
IBTTA GLOBAL TOLLING SUMMIT
Athens, GREECE | November 11-14, 2023 | www.IBTTA.org/ATHENS

Submission Deadline: July 31, 2023

Call for Presentations Submission Period: July 6-31, 2023

GENERAL SESSION #1: THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY

This session will be a moderated conversation with the organization heads of ASECAP, PIARC, IRF and IBTTA. Mobility is one of the hottest issues the motorway industry is facing. Thousands of articles, surveys, studies, and theoretical schemes and approaches have been published globally in recent years. Recent events have also contributed to new concepts in mobility. The COVID-19 pandemic drastically changed the way our communities work, move, and connect, with some of these changes to remain as challenges today and well into the future. Urgent "climate change" policies that affect the resilience of the road transport infrastructure are adding to the challenge.

The evolution of technology for the use of alternative fuels and batteries, coupled with the energy crisis, have focused attention on the composition of the global fleet, fuel consumption, fuel pricing, and electrification. The prospect of autonomous and connected vehicles, artificial intelligence, striving for smarter cities, and the growth in community demands for a greener planet, define a new context for Mobility.

What is the role of tollways and motorways in this future Mobility? How will we adapt to the new technological advancements in the times ahead? How will the large investments required to adapt operations to the new era be secured? Will user financed transportation, in the form of tolling and/or road user charging (RUC) be the answer? What will be the role of toll road operators in mobility as a service (MaaS)?

In this special general session, the questions raised will be addressed by the Presidents of IBTTA, ASECAP, IRF and PIARC who will discuss their view and the views of these four prestigious associations on the ways to obtain the required funding to meet the challenges of providing sustainable mobility and maintain resilience of the road infrastructure.

NO SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED FOR THIS SESSION

GENERAL SESSION #2: TOLLING TECHNOLOGY

In recent years we have witnessed significant advancements in tolling technology. Toll plazas used by our parents and grandparents are disappearing at a rapid rate as we transition to all electronic tolling (AET), open road tolling (ORT) and multi-lane-free-flow (MLFF) which have greatly improved the driver's experience while also reducing congestion. Innovations in technologies are enabling toll operators to provide greater customer service while also reducing operational costs. For this session we seek presentations that focus on technologies behind recent success stories and technological developments that are ready to be deployed to further improve the user experience and reduce operational costs for road pricing projects. These could include:

- Improvements to the customer experience through digitization and multiple services.
- Integration of tolling, distance-based charging, and other mobility services (e.g., ride-sharing, car-sharing, public transportation, park-and-ride, micro-mobility, mobility-as-a-service, etc.).
- Technology solutions that have the potential of being major disruptors to traditional tolling schemes, for example by reducing the dependency on roadside infrastructure.
- New approaches that can upgrade or replace OBUs and tags in an MLFF environment.

GENERAL SESSION #3: ASSET MANAGEMENT

This session will focus on the critical aspects of toll road asset management, including equipment, infrastructure, bridges, inspections, and broader asset management capabilities. The planners are looking for submissions that address the complexities and challenges of asset management.

Topics could include:

- Insights into the management, operation, and maintenance of toll roads focused on lifecycle management activities including preventive and corrective maintenance as well as new projects.
- Best practices for equipment maintenance, risk handling and cost-effectiveness.
- Research focused on monitoring, controlling, managing, maintaining the reliability, use and performance of improved toll road infrastructure.
- Bridge management, inspection, maintenance, and innovative strategies for ensuring bridge longevity.
- The role of inspections in asset management, and technology integration in inspections.
- Use of drones, visualization and other technological tools in asset management

GENERAL SESSION #4: SUSTAINABILITY/GREEN MOBILITY

Green mobility is one of the major challenges confronting the road sector, and is a requirement to comply with the key objectives and political guidelines adopted worldwide (the UN SDGs, the EU Green Deal, etc.). Green mobility refers to the use of transportation methods to achieve environmentally friendly, safe, and efficient mobility for all people irrespective of their age, social status, or means of transport. This approach is an integral tool to achieving sustainability objectives while still enabling the movement of freight and the connecting of citizens to their work, healthcare, and education every day.

This session will examine the role of road operators and the tolling industry in delivering Green Mobility solutions and services in areas such as delivering EV charging infrastructure, integrating with other transport modes, incentivising customer travel choices, etc.

The planners are looking for submissions that discuss the challenges and opportunities in delivering Green Mobility across technology options, procurement and construction methods, investment and financing options. Send your ideas, visions, innovations, best practices, and/or lessons learned in implementing Green Mobility.

GENERAL SESSION #5: DISTANCE BASED CHARGING/ROAD USAGE CHARGING

With the aim for Europe to become the first carbon neutral continent by 2050, and the recent decision to ban the sale of internal combustion engine vehicles by 2030, there is a sharp increase in the number of alternatively powered vehicles on the roads. While this trend towards EVs and vehicles with alternative fuels will clearly increase over the next few years, we will likely also witness access or congestion management schemes to further reduce traffic congestion and emissions in specific (urban) areas. Although this development is positive from an environmental perspective, it will be challenging to keep the road network in good condition because of the reduction in revenues from fuels taxes.

Europe has a long history with distance-based charging, largely focused on truck tolling schemes using DSRC and satellite positioning (GNSS). Some governments are considering the introduction of distance-based charging for light vehicles to raise funds necessary to maintain the road network and to provide an incentive to change “mobility behavior.”

For this session the planners seek presentations that focus on balancing different policy objectives and lessons learned from recent pilot/implementation projects from across the globe using new approaches and technologies. The aim is to have an engaging conversation that focuses on innovation, existing barriers, potential areas of conflict, and downstream benefits of distance-based road charging.

GENERAL SESSION #6: INFORMATION GOVERNANCE

The digitization of the transport sector brings numerous benefits such as improved operational efficiency, and improved customer experience for road users. Digitization also introduces a range of challenges because organizations have to manage ever-increasing volumes of data (e.g., interoperability), and an increasing requirement to exchange data with multiple parties (e.g., mobility service providers etc.). Addressing these issues requires a robust multifaceted information governance strategy incorporating information security, cyber security, data privacy, data quality, data storage, data sharing, knowledge management, business intelligence and ICT management.

This session will explore how organizations are developing and implementing information governance strategies that enable them to maximize the benefits of digitization and minimize the associated challenges and risks. The planners seek ideas, policies, innovations, best practices, and lessons learned in implementing information governance that you would like to share with the international community.

GENERAL SESSION #7: A VISUAL FEAST—BIG PROJECTS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

IBTTA embraces the entire global tolling industry and in Athens we intend to further highlight the "I" (International) in IBTTA. This panel will provide the opportunity for each presenter to highlight major toll projects. Tolling is big business and toll revenue can help support big projects. This type of panel is always very popular with our delegates as they learn about different project types, unique ideas, and technical innovation. For this session we seek presentations on the biggest and brightest projects from around the world. Come and represent your region, your country, your continent – show the entire world what you and tolling can do!!

GENERAL SESSION #8: DIVERSITY AS AN EQUITY ENABLER

Delivering equity as a key pillar of sustainable transport policies requires a deep understanding of the diverse mobility patterns and needs of all users of the transport network. This can only be achieved if the organizations that develop and implement transport policies are themselves truly representative of the diverse customer base that they serve. The diversity of our customers reflects gender, age, religion, cultural backgrounds, etc. and these groups should be represented across all levels of an organization. This session will discuss how legacy conscious and subconscious biases can be overcome to enable diverse teams to deliver transport equity. For this session the planners seek presentations that focus on the ideas, policies, innovations, best practices, and lessons learned from building diversity in your organization, and how that diversity enables the delivery of transport equity.