



IBEC Annual Report for 2005

1 Purpose of this document

This report provides a review of the activities carried out within IBEC during 2005, and plans for 2006. It is intended to be a comprehensive and neutral account of the work of the group.

2 Introduction to IBEC

History

IBEC is the International Benefits Evaluation and Cost Working Group, which coordinates international efforts to exchange information and techniques on the benefits, costs and evaluation of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). IBEC was launched in 2002 at the ITS World Congress in Chicago, and developed out of an informal network of individuals who had been organising special sessions on ITS evaluation at each of the annual ITS World Congress events since 1999, including work with the ATLANTIC project to organise workshops at the 2001 and 2002 ITS World Congresses.

Since the launch, IBEC has organised special sessions at each one of the annual ITS World Congress events and some 'regional' events, has provided a web site and library for members, and has grown to include a substantial network of members world-wide.

Objectives

The IBEC objectives are set out in the Charter and are listed below.

IBEC Charter – Objectives

1. Provide support on cost-benefits and cost-effectiveness analysis to government agencies, planners, producers, and implementers of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies, and ITS researchers.
2. Promote development of consistent and more reliable methodologies for the evaluation and deployment of ITS products and services.
3. Provide information to transportation professionals, decision-makers, and the general public on the measured costs and benefits of ITS deployment.
4. Share information regarding non-technical and institutional issues and lessons learned based on ITS project evaluations.
5. Promote the importance and relevance of professional evaluation and the added value of international cooperation through IBEC.

3 Organisation and governance

Charter

The activities of IBEC are governed by its Charter, which includes rules for membership, the Management Committee, meetings, elections, and a code of conduct. IBEC is a non profit-distributing group, with any funds that are generated by charging for events being used for IBEC purposes. The Charter also sets out arrangements for appointing a Secretariat, and for finding sponsorship to support the Secretariat functions.

Management Committee

The Management Committee includes a Chair (currently Jane Lappin), a Vice Chair (currently Steve Morello) and about 15 – 20 Management Committee Members (see the Annex for details). Currently, sub-committees are responsible for the library and for organising specific events. Much of the work of IBEC is carried out by the Management



Committee and the Secretariat; currently individual members become involved only occasionally when their specific experience is called on for particular activities. Management Committee members contribute their time voluntarily, with the support of their employers.

The Management Committee members work together by email and through telephone conferences; occasional face to face meetings are held when opportunities are available at international conferences, including the annual TRB meeting in Washington DC. During 2005, 12 Management Committee telephone conferences were held; in addition there was a face-to-face meeting during TRB in January and for the Annual General Meeting at the ITS World Congress in San Francisco.

Various changes in membership of the Management Committee took place in 2005 as some previously active members were unable to continue, and new members joined, but the number of members (19 excluding the IBEC Secretariat team) was the same in December 2005 as it had been at the beginning of the year. The main change in membership of the Management Committee has been the inclusion of several members of the European Evaluation Expert Group.

Secretariat

To meet the objectives set out in the Charter, the Secretariat provides a range of services which include:

- E-mail contact with membership
- Support to the organisation to ensure that it meets the requirements of the Charter
- Events Logistics
- Identity and Publicity
- Communication and Dissemination
- Strategy for engaging a wide ranging membership
- Reporting to sponsor(s)

The Secretariat function is currently carried out by TRL Limited in the UK, under contract to the UK Department for Transport.

4 Achievements in 2005

Workshops at conferences

One of the key activities of IBEC is to organise workshops at conferences. IBEC organises these by setting out the main themes to be covered, and then inviting specific individuals who are known to be able to present high quality material, to present their ideas and findings. This introduces an element of “peer review” to ensure that the workshops are of a high quality.

ITS in Europe, Hannover

The first event in 2005 was a 1.5 hour workshop during the “ITS in Europe” conference, held in Hannover, Germany on 1st June. The workshop was divided into four main themes, each tackled by a single presenter:

- What is ITS meant to deliver?
- Who has invested and what has been achieved?
- Where is the evidence of what has been achieved?
- What can be learnt from the experience of others?

Speakers were from Germany, France, the UK and the USA, and Keith Keen from the European Commission moderated the session. Thirty individuals attended the session, mostly from Europe. The proceedings, including presentations, are available on the IBEC web site (www.ibec-its.org).



Improving Travel Using Intelligent Transport, Dublin

The second IBEC event in 2005 was a half-day workshop held in Dublin on 20th September 2005. This was organised in conjunction with the European Commission (DG TREN) and the seven Euro-Regional Projects in the European Commission's TEMPO Programme and it immediately preceded the Euro-Regional Projects' annual conference. The event was co-hosted with the Department of Transport in Ireland and the National Roads Authority for Ireland.

The theme of the workshop was "Improving travel using intelligent transport". A total of nine speakers presented their results and ideas, in two sessions, one with an educational focus aimed specifically at the ITS community in Ireland, and the other aimed at presenting results from a range of different projects:

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

Julie O'Neill Secretary General of the Department of Transport Ireland chaired the sessions, and Jane Lappin, then IBEC Vice Chair, offered the closing summary. The workshop concluded with a speech from the Minister for Transport in Ireland. The event was attended by 48 ITS professionals, from Europe and elsewhere. The proceedings of the workshop are in preparation and will be made available on the IBEC web site in the near future.

The ITS World Congress, San Francisco

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 an "International 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 Steve Tarry, the (then) IBEC Chair, and a welcome from Randy Iwasaki, chief deputy director, CALTRANS, there were presentations from 15 technical speakers during the day. There were 95 registered delegates, which is a record for an IBEC workshop.

The themes for the four Special Congress 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

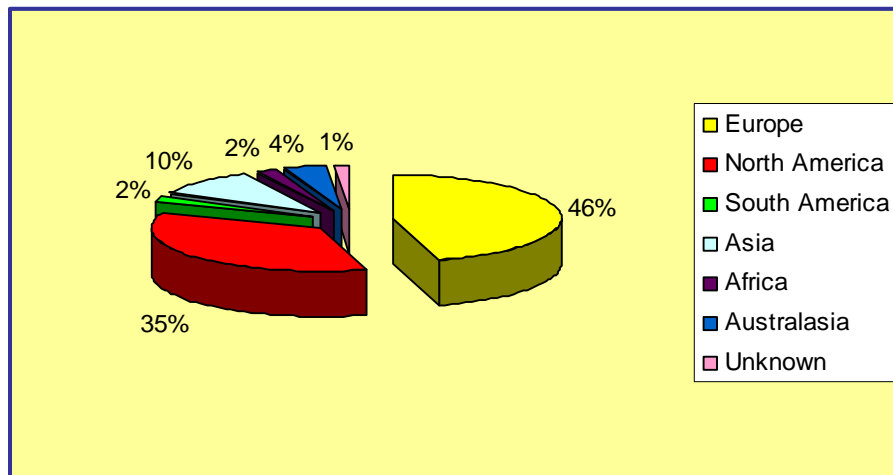
There were 14 presentations in these sessions. A more dynamic style was introduced in the "Hot off the Press!" session, in the form of a "Newsflash" feature; a member of the Management Committee interjected with "headline" results from a variety of individual projects, between the main presentations.

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, will be published on the IBEC web site during January 2006.

Membership

During 2005, the number of members has grown from 246 members in 25 countries to a total of 309 members in 38 countries. Individuals become members by signing onto the membership page of the IBEC website. The distribution of members between continents in December 2005 is shown in the diagram below.



During 2005 IBEC has made particular efforts to engage the membership in the running of the group, and to find out about members' views on IBEC. In September, a questionnaire survey was issued to all members asking them about the usefulness of the various elements of the service offered by IBEC, how much they would be willing to pay to attend one-day events, and how much they would be prepared to pay to belong to IBEC. The questionnaire invited members to provide suggestions about activities or to volunteer to become more involved.

The response to the survey was limited, however the results of the survey provide useful information and ideas, which are being used in developing plans for the future.

The IBEC Secretariat prepared a strategy for engaging a wide-ranging membership and presented this to the Management Committee in August 2005. Since then, IBEC Secretariat has been working on supporting the Management Committee in taking forward the activities identified in the strategy, which are shown below.

Strategy for engaging wide-ranging membership

- Continuing to prepare IBEC publicity material for events
- Recruiting members at events during the year
- Contacting members at least once a month by email
- Increasing opportunities for members to become involved in planning events and producing IBEC deliverables
- Expanding the web site library
- Increasing the benefits of becoming an IBEC member
- Placing IBEC success stories on the IBEC web site
- Identifying additional stakeholders and relevant organisations which are not yet represented in IBEC
- Inviting current members to nominate colleagues within their organisation
- Inviting Management Committee members to present publicity and recruitment information at ITS events
- Fostering links with relevant interest groups



Annual Business Meeting

IBEC holds its annual business meeting during the ITS World Congress. This is the meeting where the new Chair, Vice Chair, and any new members of the Management Committee are elected. All members are invited to attend. The discussions at the 2005 meeting included the following items:

- Review of the past year
- Discussion of the IBEC name
- Election of officers
- Future funding for IBEC Secretariat
- Identifying themes for workshops at the 2006 World Congress

Due to time pressures during the meeting, the following items from the agenda were carried forward for discussion at a Management Committee telephone conference in December:

- Report on the membership survey
- Opportunities for future IBEC events
- Main actions for IBEC to accomplish in 2006

The meeting was attended by 16 people, all of whom are either on the Management Committee, or are helping the Management Committee with specific tasks.

Social event

This opportunity for members and non-members to network with experts in ITS evaluation has been a popular feature of the IBEC events at the ITS World Congress since 2002. Invitations are issued through information to members and wider publicity to the ITS community. 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 during the early evening after the IBEC sessions.

Publicity

The "Welcome Pack" for new and potential members provides details of the objectives, the charter, the web site, benefits for members, and names of the Management Committee. This was updated in May 2005 for the ITS in Europe conference, and again in July and December.

A variety of press coverage was received. In May 2005 Jean Hopkin and Alan Stevens (IBEC Secretariat) included IBEC in their review of developments in ITS evaluation in the last 10 years in ITS International's 10th anniversary edition. In July, a Press Release was issued to IBEC's network of some 20 ITS press contacts around the world. This, and individual contacts with journalists on an ad-hoc basis, resulted in publicity for IBEC activities including: Intelligent Highway, ITS (UK)'s distribution to members, a further item in ITS International, and the web sites for ITS America and ITS Canada.

A newsletter was circulated to members in July; it was also posted on the IBEC web site and distributed with the Press Release. The Newsletter included details of the programmes at forthcoming events, a report of the Hannover event, and information about publications and resources on ITS benefits, costs and evaluation.

Members receive emails each month from IBEC Secretariat, providing them with the latest news on plans for events, and requesting them to provide contributions to newsletters, suggestions for themes and speakers at IBEC events, and other ideas on ways in which they can contribute to the work of IBEC.

The IBEC web site provides a single point of information about IBEC, including the latest information on plans for events, proceedings and presentations from past IBEC events, a



library, training material and links to other relevant web sites and sources of information. During 2005 the web site was re-designed with a more up-to-date appearance, restructured to subdivide some of the pages, and a private area for Management Committee members was added. This area includes a discussion forum and an area to upload working documents, and is intended to enable the Management Committee to track their discussions and work to develop plans for events without each having to manage them through numerous emails and attachments.

Two fliers were prepared about IBEC activities for distribution to members, on exhibition stands and during relevant sessions at Hannover, Dublin and San Francisco; these fliers focused on encouraging people to attend the IBEC events at those conferences. Publicity for IBEC is also provided at other relevant conferences and events attended by members of the Management Committee. In 2005, two members of the Management Committee attended the ITS conference in South Africa, and one attended the ITS conference in Latin America, distributing 'Welcome Packs' and flyers about the IBEC events.

Links with other organisations

One of the objectives for IBEC in 2005 has been to foster links with other organisations. At the start of 2005, some members of the IBEC Management Committee met with the TRB ITS Committee. An agreement for joint working was reached, through a joint subcommittee. Two TRB committees helped to publicise the IBEC Sunday event in San Francisco by providing details to their members.

The PIARC Network Operations Group has been involved in joint activities, with a PIARC meeting arranged to coincide with the Dublin conference, and a structured discussion during one of the IBEC sessions in San Francisco about the role of ITS evaluation in countries in transition, which involved some of the PIARC Committee Members.

Links with the European Evaluation Expert Group for projects in the European Commission's TEMPO programme have also been strengthened this year through the joint event in Dublin, and with the EEG members being invited to join the IBEC Management Committee.

A representative of the World Bank provided support in identifying speakers at some of the IBEC sessions in San Francisco, and since then has been in dialogue with the Management Committee about potential joint activities, including a possible training sessions for World Bank staff, with speakers provided by IBEC.

Links with AASHTO and APTA were formed in the process of arranging the IBEC Sunday workshop in San Francisco, and these organisations helped with publicising the workshop to their members.

Invitations to some additional ITS organisations who are not yet represented in the IBEC membership have been issued, and other relevant organisations are being identified with a view to the Management Committee identifying a selection of organisations to approach with a view to staff becoming members, and considering joint activities.

5 Funding and sponsorship

2005

Funding for IBEC activities comes from several sources, and thanks are due to all of the organisations that have provided support to IBEC, whether through making time available, funding, publicity, or other help. The main sources of funding and sponsorship during 2005 have been:

- Contributions in kind from employers of Management Committee members to enable the Management Committee to devote time to IBEC activities during their working day.



- Funding of IBEC Secretariat; at the start of 2005, the Secretariat was funded through a contract originating in the US DoT, and from April 2005, a new contract for IBEC Secretariat was set up, funded by the UK Department for Transport.
- Sponsorship for one-off events, such as the room hire and refreshments at the IBEC social event; in 2005 four companies provided \$500 each.
- Charging for events was introduced in 2005, with a \$50 registration fee for the one-day pre-conference ITS 'tour' in San Francisco. This brought in an income of \$4,600, which exceeded the cost of room hire, meals and refreshments, by a small margin.

In addition, support from a range of international stakeholders has become a more significant feature in 2005, with organisations distributing publicity, helping to organise and host events, and continuing to run the 'Yahoo' discussion service for members. This support, and the time contributed by individual members of the Management Committee, has been important in ensuring the expansion of IBEC activities during 2005.

Expanding the funding sources

Since IBEC was launched at the end of 2002, funding for the work of IBEC Secretariat has come from two national governments (UK in 2002 – 2003, US in 2004 – 2005, and UK in 2005 – 2006). Relying on two national governments is not sustainable in the long term, so one of the objectives for IBEC in 2005 was to review options for future funding with a view to expanding the sources of funding from April 2006, when the current IBEC Secretariat contract comes to an end. Altogether, seven options have been developed, investigated and discussed, and at the end of 2005 IBEC Secretariat prepared a report to the Management Committee summarising the outcome of the review and recommending the way forward.

Two options now need to be explored further. These are: identifying sources of funding for the work of IBEC Secretariat from other governments and ITS organisations, and splitting IBEC Secretariat tasks and assigning them to Management Committee members. Charging for delegates to attend workshops that are not part of the main programme of conferences is also recommended, as a way of recovering some of the costs of holding such events.

6 Plans for 2006

Clearly it will be vital to the continued success of IBEC for funding from a wider range of sources to be secured in 2006, and the work to secure that funding will dominate the work of the Management Committee, at least in the early part of the year.

The plans for IBEC events at the London World Congress in 2006 are already well in hand, with proposals for Executive Sessions, Special Sessions and a one-day pre-conference workshop having been submitted to the Congress Programme Committee during January. The titles proposed for the proposed Executive and Special Sessions are:

- Life After the Olympics: What Happens When the Crowds Go Home?
- 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



The titles for the proposed one-day “International Tour” on the Sunday preceding the London World Congress are:

- Urban Mobility – How ITS can help to keep our cities moving (to be produced in cooperation with the Transport for London Traffic Systems Vision Project)
- Designing User-Centric Multi-Modal Trip Planning Systems
- An Update on the Vehicle Infrastructure Integration Initiative and eSafety
- A Review of the State of ITS Evaluation

Opportunities for IBEC sessions at other national and regional ITS events during the year are also being considered, including the Pan-American ITS conference in Chile in November 2006.

Extending the electronic library of information on benefits, evaluation and costs is set to continue as an activity in 2006, 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 public-private partnerships, highways, and electronic fee payment during a training course for World Bank staff which is due to be held in April 2006.

Finally, the Management Committee itself is also being considered. The need to expand the geographical and modal scope of the Management Committee is being discussed, 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.

7 Correspondence with IBEC

Correspondence is handled by the IBEC secretariat, TRL Ltd, UK, by email at IBEC Enquiries [ibec@trl.co.uk], or by phone to Sally Cotter at +44 (0)1344 770311. The IBEC web site is www.ibec-its.org. Jane Lappin, current chair of IBEC, can be reached by email at lappin@volpe.dot.gov, or by phone at +01.617.494.3692.



8 Annex: Management Committee, December 2005

Contact name	Organisation, Country	Role
Jane Lappin	Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, USA	IBEC Chair
Steve Morello	Group Egis, France	IBEC Vice Chair
Sally Cotter	TRL, UK	IBEC Secretariat
Jean Hopkin	TRL, UK	IBEC Secretariat
Joe Peters	US Department of Transportation, USA	Management Committee
Amy Polk	Cairo Corporation, USA	Management Committee
Mark Carter	SAIC, USA	Management Committee
William Johnson	TRENDS, Canada	Management Committee
Steve Tarry	Faber Maunsell, UK	Management Committee, Past Chair, 2004-2005
Eric Sampson	Department for Transport, UK	Management Committee
Richard Harris	Faber Maunsell, UK	Management Committee
Barbara Staples	Mitretek Systems, USA	Management Committee
Dick Mudge	Delcan, Canada	Management Committee, Past Chair, 2002-2004
Guido Schuster	Landesbetrieb Straßen und Verkehr, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany	Management Committee
Keith Keen	European Commission, Belgium	Management Committee
Patty Del Pozo	ITS America, USA	Management Committee
Risto Kulmala	VTT Building and Transport, Finland	Management Committee
Lone Dorge	Genua Consult, Denmark	Management Committee
Luca Studer	Polimi, Italy	Management Committee
Reinhard Pfliegl	Austria Tech-Federal Agency for Technology Measures GmbH, Austria	Management Committee
David Williams	Department for Transport, UK	Management Committee
The Management Committee is assisted by the following individuals:		
Chris Bennett	World Bank	
Joy Dahlgren	California	Library sub-committee
John Miles	Ankerbold International, UK	Management Committee member 2003 - 2005