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## Transportation and Infrastructure Are Part of the Solution

CEO of International Transportation Association Applauds President for Bold Agenda, Points to Highway Infrastructure as a Key Building Block for Success

**WASHINGTON** – After President Barack Obama delivered the 2013 State of the Union Address, <u>Patrick Jones</u>, CEO and Executive Director of the <u>International Bridge</u>, <u>Tunnel and</u> <u>Turnpike Association</u>, the worldwide association representing toll facility owners and operators and the businesses that serve them, released the following statement:

"Tonight, the president articulated a bold economic agenda for addressing important national priorities. These will serve America for generations to come.

"An effective, national highway network is a cornerstone of any strategy that depends on quick, reliable transportation of people and goods. Yet our nation continues to confront a mounting crisis in transportation and infrastructure. By clearing the financial strain and physical congestion on our roads, the President and Congress can generate direct economic activity, while removing one of the biggest barriers to a sustained economic recovery.

"In a challenging fiscal environment, now is the time to explore the full toolbox of options for addressing the transportation funding crisis, and *tolling* is undoubtedly a part of that toolbox.

"Tolling generates needed revenue to support highway construction and maintenance, while easing the financial burden on federal and state governments. By delivering a dependable and sustainable revenue stream to support essential highway construction, maintenance and operations, the tolling industry is <u>Moving America Forward</u> to address the transportation crisis in a serious way. It's an important conversation we must start having now."

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<u>The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association</u> (IBTTA) is the worldwide association representing toll facility owners and operators and the businesses that serve them. Founded in 1932, IBTTA has members in more than twenty countries and on six continents implementing state-of-the-art, innovative user-based transportation financing solutions to address the critical infrastructure challenges of the twenty-first century. Through advocacy, thought leadership and education, IBTTA has become the world's leading resource on highways and tollways. Follow us on <u>Twitter @IBTTA</u> and join the conversation at #tollroads. For more information, visit: <u>www.IBTTA.org</u>.