

## Intelligent Mobility Conference

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On 24 January 2018, we got to attend a conference at Nottingham Conference Centre on Intelligent Mobility. Green drive initiative has importance in almost all sectors of transportation. Roadways, Marine and aerospace. The midlands mobility conference intended to share a view into major projects, policies and challenges faced by these industries along with innovative projects. The conference was organised by the consortium along with other major universities in UK partnering with Catapult, a very novel Transport Systems company.

Following Prof Pete Thomas' opening remark, the keynote address was given by Phil Blythe the chief Scientific Advisor, Department of Transport on the direction of DfT and its contribution to the future of mobility. He also explained about the UK government's actions regarding safeguarding the air quality and the support for mobility with funding innovative projects in mobility. Future of intelligent mobility was explained as connected vehicles, Electric drivetrain, shared ownership, pricing and automated navigation. By 2050 all the vehicles produced are expected to be zero emission. He followed it with a discussion into the challenges in electric vehicle industry. Also regarding 'automated and electric car bill' presented in the parliament.

Paul Campion, CEO Transport Systems Catapult explained about the UK's industrial strategies and the benefits of Intelligent Mobility. Catapult allows the government and industries to see the bigger picture and to gain the benefits. Some of the solutions suggested were the use and managing of drones, Marine applications and more than those the need to change the mindset towards radical ideas that are available. Data was explained as the core of intelligent mobility.

Wolfgang Schuster, the technical director, Atkins pointed out on the requirements and disadvantages of a connected system. Steve Tyler, Director of Assistive Technology, Leonard Cheshire disability spoke about the need for a person centred access. Profiling of behaviour monitoring algorithms, Autonomous systems and the challenges were presented. He also explained about the concept of "last 10 yards". Christine Hemphill was there to address about the need for inclusive design and how to overcome the challenges of older people and those with disabilities. Robin Spinks, Royal National institute of Blind people spoke about interfaces, productivity, and inclusivity. The talks further ventured into visual, auditory, haptic and smell based input systems most of which were developed in partnership with catapult. The role of parking in urban mobility was addressed by Lewis Johnson, the technical account manager for Parkopedia. The Beemcar concept was a fresh concept to solve the ever-growing traffic problems faced by most of the metropolitans around the world.



## News from the visit to Cologne

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The sessions were separated with breaks with snacks and drinks. We got to meet and talk with the eminent personalities from the industries during this period. Prof Roland Leigh from the University of Leicester grabbed our attention towards computation of pollution and the common methods employed to counter the localised spike in the pollution values. Meanwhile Dr Paul Goodman, Newcastle University talked about C-ITS smart corridor and on the need to reduce congestion, traffic signal along with improving safety and to examine parking. Francis Robson, CENEX explained the need to have a system to check if zero emission vehicles adhere to the emission standard while entering emission controlled areas.

Dr Patrizia Franco the transport Systems Director presented about the activity model and simulations (MATSIM). Dr. Delia Dimitriu from Manchester Metropolitan University explained that the existing aviation strategies have inefficiencies. The need for integration and seamlessness was also talked about.

These sessions were followed by workshops where we got to debate about the systems, their inefficiencies and applications. We concluded the day with a few drinks with the contributors. It was enlightening to hear about the demands and concerns of intelligent mobility.