

Editorial

The CityMobil project is a best practice example of a public private partnership implementing an advanced transport system for the urban environment. Castellón is very proud to host one of CityMobil's demonstrations and pursues the creation of synergies amongst all involved stakeholders.

The new role of public administrations is to attract innovation in order to improve the quality of public transport systems, as well as the citizens' quality of life. CityMobil meets these requirements. In addition, the prevention of climate change has also become a significant challenge for public administrations today and the CityMobil project contributes to this policy goal.

In this context, Valencia is hosting the 27th session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, from 12 to 17 November, which will gather more than 2500 climate change experts and in which the draft Synthesis Report of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report will be approved. This assessment report presents a comprehensive and rigorous picture of the global current state of knowledge on climate change.

This is the moment to work all together towards the prevention of climate change, and as a Government representative, I would like to offer the Fundación Comunidad Valenciana Región Europea as a place for creating partnerships to obtain EU funding. Thanks to the methodology implemented by FCVRE, Valencia is the Spanish leading region in eco-innovation LIFE programme allocation funds. For this type of projects, it is time to act, working in current and future calls for proposals such as Interreg IVC, LIFE+ and Intelligent Energy for Europe. Therefore, the Valencia Regional Office in Brussels, with its well-trained team, invites you to work together towards the development of new project ideas.



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Project update

Nine cities selected for promoting advanced transport systems

The momentum for advanced transport systems is growing as a group of cities sign up to run various activities to promote driverless solutions within their own locality. These cities are part of the expanding CityMobil Reference Group, which was set up to respond to an increasing interest among local transport authorities in innovative collective transport solutions. The Group currently has a membership of 16 local authorities, ranging from small towns to medium-sized cities: Vienna, Hyvinkää/Tampere/Vantaa, Clermont-Ferrand, La Rochelle, Limeil-Brévannes, Montbéliard, Genoa, Milano, Orvieto, Santa Margherita Ligure, Almelo, Almere, Helmond (candidate), Trondheim, Valencia, Uppsala, Lausanne, Cardiff, Daventry and Gateshead.

Nine of these cities have been selected to take part in one or more of the following CityMobil activities:

- **Showcases:** this will see the temporary installation of a number of driverless vehicles on a test track for the general public to try out. In addition, various dissemination events will be organised around these showcases to promote automated transport, including conferences, press events and the engagement of key groups of the local community, such as schools. Two types of driverless vehicles will be made available for the showcases: Cybercars and Advanced City Cars based on the Fiat Panda & Cinquecento models. This type of activity is intended for those cities that have already explored the option of implementing automated transport but wish to raise public awareness of this type of system prior to a full pilot phase.

A showcase involving three Cybercars ran in the UK town of Daventry at the end of September 2007 (see further on in this newsletter) and will also run in the Norwegian city of Trondheim and the Finnish city of Hyvinkää in 2008. The coastal cities of Genoa (Italy) and La Rochelle (France) will host Advanced City Cars Showcases at a later date.

- **City-wide studies:** This activity will assess the contribution that automated transport solutions can make in tackling local mobility challenges. Through the city-wide studies, Limeil-Brévannes, a town near Paris (France), will obtain figures on the potential local impact of automated transportation systems in relation to mobility, land use and transport safety, congestion and pollution.
- **Small-scale demonstrations:** this activity will perform demonstrations of advanced transport systems in real environments for a period of time. The city authorities hosting such demonstrations have already shown a firm commitment to the deployment of automated transport systems but would prefer to run a pilot prior to a full-scale implementation. So far, Uppsala (Sweden), Lausanne (Switzerland) and Clermont-Ferrand (France) have been selected for small-scale demonstrations.

For more information on the CityMobil Reference Group, please contact:
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Successful first CityMobil showcase



CityMobil's first showcase was successfully executed between the 24th of September and the 5th of October 2007 in Daventry, a town of 23.000 inhabitants

located in Northamptonshire County (United Kingdom). During these two weeks, three of INRIA's two plus two seats (2 adults, 2 children) cybercars were put to service on a 400 m track, for visitors to experience how an automated transportation system works and what it might look like in their town. In addition, a fourth static vehicle was displayed to show the public that cybercars may be built in very different shapes according to specific needs. A Robosoft's RobuCab vehicle was also presented during the first three days of the showcase. The Daventry District Council intends to implement a Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) system in the town and the display of these vehicles was an important step in forecasting the acceptance of the system by the population.

In the trailer installed by the District Council, the visitors could get in-depth information on the concept and the technologies behind Cybernetic Transportation Systems (CTS) and PRT systems, through posters, brochures and videos. A District official and the team from INRIA answered the visitors' questions and discussed with them about the future of CTS and PRT in their town. After a ride in the vehicles, the visitors were invited to answer a survey, prepared by CityMobil partner DITS (Department of Hydraulics, Transportation and Roads) of the University of Rome – La Sapienza, as part of the evaluation plan of the showcase, to determine in detail the social acceptance of the system. This evaluation plan will also collect other social, environmental and economic indicators of Daventry's showcase that later will be published in a Deliverable.



On the 26th of September, in conjunction with the showcase, the Daventry District Council hosted the Daventry Transport Conference 2007, which attracted decision makers, transport planners, experts and different Advanced Transportation Systems manufacturers from across Europe, America and Asia, gladly exceeding the expectations of the organizers. The showcase and the conference drew enormous attention of local, regional, national, and international media. Both the regional newspapers Daventry Express and Northampton Chronicle & Echo of 27 September dedicated their first page and inner articles to the showcase. The national newspaper The Independent of 3 October published a 2-page article. The British Broadcasting Company (BBC) made reports on its national and international news shows (BBC world), a radio transmission for its international radio service, and two video reports which are still available on BBC's website at

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/northamptonshire/7014044.stm

This first showcase proved that a strong commitment from the host city is essential to have a good impact. The dedication and passion that the District authorities showed for the preparation and execution of the showcase will certainly make Daventry an example of how Advanced Transportation Systems can contribute to creating more equal and sustainable communities. It has definitely contributed to CityMobil's objective of raising the awareness of European cities about new forms of urban transportation based on cybercars.

CityMobil at European Open Day



On 5 May 2007, the CityMobil project had a stand and demonstration of Cybercars during the European Open Days, an annual event held in Brussels designed to bring the general public closer to the institutions and activities of the EU. This year's event attracted some 80.000 people.

CityMobil partner INRIA coordinated the CityMobil stand and demonstration and made

available two of its own cybercars, called CyCab. Members of the public were invited to ride on the vehicle in the company of an INRIA engineer and a number of people took advantage of this opportunity. The presence of children was especially useful as it demonstrated that all ages of people could use cybercars.

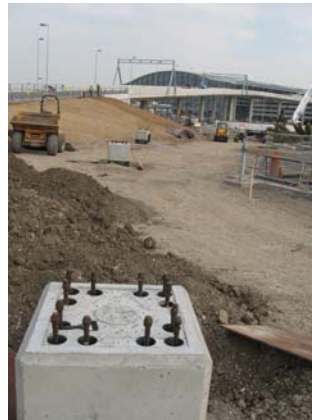
News from the demonstrators

Heathrow airport update



Vehicle production and commissioning is now underway and the first of the Heathrow PRT vehicles is currently on test at the Cardiff Test Track. A

total of eighteen vehicles will be delivered and tested over the coming months. This follows very extensive testing with the two bare chassis, which were delivered at the beginning of the year. The assessment included collision testing and the ability to deal with any debris thrown onto the track. All the tests have proved very satisfactory. ATS's Cardiff Test Track has been upgraded to provide conditions closer to those of the Heathrow network and stations, so that reliability testing can be as realistic as possible.



Guideway pillar foundations approaching Terminal 5

Meanwhile the foundations for the ULTra guideway into Terminal 5 are installed, and construction continues. Terminal 5 will open in spring next year, and initially the connection between the car park and terminal will be by shuttle buses. This provides an excellent opportunity to assess passengers' reaction to the PRT service in comparison with the buses.

Under the terms of CityMobil, ATS has produced a simulation package, which will be available for public use. This allows the user to construct a realistic PRT network against a map of their own choosing, and to watch the operation of vehicles on this network. The simulation provides performance indicators for the network. The package is undergoing final testing before release.

Castellón update

The Castellon demonstration is progressing well, as the construction works are on schedule, with the building of the dedicated lane in an advanced state and the first stretch of the lane already finished.



The selection of the vehicles to be used in Castellón was made in October 2006, with a choice in favour of the Irisbus-IVECO. The first of the Castellón vehicles became available in March 2007. Today, the vehicles and infrastructure are being tested in order to ensure the correct performance of the whole system.

A presentation of the CityMobil project and demonstration was made at the last ITS world congress held in Beijing this October, as well as at the ITS national congress in Spain. Both presentations created high expectations and a very good acceptance from the audience.

Partner profiles

28 organisations representing industry, research and public authorities, are partners in CityMobil. Each issue of the CityMobil newsletter profiles three partners.

ULTra

Advanced Transport Systems Ltd (ATS Ltd) was created in 1995 as a 'spin-out' company from Bristol University to develop and exploit the ULTra (Urban Light Transport) concept, an innovative form of Personal Rapid Transport (PRT) intended to provide a new solution to urban transport with major environmental benefits over existing systems. ATS has completed the prototype development of the ULTra system, and in October 2005 was selected to provide a new PRT system installation at Heathrow. It is this system which will be the subject of the evaluation studies under the present programme. ATS was previously a major partner in the EDICT project which evaluated the benefits of PRT in five European Cities. ATS Ltd is an SME company. Recently BAA has taken a shareholding in ATS.



Technion is Israel's oldest university and was founded in 1924. It currently has about 13,000 students and consists of 19 faculties in engineering, sciences, economics and a medical school. The Transportation Research Institute (TRI) is one of the 29 research institutes and centres of the Technion. The Internal Combustion Engines Laboratory (TICEL) is part of the Research Centre on Energy Engineering and Environment Protection at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. TRI and TICEL current research activities in the areas of vehicles, energy, environment and mobility include: estimation of vehicle emission factors; study of urban driving patterns; environmental and economic

aspects of alternative transport systems; clean vehicles; road safety; simulation and analysis of traffic behaviour and solutions for congestion problems.



The German Aerospace Center (DLR) is a research institution focusing on aeronautics and astronautics, energy and ground transportation research. The DLR-Institute of Transportation System (IFS) is dedicated to research in the fields of road safety, driver assistance systems, automatic driving, driver behaviour, and human-machine-interfaces as well as systems for railways and train control. The part of the Institute located in Berlin Adlershof is focusing on larger scale traffic issues, e.g. solving congestion by means of traffic management, environmental pressures by integrated impact analysis and technology assessment.

Related events

- *Mobidays, Presentation of large-scale demonstration projects on sustainable mobility in Europe and worldwide (including CityMobil)*
7 November 2007, Rome
<http://www.mobidays.eu>
- *Intelligent Public Transport Systems, European Road Show*
28-30 November 2007, Nice
<http://www.iptseurope.com>
- *Transport Research Arena Europe 2008*
21-25 April 2008, Ljubljana, Slovenia
<http://www.tra2008.si/>
- *2008 IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium*
4-6 June 2008, Eindhoven
<http://www.iv2008.nl>

What is CityMobil?

CityMobil is an Integrated Project, co-funded by the Sixth Framework Programme for RTD (FP6), whose main aim is to achieve a more effective organisation of urban transport by developing integrated solutions based on advanced concepts for innovative autonomous and automated road vehicles for passengers and goods, embedded in an advanced spatial setting.