



IBEC NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2006

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF IBEC

I am honored to be at the helm as IBEC begins its fifth year as a recognized international working group. Since our formal founding in 2002, we have established a strong track record of producing informative and well-subscribed ITS conference sessions and workshops. Our plans for this year are our most ambitious yet, including the development of an online international ITS evaluation library, special conference sessions and a one day "International Tour" at the London World Congress, panels at one or two regional ITS conferences, and a panel at the World Bank in Washington. This will also be the year in which we develop new funding sources to support our secretariat requirements.



With such a full agenda for the coming year, I am especially grateful to be among the IBEC volunteers, members at large and management committee members, who will bring these plans to fruition.

*If you have not yet volunteered to help with the organization of any of the planned events, please step forward. Each new person brings welcome new ideas and a new network of ITS costs and benefits information. We are looking to broaden the scope of our network to include new countries, new areas of study, and a broader range of ITS deployment, operation, management, and policy issues. Please contact me by phone or email if you would like to discuss volunteer opportunities in the coming year's activities. **Jane Lappin** - email: Lappin@VOLPE.DOT.GOV telephone: +1 (617) 494 3692*

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MEMBERSHIP AREA

IBEC membership update

There are now 309 IBEC members, in over 38 different countries. Our contact with members is almost entirely by email. If your email is changing, please remember to tell us!

IBEC website and email group

IBEC Secretariat is constantly updating the IBEC website www.ibec-its.org, and we would be pleased to hear suggestions for additional resources on ITS costs, benefits and evaluation for the library.

IBEC has a yahoo group enabling any IBEC member to send an e-mail message to all other members, to send announcements and pose questions of knowledgeable experts. Please contact us if you need any further information.

IBEC Membership Survey

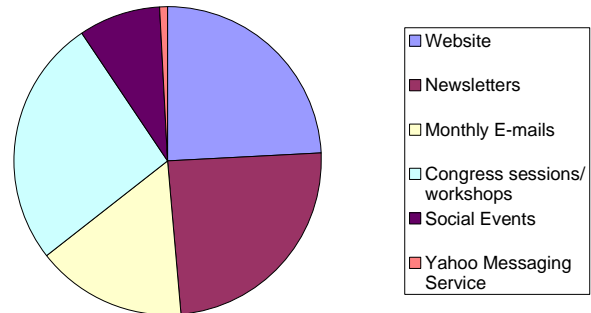
The membership survey sent to members in September 2005 comprised 16 questions, and was issued for two main purposes:

- To gain an understanding of the membership's satisfaction with IBEC services and the role of the Secretariat.
- To explore the feasibility of two of the short-listed self financing options (membership fees and charging for events).

The survey provided valuable information which can be used in the future of IBEC. The first message from the survey was the poor response rate from members. Despite two reminders only 15% of members returned questionnaires. This indicates that IBEC has few active members. However, members appear to be satisfied with the service that IBEC provides.

The analysis of the survey results has led to a number of recommendations about improving the service offered, which the Management Committee should consider. There are also recommendations for the Management Committee to improve contact with members and the involvement of members in IBEC activities.

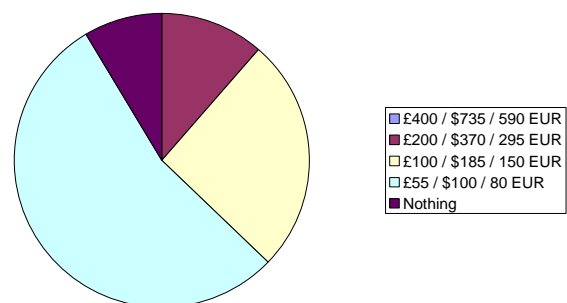
Satisfaction with IBEC service and which services are useful



The results of the survey confirm that the main focus of activities on organising workshops at events, providing newsletters and a web site meets with the approval of the members. Continuing to hold events in conjunction with ITS conferences at regional and world level will maximise attendance.

The responses to the questions about willingness to pay indicate that it is unlikely to be feasible to charge an IBEC membership fee as a way of making the organisation self-financing. While members are willing to pay for events, the amount that they are willing to pay is unlikely to provide enough surplus to make a significant contribution to the cost of running a Secretariat. However it would probably cover the cost of the venue, catering and publicity and possibly contribute towards the time required to organise the event.

Paying for events (one day workshop)





IBEC Management Committee

Following the IBEC Business meeting the Management Committee has changed. We would like to thank all those members of the Management Committee who kindly give up their time for IBEC. If you are interested in joining the management Committee, please contact the Chair, Jane Lappin (Lappin@VOLPE.DOT.GOV). A complete list of the current Management Committee can be seen below:

- Jane Lappin, Volpe, USA, IBEC Chair
- Steve Morello, Group Egis, France, IBEC Vice Chair
- Joe Peters, Department of Transportation, USA
- Amy Polk, Cairo Corporation, USA
- Mark Carter, SAIC, USA
- William Johnson, TRENDS, Canada
- Steve Tarry, Faber Maunsell, UK
- Eric Sampson, Department for Transport, UK
- Richard Harris, Faber Maunsell, UK
- Barbara Staples, Mitretek Systems, USA
- Dick Mudge, Delcan, USA
- Guido Schuster, Landesbetrieb Straßen und Verkehr, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany
- Keith Keen, European Commission, Belgium
- Patty Del Pozo, ITS America, USA
- Risto Kulmala, VTT Building and Transport, Finland
- Henk Taale, AVV Transport Research Centre, The Netherlands
- Luca Studer, Polimi, Italy
- Reinhard Pfliegl, Leiter Telematik, Austria
- David Williams, DfT, UK

The Management Committee is assisted by the following individuals:

- IBEC Secretariat (Sally Cotter, Jean Hopkin, Alan Stevens, TRL, UK)
- Chris Bennett, World Bank, USA
- John Miles, Ankerbold International, UK

RECENT REPORTS AND FINDINGS

South African Society of ITS

You can visit South African Society of ITS. SASITS and apply to receive monthly newsletters: <http://www.sasits.com/>

New and Improved: ITS/ Operations Resource Guide

<http://www.its.dot.gov/guide.htm>

The ITS Joint Program Office is pleased to present its updated ITS/Operations Resource Guide website. This website is a comprehensive listing of over 400 documents, videos, websites, training courses, software tools, and points-of-contact related to ITS and transportation operations. Included in this update are:

- New chapters on tolling and pricing, the ITS Integration program, and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) legislation enacted last August.
- A new group of chapters that specifically highlight safety related topics.
- New websites that compile resources related to archived data and planning for operations.
- Four new and/or updated software tools with comprehensive information on the benefits, costs, lessons learned and extent of U.S. deployment in ITS.
- New training courses covering a wide range of topic areas, including commercial vehicle operations (CVO), transportation system management and operations (TSM&O), planning and integration, road weather management, rural ITS, traffic incident management, transit, transportation security, the Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks (CVISN) program, procurement practices, standards implementation, and telecommunications.



New Road Safety Fund must be used wisely

It was announced by the UK Transport Secretary Alistair Darling that safety cameras will now be looked at as part of overall local road safety plans and the current system of funding them through fines will be ended. There will be a new central fund for road safety of £110m a year, exceeding the £93m currently spent by safety camera partnerships. This budget will be in addition to road safety funding allocated through the local transport settlement. The changes resulted from an independent four year report which demonstrated that cameras continue to have an important part to play with around 1,745 fewer people killed or seriously injured each year.

In welcoming the announcement, RoadSafe director Adrian Walsh urged caution: 'RoadSafe has campaigned for some years for a more hollistic approach to speed management. Local councils will now be able to use the road safety fund to introduce a range of engineering measures including interactive signs and traffic calming on high risk roads. But these should be accompanied by improved local public education programmes. Most importantly new measures must be introduced using a scientific approach – far too frequently local elected members take decisions based on public opinion rather than sound evidence.

EVENTS AND IBEC ACTIVITIES

IBEC sessions at Euro-Regional Projects' conference in Dublin



IBEC organised a half day workshop in Dublin on 20th September 2005 in conjunction with the European Commission and the Euro-Regional Projects' annual conference, co-hosted by the Department of Transport in Ireland and the National Roads Authority for Ireland.

The workshop was held at Dublin Castle and was well attended with almost 50 people attending.

The theme of the workshop was 'Improving travel using intelligent transport', with nine speakers and two themes:

- The broad benefits and use of ITS
- International examples of the benefits and costs of ITS implementations

The proceedings of the workshop are available on the IBEC web site.

IBEC sessions at ITS World Congress, San Francisco, USA



The main focus of the effort to organise workshops during 2005 was on events at the ITS World Congress held in San Francisco in November. A new activity for 2005 was a one-day pre-conference IBEC workshop, in addition to four 'Special Sessions' in the main congress programme. The one-day workshop took the form of a 'tour' of ITS developments around the world under four specific themes:

- Traveller Information Services
- Electronic Payment
- Vehicle Infrastructure Integration
- Supporting Decision Makers on ITS Investments

After a scene-setting from the (then) IBEC Chair and a welcome from the State of California, there were presentations from 15 technical speakers during the day. There were 95 delegates, which is probably a record for an IBEC workshop.



International Benefits Evaluation and Costs
Working Group



Thanks to four sponsors: Cairo Corporation (USA), ISIS (France), Mitretek Systems (USA) and TRL Limited (UK), IBEC was able to hire a room in the congress hotel and provide drinks and light refreshments to a large number of delegates after the IBEC special sessions.



- The themes for the four Special Sessions were:
- Private Sector Decision-Making on ITS Investments: Making the business Case for ITS
 - Where Do I Start? Issues facing Economies in Transition and Developing Countries
 - Hot Off the Press! The Latest Evaluation Results in Europe and North America
 - The Impacts of Road Pricing: Beyond the Technology

There were 14 presentations in these sessions. A more dynamic style was introduced in the 'Hot off the Press!' session, in the form of a 'Newsflash' feature; a member of the Management Committee interjected with 'headline' results from a variety of individual projects, between the main presentations.

The number of delegates in each session ranged from 35 to 70, with the Road Pricing session attracting the largest audience.

Written proceedings, including copies of the presentations, are due to be published on the IBEC web site at the end of January 2006.

IBEC Annual Social Event



IBEC Business Meeting

The IBEC Business meeting was also held in San Francisco. Several issues were discussed and the minutes of the meeting can be found on the website. Steve Tarry (right of picture) stood down from the position of Chair, while Jane Lappin (Middle right) was voted to be the new Chair person. Steve Morello (left of picture) was voted to be Vice Chair of IBEC. Sally Cotter (middle left) has been undertaking the Secretariat tasks on behalf of TRL since 2003. The Secretariat from April 2006 onwards is still to be determined.





London World Congress



Exhibition 9-12 October 2006
Congress 8-12 October 2006

- Effects of Catastrophic Events on Transportation Management and Operations: How ITS Can Help
- Hot Off the Press! The Latest Evaluation Results From Around the World
- Update on the Impacts of Road Pricing: Beyond the Technology
- The "Big Shift": Is ITS the tool or the origin of shifting? And where do we shift with ITS?
- Freight Transport: What are we doing with parking trucks? Solutions based on ITS
- ITS Case Studies from Economies in Transition and Developing Countries (co-sponsored the World Bank)
- The Economic, Security, and Efficiency Benefits of Emerging Freight Technologies

Plans for 2006

IBEC had a very successful year in 2005 and to continue this success, we have developed a plan for 2006. Below are some of the achievements IBEC will strive for in the coming year:

- Secure funding for the Secretariat function and events.
- Run a series of workshops and events at the London World Congress in 2006 (see article above)
- Opportunities for IBEC sessions at other 'regional' ITS events, including the Pan-American ITS conference in Chile in November 2006.
- Extending the electronic library of information on benefits, evaluation and costs, with the plans to submit abstracts and peer-reviewed papers on a consistent basis

to the Library area of the IBEC web site, and to include a 'search' facility within the site.

- IBEC Management Committee members are in discussions with the World Bank about the possibility of providing a training session on electronic payment during a training course for World Bank staff which is due to be held in April 2006.
- The Management Committee structure will also be considered. There is a need to expand the geographical and modal 'spread' of the Management Committee and restructuring and methods of working also need to be considered, to enhance IBEC's ability to produce diverse, timely, and relevant workshops and events where the international ITS community may continue to share ideas and experiences, for the benefit of decision-makers, researchers and implementers alike.

IBEC SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat supported IBEC (and the Management Committee) in the following ways during 2005:

- Maintained regular e-mail contact with IBEC members, maintained database
- Reviewed the IBEC Charter
- Helped with recruitment of the next Vice Chair, and additional committee members
- Hosted the Annual Business Meeting
- Provided an IBEC Secretariat presence at the main IBEC events,
- Helped with planning events
- Provided draft conference proceedings
- Supported preliminary planning for IBEC sessions in London
- Prepared Press Releases, newsletters and welcome packs
- Provided publicity material to promote IBEC at conferences and events
- Written an annual report
- Organised telephone conferences for the Management Committee
- Modified the website design
- Obtained feedback on members' satisfaction with IBEC
- Investigated future funding for IBEC and explore funding options