to ensure an increase in funding for research into photovoltaics, concentrating solar power, geothermal energy, bioenergy, batteries for electric cars, bionics, nanotechnology and others. Hans-Josef Fell has initiated many technical assessment reports, which in some cases still offer important foundations for legislative developments today, for example: nanotechnology, geothermal energy, transport systems of the future, various medical issues such as research into the brain, nuclear fusion, and genetic engineering in agriculture and medicine.

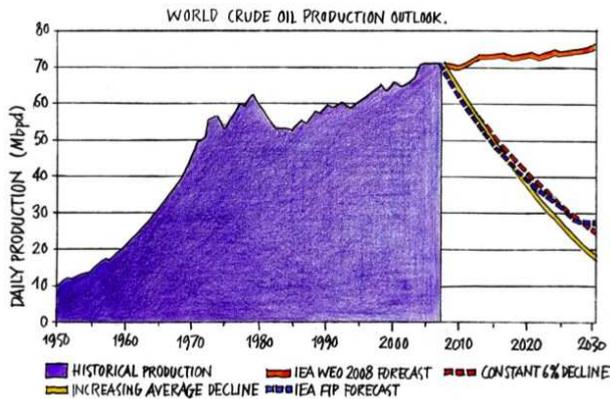
Hans-Josef Fell wrote the draft of the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG), which was adopted in 2000 in the face of strong political opposition. The law, enacted 25 February 2000, guarantees cost-covering feed-in Tariffs for electricity from biomass, wind power, and solar power, and aimed to increase the percentage of renewable energy used in Germany to 12.5% by the year 2010 and 20% by 2020. In 2011, Germany was already generating 20% of its energy from renewable resources. He was also involved in drafting the law amending the EEG in 2004.

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Uppsala Focus - Peak oil, pod cars and what a bright future might look like

Why is Uppsala the first City in the world to seriously consider building a podcar system based on solar power, especially as the city is at 60° North latitude? One explanation is that Uppsala recognizes an energy challenge which is more serious than many other important transportation issues. Can podcar networks actually produce their own energy?

Podcar advocates in Sweden are fortunate to have the benefit of the strong voice of reason from their fellow countryman, [Kjell Aleklett](#), Professor of Physics at Uppsala University, an internationally known leader who has broken the silence to speak out courageously about the phenomenon of "Peak Oil" - the fact that oil "production" is heading toward terminal decline.



World crude oil production outlook

Humanity now understands (with the notable exception of American politicians and Saudi princes) that the most profound long term consequence of burning hydrocarbons will be climate change. Less understood is the potential calamity that compelled Professor Aleklett to speak out. Before our cities are inundated by sea level rise, we may be caught in the rapid decline of modern civilization as oil production dwindles, figuratively bringing everything to a halt. Some years back, Professor Aleklett invited a group of geologists, petroleum engineers and other professionals to the organizing meeting of what is now an international force in building awareness and promoting alternatives to oil, the [Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas \("ASPO"\)](#).

The Uppsala Protocol

Recognizing the need for a civilized process to end humanity's addiction to oil, ASPO founders Dr. Aleklett and noted geologist Dr. Colin Campbell created the Uppsala Protocol as a reasoned response. Two key provisions of the protocol are:

- a. No country shall produce oil at above its current Depletion Rate, such being defined as annual production as a percentage of the estimated amount left to produce and
- b. Each importing country shall reduce its imports to match the current World Depletion Rate, deducting any indigenous production.

Taking it further, Professor Aleklett created a new curriculum on Global Energy Systems research and formed the Uppsala Hydrocarbon Depletion Study Group. This group is now the world's leading academic force addressing the reality of peak oil. Thus it is not surprising that Uppsala is one city that is doing something about making the necessary changes to reduce its dependence on oil.

How Can We Turn Sun Radiation into Automotion?

At the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in late 2007, Tad Patzek, now Professor and Chair, Department of Petroleum & Geosystems Engineering, University of Texas, and Ron Swenson, CEO of General Transportation Fund in California, presented the case against biofuels and for solar powered podcar urban transport systems. The Podcar structure, especially with the suspended type vehicle advocated by the GTS Foundation that is being implemented by Beamways, conveniently provides a very suitable platform for a canopy of solar panels. In the bargain, the podcar can free up streets for human activity. This is not a pipe dream. Here is a real solar canopy recently completed in California by Swenson Solar

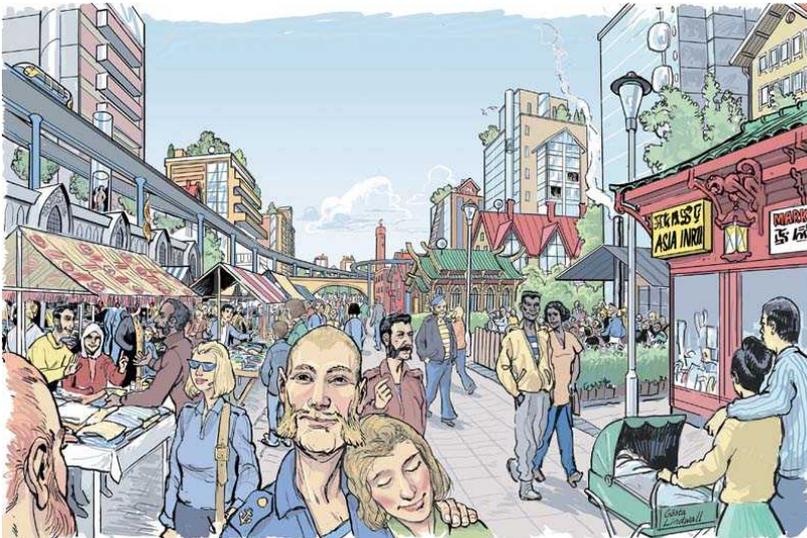


Ron Swenson, CEO of General Transportation Fund in California, USA

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The Swedish KOMPASS Network

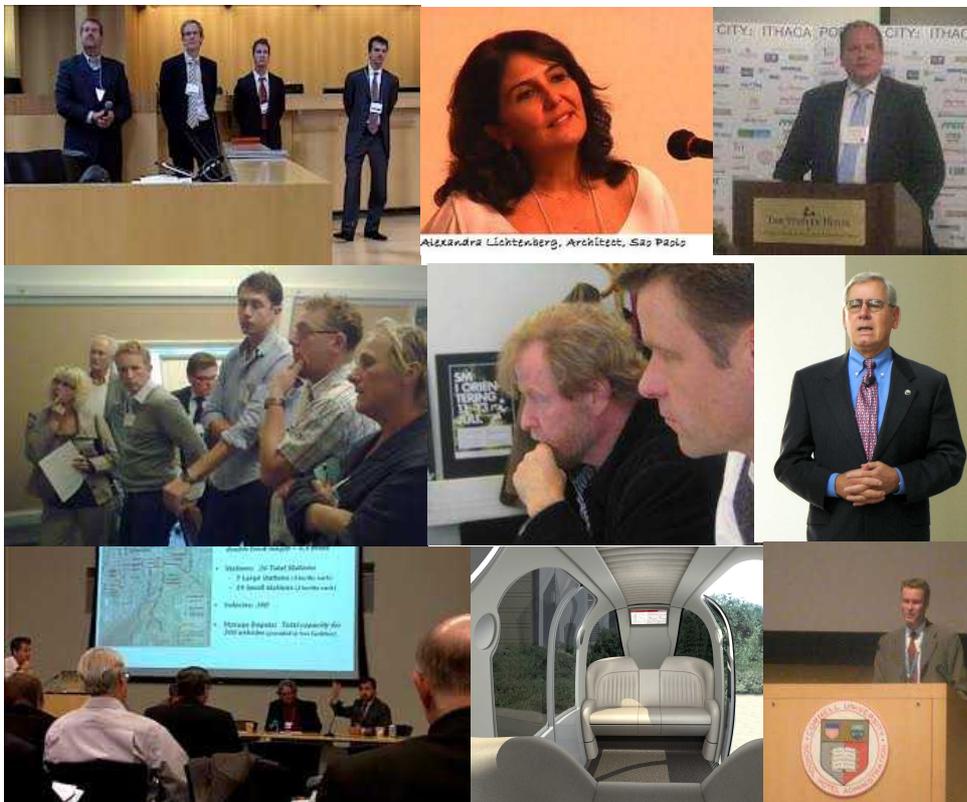
KOMPASS is a network of cities and organizations interested in exploring the Podcar technology. The network is not affiliated with any specific political party and is free of ties to providers and consultants. KOMPASS promotes the idea of a carbon free, safe and efficient transport system for all.



Left: Image done by students on behalf of Skanska used by KOMPASS in visualizing the concept. Below: Hans Lindqvist, Chairman of Kompass and Ewa Lofvar Konradsson, Vice Chair of KOMPASS



Pictures from KOMPASS nad Podcar City meetings over the last five years:



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Program Schedule - Updated

Wednesday, September 19 2012

Podcar City Conference : Berlin

Icebreaker – Opening Reception 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Icebreaker will be held on a boat close to East Side Gallery -a remaining bit of the Berlin Wall at the banks of Spree. The Icebreaker is on the 19th September from 4 to 6 pm (16°-18°)

Address Icebreaker:

Floating Lounge, Mühlenstraße 6, 10243 Berlin

Website: www.floatinglounge-berlin.com

Thursday, September 20 2012

Registration & Coffee 8:00 am - 9:00 am

Registration at Technische Universität Lecture Hall H1012

TU Berlin

Strasse des 17 Juni 135

10623 Berlin

www.tu-berlin.de

Welcoming, Theme: Urbanization, Regional City Centers and Sustainable Transportation 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Moderator: Magnus Hunhammar, CEO IST (SE)

Welcoming Remarks from

- Magnus Hunhammar, CEO Institute for Sustainable Transportation, (SE)
- Hans Lindqvist, Chair of KOMPASS & County Councilman Stockholm & former member of European Parliament (SE)

Opening Remarks from

- Rod Diridon, Chair emeritus of California High Speed Rail Authority & Executive Director, Mineta Transportation Institute (US) - High speed rail: Connected!

Experience from Podcars in Current Operations and Implementations

- John Hammersley, Bid Manager, Ultra Global PRT (UK) – Operating experience and passenger reactions for Heathrow PRT
- Robbert Lohmann, Commercial Director, 2GetThere (NL) – 2 years of operations of Masdar City, Abu Dhabi: status and lessons learned
- David D. Little, Principal Washington Office, Lea+Elliott (US) – Upgrading the Podcar system in Morgantown West Virginia
- Martin Pemberton, Sales and Marketing Director, Vectus (UK) – Update on the Suncheon PRT project in South Korea
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Networking break, Coffee 10:30 am - 11:00 am

Break-out session A1 - Theme: Plans for Podcars in Built Environments 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Moderator: Hans Lindqvist, Chair of KOMPASS

- Tom Karlsson, Transportation & Park Director City of Uppsala (SE) – Plans to connect university hospital, science park and central station by Podcars
- Hans Larsen, Transportation Director City of San José, California (US) - Report in Barriers and Opportunities for San Jose's Automated Transit Network Project
- John Hammersley, Bid Manager, Ultra Global PRT (UK) – Progress and plans for ULTra PRT in Amritsar, India

Break-out session B1 – New Sustainable Transport Solutions 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Moderator: Jan-Erik Nowacki, Founder, General Transport System (SE)

- Jerry Sanders, CEO, SkyTran (US) – New and Improved: Passive MagLev, Podcars and Mass Transit
- Tinosch Ganjineh, CEO, AutoNOMOS Labs, Freie Universität Berlin (DE) - Development & experience of driverless car in mixed traffic
- Bengt Gustafsson, CEO, Beamways (SE) -

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Exhibition Hall: Networking break 12:30 pm - 01:30 pm

Lunch at Venue

Special guest speech during lunch break:

- Hans-Josef Fell, member of the Green Party and German Parliament, Fell framed German Renewable Energy legislation (DE) – "Die Energy-Wende: From nuclear and fossil energies to 100% renewable energy sources."

Break-out session A2 - Theme: Plan for the future today 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Moderator: Lawrence J. Fabian, ATRA

- Ron Swenson, Board member of Association for the Study of Peak Oil (ASPO-USA), (US) – Can Solar Podcars meet dramatic challenges of Post-Oil Society
- Magnus Hunhammar, CEO IST (SE) – Urban planning with Podcars – Swedish examples
- Alain Kornhauser, Professor Princeton University & Chairman ATRA (US) – Near-term Examples to Increase Land Values and Revitalize Urban Areas Using Podcars

Break-out session B2 – Theme: Expand the Use of Podcars/PRT 1:30 pm - 03:00 pm

Moderator: Ingmar Andréasson, vice President ATRA (SE)

- Nathan Koren, Associate: Transport Planning & Technology, Capita Symonds (UK) - Freight PRT: Lessons from and for logistics
- Jörg Schweizer, Professor Bologna University (IT) – PRT mode share estimations in western and eastern European cities
- Ingmar Andréasson, vice President ATRA (SE) – Supplementing Mass Transit with Podcars

Networking break - coffee 3:00 pm - 03:30 pm

Plenary session - Theme: Strengthening the Investment 03:30 pm - 05:00 pm

Panel Discussion 1

Theme: Strengthening the Investment of Podcars by Standards?

Moderator: David D. Little, Principal Washington Office, Lea+Elliott (US)

Panelists:

- Eugene Nishinaga, CEO, Transit Control Solutions (US)
- Bo Olsson, Research Director, Swedish Transport Administration (SE)
- Robbert Lohmann, Commercial Director, 2GetThere (NL)
- Lars Anger, Project Manager, Innovatum Science Park (SE)

Panel Discussion 2

Theme: Can Podcars strengthen the investments of the build environment, the existing railroads or airports?

Moderator: Christer Lindström, Founder IST (SE)

Panelists:

- Alain Kornhauser, Professor Princeton University & Chair ATRA (US)
- Stefan Hanna, Deputy Mayor, City of Uppsala (SE)
- Matthew Lesh, Transportation Program Specialist, Office of Mobility Innovation at Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation (US)
- Ewa Lofvar Konradsson, Deputy Mayor, City of Södertälje (SE)
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Closing Remarks 4:45 pm - 5:00 pm

Conference Dinner 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

- Speakers to be announced later -

Café Campus Gastronomie, Villa Bel

Marchstrasse 6-8

10587 Berlin - Website: www.cafe-campus.de

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Speakers and Attendees at Podcar City 2012

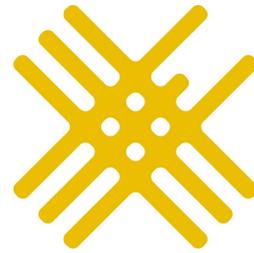


Agenda: Podcar City Conference (PCC), 19-20 september 2012, Berlin

	Tuesday 18/9 InnoTrans	Wednesday 19/9 InnoTrans	Thursday 20/9 PCC Venue: Technische Universität Berlin	Friday 21/9 InnoTrans
08:00				Corridor expos
08:30				
09:00			REGISTRATION & COFFEE	E E
09:30	Messe Berlin	Messe Berlin	Official opening Plenary	Messe Berlin
10:00				X X
10:30			IST / ATRA	P P
11:00			COFFEE	O O
11:30			A1 B1	1 2
12:00				P P
12:30				O O
13:00			LUNCH at expo corridor	D D
13:30				C C
14:00			A2 B2	A A
14:30			presentations	R R
15:00			COFFEE	V T
15:30				E O
16:00			Plenary	N W
16:30		PCC: Icebreaking reception		D N
17:00		East Side Gallery		E S
17:30				R
18:00				S
18:30				
19:00				
19:30			PCC: Conference dinner	
20:00			Menza, TU Berlin	

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Partners and Exhibitors:



BEAMWAYS



MINETA
TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE
MTI



LEA ELLIOTT

atra Advanced
Transit
Association

Host:

