

Roundtable on Indian Automotive R&D Opportunities

By John Greenough, LEA Consulting

ITS Canada was invited to a roundtable discussion on Indian automotive research and development opportunities with several representatives from India's automotive industry that was held in Toronto last November. The roundtable session was sponsored by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ontario, in association with the Government of India. The purpose of the roundtable event was to introduce the Indian automotive sector and discuss collaboration opportunities for Canadian automotive industries in India's marketplace.

John Greenough, Vice President and Head of Transportation Systems at LEA Consulting Ltd., attended the roundtable discussion on behalf of ITS Canada. Although LEA is a Canadian firm with offices in the Toronto and Vancouver area, LEA also has over 900 employees in offices throughout India, including a major centre in New Delhi that provides transportation planning and engineering services, including ITS.

Some of the key attendees at the roundtable discussion included:

- Mr. A.P. Arya, President of Tata Motors;
- Mr. Aravind Bhardwaj, Head of Advanced Engineering at Ashok Leyland;
- Mr. Dilip Chenoy, Director General of the Society of Indian Automotive Manufacturers (SIAM);
- Mr. Atanu Ganguli, Dy. Director of SIAM;
- Mr. Satya Swarup Udgata, Head of R&D at Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) & RSB Group.

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Representing ITS Canada, John Greenough (r) meets with A.P. Arya, President of TATA Motors, one of India's largest automotive manufacturing corporations, at recent international roundtable discussions in Toronto

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Opportunities in India

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Notable Canadian corporate representatives included automotive and related industry corporations like General Motors and Magna International, as well as R&D institutes such as the University of Toronto and the Ontario Centres of Excellence.

Hon. Harinder Takhar, Minister of Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Ontario, and Mr. Akhil Tyagi, Area Director, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Ontario, introduced the roundtable sessions, in which discussion topics focused on:

- Opportunities for technology alliances, research outsourcing and exchange programs; and
- Mechanisms for Canadian R&D organizations to establish relationships with Indian counterpart groups.

Discussions highlighted that India has become the fastest growing car market in the world with a projected annual growth rate of 10 percent per year through 2010, and forecasters predict that India will become the fourth largest passenger car market in the world by 2020. India's automotive components sector is also growing dramatically, primarily driven by foreign collaborations.

As such, there are many prospects for Canadian automotive companies in India. From an ITS perspective, the session noted Canada's successful advances in ITS, and the opportunities for Canadian ITS industries to offer India and its automotive markets systems products and expertise that can be so readily exported.

ITS Canada Election Ballots to be mailed

For the upcoming ITS Canada elections, ballots will be mailed in February/March to the Primary Contact for each membership. Prior to January 31, 2007, all members are asked to review their contact information to ensure that ITS Canada has a current mailing address on file. Please access the online Members Directory at:

www.itscanada.ca/protected/search.php

Any changes should be emailed to:
itscanada@itscanada.ca.

Members in the News



NAVTEQ has agreed to acquire The Map Network, a producer of official maps for travel destinations, special events, major hotels and marquee venues. The Map Network's content and capabilities are a natural extension of NAVTEQ's core map business and will enable NAVTEQ to augment its portfolio with rich, location-specific detail.

NAVTEQ has also announced the release of a "Detailed Coverage" map for Norway. Drivers will now be able to use navigation systems for turn-by-turn routing instructions to and from addresses all over the country. The database also includes the relevant codes needed to receive traffic information from TMC-enabled navigation systems.



Delcan Corporation

In January 2007, Delcan signed a contract with the Transport Department Hong Kong SAR to provide consultant services for the Kowloon ATC (Area Traffic Control) Project to replace the existing ATC systems and associated traffic signal controllers for most of the Kowloon Peninsular. The total number of controllers for replacement is around 940. Spare parts for the existing systems are becoming obsolete, making it difficult and costly for proper maintenance and repairs. The project also involves expanding the new ATC system to cover the 30-plus sets of traffic signals in the Tsung Kwan O ("TKO"). Provision of the new ATC facilities is expected to optimize the capacity of existing traffic signals, alleviate traffic congestion and reduce delay.

ITS Canada Welcomes New Member

CORPORATE
Region of Niagara

Regional Updates

MARITIMES

By Doug Shea – Newfoundland & Labrador Dept. Transportation and Works

The RWIS project of 18 sites on the National Highway corridor is complete and operational. Regional staff are trained in the operation of the system and, by all accounts, are satisfied with the results received. It will be a couple of years before we can evaluate the benefits from the system when all the bugs are worked out and we are operating at full capacity.

The department has hired a consultant to implement a Transportation - Geographic Information System (GIS-T) for the department. The project is in the start-up phase, with a call for proposals for software expected later this month and advertisement for a project manager expected later this spring. A pilot project to collect data for the system is ongoing. Expected completion of the project is March 31, 2008, with continued data collection past that date expected to take another year to complete.

The department has an ongoing project to equip our fleet of heavy equipment with global positioning system (GPS) hardware. At present, we have 44 units equipped and in service.

By Paul Richard, Nova Scotia Dept of Transportation & Public Works

The Nova Scotia Department of Transportation & Public Works (NSTPW) continues to expand its RWIS network. The current complement of stations stands at 39, with 2 new sites slated for completion in January of 2007 and 12 more new installations planned over the next three years.

The Province, along with N.B. and P.E.I., contract system maintenance and forecasting to AMEC Earth & Environmental as part of a Maritime Provinces RWIS network. The Cape Breton Highlands National Park is currently installing two RWIS stations and they will be displayed on the Maritimes RWIS site.



NSTPW is also conducting a pilot project on an Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) system in two Counties. A total of 30 salt/plow units are being retrofitted with GPS systems that upload the vehicle data via satellite communications for display on a website.

In another pilot project, the Department is combining the AVL technology and the RWIS network to evaluate the benefits of thermal mapping. This project will be carried out on 92 kilometres of Highway 104 through Pictou County. Data are collected over a series of winter nights, under different weather conditions, using salt truck-mounted infrared thermometers to collect pavement temperatures over the roadway network, and relating them to GPS points along the roadway. This data then allows mapping of pavement temperature all along the roadway, using the known pavement temperatures from the RWIS sites. These thermal maps can be used by winter maintenance personnel to focus primary salting efforts on the coldest sections of pavement.

NSTPW is about to go live with a web-based winter road condition reporting system. Drivers will be able to access information for the Province's main and secondary highway system with the click of a mouse. The same information will be accessible by phone via interactive voice response. The website will feature a colour-coded map of the Province, with links to the highway webcams and weather conditions and forecasts from Environment Canada.

The Department is also investigating the development of a 511 traveller information line which would utilize the information produced by the systems outlined above.



Upcoming Events

Congres ATEC-ITS France

January 30 and 31, 2007 – Paris, France

www.atec-tec.net

ITS Conference

February 1 and 2, 2007 – New Delhi, India

www.euindia.info

Roads & The Environment Conference – International Road Federation

February 5-6, 2007 – Geneva, Switzerland

www.irfnet.org

ITS Technology Fair

February 14, 2007 – Washington, D.C.

www.itsa.org/techfair.html

ANDINATRAFFIC 2007

February 26 to 28, 2007 – Bogotá, Colombia

www.andinatraffic.com/sa3t/home/index.cfm

SASITS e-Transport Conference

March 6 to 8, 2007 – Pretoria, South Africa

www.sasits.com

Intertraffic China

March 15 to 17, 2007 – Beijing China

www.intertraffic.com

Le 42e congrès annuel de l'AQTR

April 2 to 4, 2007 – Montreal, QC

ctasse@aqtr.qc.ca

TAC's Spring 2007 Technical Meetings

April 11 to 18, 2007 – Ottawa, Ontario

www.tac-atc.ca

Smart Moving Conference 2007 / Traffex 2007

April 17 to 19, 2007 – Birmingham, UK

“SMART Solutions for Today” – call for papers

www.its-uk.org.uk

ITS Canada Annual Conference and General Meeting

April 29 to May 1, 2007 – Niagara Falls, Ontario

www.itscanada.ca/niagara2007

CITE 2007 Conference

May 6 to 9, 2007 – Toronto, Ontario

www.itetoronto.ca

15th International Symposium on Electronics in Traffic (ISEP 2007)

May 9 to 11, 2007 – Ljubljana, Slovenia

www.ezs-zveza.si/isep2007/foreword/

Intertraffic Istanbul

May 9 to 11, 2007 – Istanbul, Turkey

www.intertraffic.com

XVII Canadian Multidisciplinary Road Safety Conference

June 3 to 6, 2007 – Montreal, Quebec

www.cmrcs.polymtl.ca

ITS America 2007 Annual Meeting & Exposition

June 4 to 6, 2007 – Palm Springs, California

www.itsa.org/annualmeeting.html

7th International Conference on ITS Telecommunications

June 6 to 8, 2007 - Sophia Antipolis, France

www.itst2007.eurecom.fr

European ITS Congress and Exhibition

June 18 to 20, 2007 – Aalborg, Denmark

www.itsineurope.com/congress/index.cfm

23rd World Road Congress

September 17 to 21, 2007 – Paris, France

www.paris2007-route.fr

14th World Congress on ITS

October 9 to 13, 2007 – Beijing, China

Call for Papers – deadline January 15, 2007

www.itsa.org



ITS Canada Annual Conference ... Niagara Falls

Save the dates ... April 29 to May 1, 2007
Call For Abstracts ... due January 19, 2007