

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am very pleased to serve as the Chair of IBEC for the coming year as we continue to expand the mission of the International Benefits, Evaluation and Costs Working Group. I wish to congratulate the Management Committee on its efforts over the past year to create a new-look website, organize a full program of four sessions and a pre-congress workshop at the 14th ITS World Congress in Beijing, and sponsor presentations at major ITS conferences in Europe, North America, and Asia. Highlights of these achievements are presented in this newsletter.

The major IBEC project for 2008 is to plan and prepare for the 15th ITS World Congress in New York City November 17-20. This event that will combine the World Congress with ITS America's Annual Meeting will be an unprecedented opportunity to highlight IBEC and its unique role to foster ITS evaluation. In addition, there will be IBEC presentations at major conferences in Europe, North America and Asia.

In a real sense, IBEC is achieving its mission "to coordinate and expand international efforts to exchange information and techniques on evaluation of benefits and costs of ITS". It is my personal goal as Chair of IBEC to ensure a continued high level of achievement and I look forward to working with members of IBEC and the Management Committee in 2008.

Mark Carter, Chair IBEC Management Committee



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<i>Photos courtesy of IBEC and William Johnson</i>	



RECENT EVENTS AND IBEC ACTIVITIES

IBEC at 14th ITS World Congress

IBEC successfully organized and hosted a program of four Special Sessions, a pre-congress workshop and a reception for members and guests in conjunction with the 14th ITS World Congress in Beijing, China, 8-11 October 2007.

The details of the content of the sessions and the workshop were reported in the September 2007 newsletter. This article presents a brief summary of some of the highlights of these events.

Pre-Congress Workshop

The pre-congress workshop this year was organized in cooperation with the World Bank. It was aimed at newcomers to ITS evaluation and, in particular, delegates from agencies in China. The IBEC speakers, Mark Carter, Steve Tarry and Neil Perks, based their presentations on the introductory evaluation materials and ITS case studies developed for a previous IBEC-World Bank sponsored workshop for developing countries.



Four Special Sessions

The four IBEC Special Sessions were divided into two on Wednesday afternoon and two on Thursday morning. The topics were:

- 1) Urban Road Pricing;
- 2) ITS and Safety;
- 3) Value of Travel Time & Traffic Information;
- 4) Desperately Seeking the Business Case for Traveler Information.

The session organizers were successful in attracting top-notch speakers from a variety of countries worldwide. For example, the speakers in the first session on Urban Road Pricing included Jeff Paniati of USDOT; Marika Jenstav of Sweden; Alan Tesch of Queensland Mainroads; Chris Money of New Zealand Ministry Transport; and Scott Wilson

of Booz Allen UK (see photo). All the IBEC sessions were notable as high value-added learning experiences for ITS professionals.

The presentations of all the speakers in all sessions are now available for downloading from the IBEC website at www.ibec-its.org.



Reception

IBEC hosted a reception on Wednesday evening for members, guests and delegates to the World Congress. This was an opportunity to celebrate the success of the IBEC activities and to thank the many members who contributed time and effort to organize sessions.





Annual General Meeting 2007

The Annual General Meeting was convened on October 12, 2007 at the Nikko New Century Hotel, Beijing with 14 members present. Mark Carter was inaugurated as the Chair of IBEC for 2007-2008 and Richard Harris was elected as the Vice-chair. The new members of the Management Committee were elected (see *IBEC News for details*). The Welsh Assembly confirmed its continued support for the IBEC secretariat. The issues considered at the meeting included:

- Lessons learned from the 2007 Congress (need better local knowledge of venues, advertising, & coordination with organizer);
- Prospects for cooperation with ERTICO, ITS America and ITS Japan;
- Plans for future events (ITS India, Gulf Traffic, TRB, TRA Europe, ITS Europe, ITS Canada, AASHTO; see *Future Events* page 5 for details); and
- Targets for 2008: increase membership to 500; add field visits at World Congress; re-design pre-congress workshop to better compliment sessions.

Upcoming Events 2008

IBEC Management Committee members will be attending a number of ITS events in 2008 to make presentations or organize sessions on ITS evaluation, benefits and costs. This is an important service provided by IBEC to the ITS professional community. These activities also serve to introduce IBEC to international audiences and attract new members to join. Members can tap into this service by contacting a member of the Management Committee (see *IBEC News* for contacts).

The *Future Events and Calendar 2008* on the last page provides details of these events. They include:

- TRB Annual Meeting, Washington DC;
- 5th ITS South Africa International Conference & Exhibition, Sandton (Johannesburg), South Africa;
- 2nd Middle East Conference & Exhibition on ITS, Manama, Bahrain;
- TRA Europe, Ljubljana, Slovenia;
- ITS Canada Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec, where IBEC will organize a session;
- ITS Europe 2008, Geneva, Switzerland,
- 15th ITS World Congress & 2008 ITS America Annual Meeting, New York, USA (co-located).

IBEC NEWS

Membership Update

As of January 3, 2008, there are 370 members of IBEC in 42 countries.

Membership in IBEC is free and open to all interested individuals. To join, send an e-mail with contact details to Patty Del Pozo at:

membership@ibec-its.org.

Communications Update

IBEC Website is New and Improved

In October, IBEC unveiled its upgraded and redesigned website. Several months in the making, the new and improved website is a repository of state-of-the-art knowledge about ITS evaluation methodology and results. The website now contains:

- Archive of IBEC newsletters;
- Trade press articles about IBEC;
- Proceedings and presentations from IBEC sponsored events dating back to 1999;
- Future Events and calendar; and
- IBEC library.

The IBEC library provides a comprehensive listing of handbooks, training materials, and recommended books.

Check out the new and improved website by visiting <http://www.ibec-its.org>.

IBEC Management Committee

Crucial to Success of IBEC

The IBEC Management Committee is crucial to the ongoing success of IBEC. The twenty-three members and four associate members are elected at the IBEC Annual General Meeting. They give up their own time to work on ways to inform others of the importance of evaluating the costs and benefits of Intelligent Transportation Systems. The Management Committee works to increase the profile of evaluation in several ways. They organize and deliver sessions on various aspects of ITS at key ITS events in the global calendar, provide support on evaluating costs and benefits through the IBEC Yahoo Group, and facilitate communications through publishing the IBEC Newsletter, developing and maintaining the IBEC website and library and undertaking other activities.

While the ITS World Congress remains the most significant annual event in IBEC's calendar, Management Committee members have organized and presented IBEC sessions and/or papers (often after specific invitations)



at several other ITS conferences in countries including Chile, China, Malaysia and India, along with several events across Europe. In 2008, Management Committee members are looking to deliver IBEC sessions in Bahrain, Canada and Switzerland.

Organizing these events requires a great deal of liaison among Management Committee members. The committee meets monthly via a telephone conference call and meets annually with IBEC members at the IBEC Annual General Meeting held each year at the ITS World Congress. Outside of this, there is considerable email communication during the rest of the year to coordinate and conduct IBEC business. In all of this activity, the Management Committee is supported by a secretariat funded in 2008 by the Welsh Assembly.

Management Committee, December 2007

Mark Carter, Chair	SAIC, USA
Richard Harris, V-chair	WSP Group, UK
Robert Cone	Welsh Assembly, UK
Ian Davies	Welsh Assembly, UK
Patty Del Pozo, M-ship	ITS America, USA
Stig Franzen	Chalmers, Sweden
Leighton James	Wales TRC, Wales
Bill Johnson, Newsletter	TRENDS, Canada
Keith Keen	European Commission
Risto Kulmala	VTT, Finland
Jane Lappin, P-chair	Volpe Center, USA
Steve Morello, P-chair	Egis Projects, France
Dick Mudge, P-chair	Delcan, USA
Reinhard Pfliegl	Leiter Telematik, Austria
Amy Polk, Commun	Citizant, USA
Guido Schuster, Web	Landesbetrieb, Germany
Barbara Staples	Noblis, USA
Alan Stevens	TRL, UK
Luca Studer	Politecnico Milan, Italy
Henk Taale	AVV TRC, NL
Steve Tarry, P-chair	Faber Maunsell, UK
Paul Vorster	ITS South Africa
David Williams	DfT, UK
MC Associates:	
Chris Bennett	World Bank, USA
Eric Kenis	European Commission
John Miles	Ankerbold Internat, UK
Joe Peters	USDOT, USA
Secretariat:	
Michael Levasseur	Faber Maunsell, UK
Steven Turvey	Faber Maunsell, UK

For further information about the Management Committee and its activities, contact the IBEC secretariat at secretariat@ibec-its.org.

Building the BEC Knowledge Base

Membership Survey Results

In September, a survey was sent out to the IBEC membership. The respondents represented a wide range of geographical locations, areas of expertise and professional interests.

The survey asked about members' areas of expertise and the results revealed the impressive array of experts who are a part of IBEC. The most common areas of expertise reported were in ITS evaluation in general and traveler information/traffic management, followed by strategic planning/business models, vehicle-infrastructure integration, and public safety. Survey respondents noted expertise in several emerging hot-topics, such as smart parking, car sharing, alternative fuels and sustainable cities. If IBEC members want to learn more about these facets of ITS, their fellow members can be a great resource.

The survey asked about members' evaluation interests. The most common responses were assessing benefits of ITS and business cases/business models, followed by promotion of ITS deployment, evaluation methodologies, identifying real (not estimated) costs, modeling and simulation, and real-time traveler information.

The survey asked members what topics they would like to see IBEC cover in the future. Public transportation systems was the big winner, followed by lessons learned ("what works, what doesn't and why"), identifying the real (not estimated) costs of ITS, congestion pricing, and the benefits of ITS on an entire transportation corridor (not just a spot locations). Organizers of IBEC-sponsored events at the upcoming 2008 ITS World Congress will find these suggestions most useful when selecting topics and speakers.

Finally, the survey asked if respondents would be interested in becoming more involved in IBEC, and the answers were encouraging. Respondents expressed interest to work on the newsletter, communications with members and the media, and IBEC-sponsored events at the 2008 ITS World Congress. IBEC members who desire to participate will be contacted to discuss follow-up actions.



Yahoo Discussion Group Proves Valuable to IBEC Members

All of IBEC's members are, by definition, part of a Yahoo discussion group, which members can use to post questions and get answers. In 2007, IBEC members have used the Yahoo group to ask questions about a variety of ITS topics, including: active traffic management (ATM), the benefits of having an ITS architecture, model approaches for priority ranking of research projects, specifications used in procurement of non-intrusive traffic sensors, and incident and disaster management for mega events such as the Soccer World Cup or Olympic Games.

Some members have even used the group to enlist volunteer help. One member asked others in IBEC to review a white paper written by one of his graduate students. Another asked IBEC members to identify people with experience with a certain ITS application to invite to a brainstorming session on the topic. Another asked for locations and contacts at agencies using reversible flow lanes for the purpose of scheduling site visits.

Other members used the group to find individuals and organizations to hire for their expertise. One member asked IBEC members to identify consultants knowledgeable in certain areas of expertise. "Each time I've used [the discussion forum] I have received many responses to my original inquiries. I know that in at least one case, a consultant was hired due to their response." Adds the member, "thumbs up from a satisfied user."

Another satisfied user in the U.K. asked IBEC members if any road authority had engaged with the private sector in a particular type of public private partnership related to telecommunications. He received five responses, which were, in his words, "very helpful", including one that directed him to an industry/user forum on this topic.

Making an inquiry to IBEC's Yahoo group is easy, and all of IBEC's members can do it. Simply send an e-mail message to:

ibec-its@yahoogroups.com with your inquiry.

For an example of how to state your inquiry, see the message sent by Michael Levasseur of the IBEC secretariat at:

<http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/ibec-its/message/119>.

Start asking your questions today!

FUTURE EVENTS AND CALENDAR 2008

Dates	Event	Sponsor	Location	IBEC Contact
January 13-17, 2008	TRB Annual Meeting – IBEC Meets ITS Cmtee	Transportation Research Board	Washington DC, USA	Richard Harris <i>Richard.Harris@WSPGroup.com</i>
January 17	IBEC Management Committee Meeting	IBEC	ITS America, Washington, DC	Mark Carter <i>Mark.R.Carter@saic.com</i>
March 24-25, 2008	5 th ITS South Africa Conference	ITS South Africa	Sandton, S.A. (Johannesburg)	Paul Vorster <i>Paul@itssa.org</i>
April 14-15, 2008	2 nd Middle East Conference & Exhibition on ITS	ITS Arab	Manama, Bahrain	Richard Harris <i>(E-mail above)</i>
April 21-25, 2008	TRA Europe 2008	Transport Research Arena	Ljubljana, Slovenia	Richard Harris <i>(E-mail above)</i>
June 1-4, 2008	ITS Canada 2008 Annual Conference	ITS Canada	Montreal (Quebec), Canada	William Johnson <i>johnswf@attglobal.net</i>
June 4-6, 2008	ITS Europe 2008	ERTICO	Geneva, Switzerland	Richard Harris <i>(E-mail above)</i>
November 16-20, 2008	15 th ITS World Congress and ITS America 2008 Annual Meeting	ITS World Congress Board and ITS America	New York NY, USA	Patty Del Pozo <i>Pdelpozo@itssa.org</i>