



18th World Congress on
Intelligent Transport Systems
Keeping the Economy Moving
October 16 - 20, 2011



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WORLD CONGRESS UPDATE

House Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee Chairman, Rep. John Mica, Advocates for Intelligent Transportation Systems to Make U.S. Transportation System More Efficient, Improve Commerce

Media note: Event updates will be posted daily to the World Congress Press Center as they occur. Download broadcast/print quality video, sound bites, photos & releases from this speech and others at: <http://www.itsworldcongress.org/presscenter.html>

Orlando, FL— Yesterday in Orlando, FL, House Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee Chairman **John Mica** (R-FL) addressed hundreds of the world's leading transportation officials at a session focused on generating economic growth through technologies like intelligent transportation systems (ITS). During his speech he advocated for increasing the use of ITS solutions on our nation's transportation system to improve efficiency, reduce congestion and improve commerce.

In talking about the economics behind funding the U.S. transportation system, Mica said, "With the current gas tax based on 18.4 cents per gallon, people are driving further, cars are more efficient every day, so they're paying actually less. So we've got to look at a whole new way of financing transportation and we've also got to get more bang for our buck. And the thousands of delegates that have come from around the United States and the world with intelligent transportation system(s) are part of the solution, because there are many ways in which you can increase the traffic flow, the efficiency, not only on the ground, but in the air and on rail by using intelligent transportation methods."

During the session he also talked on the importance of mass transit in the transportation mix, including the use of intelligent transportation systems to make them more efficient. He said, "People don't use mass transit in this country primarily because it isn't convenient." Mica noted that many of the solutions on display at the World Congress would help solve that problem with real-time monitoring of mass transit vehicles for reliable travel times. He said, "That's one of the most important factors in people using or making a decision not to use our mass transit system."

Mica also spoke of the opportunity that ITS has in making highways safer and more convenient for the traveling public by improving the technology surrounding the trucking industry which is a major economic generator. By addressing fatigue, vehicle size and safety requirements through technology, Mica said, "We can do so much more in making those big vehicles, safe vehicles, and again getting them where they should be with the important responsibility they have in improving commerce."

The World Congress continues to feature a stellar lineup of speakers throughout the week including U.S. Transportation **Secretary Ray LaHood** and Ford Motor Company Executive Chairman **Bill Ford**, among others.

In addition to the featured speakers, the World Congress is offering more than 300 sessions and providing attendees with an array of tailored session tracks focused on a variety of topics. Attendees can peruse the 350,000 square foot exhibit hall which features more than 200 companies displaying the latest innovations in the ITS industry. There are also four Technology Showcases that are demonstrating the latest safety, mobility, sustainability and pricing technologies. These showcases feature 25 live demonstrations that allow the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) and a host of private sector companies, including General Motors and Toyota, to display the realm of possibilities for “Connected Vehicles” and other technologies on Central Florida’s Connected Vehicle Test Bed that will lower driving costs, reduce traffic congestion, improve travel safety and reduce emissions.

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About World Congress

The World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems is an international meeting and exhibition that rotates among three major geographic regions (Americas, Europe and Asia Pacific) annually. Only held in the United States once every three years, the 18th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems, combined with ITS America’s 2011 Annual Meeting & Exposition, will come to Orlando, Florida on October 16-20, 2011, and the world’s leading transportation policy makers, technology, and business professionals will gather in Orlando with a goal of bringing greater levels of safety, reliability and accessibility to transportation systems worldwide.

Co-sponsored by ITS America, ITS Asia-Pacific, and ERTICO-ITS Europe, the 18th World Congress is expected to draw more than 10,000 delegates from more than 65 countries, including legislators, ministers of transportation, transportation officials, international standards experts, engineers, manufacturers, and other ITS stakeholders.

About the Intelligent Transportation Society of America

ITS America was established in 1991 as a not-for-profit organization to foster the use of advanced technologies across America’s surface transportation system. As the leading advocate for transportation technology development and deployment in the United States, ITS America has several hundred member organizations including private companies and industry leaders, government agencies at all levels, universities and research laboratories. For more information, visit www.itsa.org.