**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**
Wednesday, April 17, 2013
**CONTACT: Kristofer Eisenla, Luna Eisenla Media**
kristofer@eisenlamedia.com | 202-670-5747 (mobile)

## Transportation Industry Leaders Stress Importance of Infrastructure Funding Options at Philadelphia Symposium
*IBTTA Debuts "Moving America Forward" Video Advocating
Tolling to Public and Policymakers*

**PHILADELPHIA, PA** – During the International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association's (IBTTA) *Transportation Finance and Mileage-Based User Fee Symposium* in Philadelphia this week, elected leaders and industry officials addressed symposium attendees from around the world about the importance of having all transportation infrastructure funding options, including tolling, available to state and local governments. IBTTA is the worldwide association representing toll facility owners, operators and the businesses that serve them.

**"As our nation's transportation and infrastructure system continues to put a strain on federal and state budgets, funding options like mileage-based user fees must be considered,"** said Patrick Jones, Executive Director and CEO of IBTTA. "**State and local governments should have the flexibility to fund and finance America's transportation system in the ways that are most appropriate for them."**

U.S. House of Representatives Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman, Rep. Bill Shuster (R-PA), addressed the conference via video, stating, **"We need to find some new, innovative ways to fund the Highway Trust Fund."** IBTTA members also heard from the former U.S. Comptroller General and former head of the Government Accounting Office (GAO), David M. Walker, and the former Governor of Puerto Rico, the Honorable Luis Fortuño.

The Honorable David M. Walker addressed the conference stating: **"Tolling is something that has to be on the table. Public-private partnerships are something that has to be on the table. Because the fact of the matter is that we're facing increasingly constrained resources and yet the needs are increasing."**

Former Governor of Puerto Rico, the Honorable Luis Fortuño called for a similar approach to the country's race to the top for education: **"I would suggest that we have a similar race to the top initiative in infrastructure, to entice states and major cities to invest in infrastructure using tolling."**

IBTTA also released a new video during the conference as part of its national *Moving America Forward* campaign. The video, designed to help educate the public, policymakers and the media about the critical role tolling plays in meeting our country's infrastructure funding challenges, features both IBTTA executive director and CEO, Patrick Jones, and IBTTA board

president, Rob Horr.  The full video is available both here and on the homepage of IBTTA's website at www.IBTTA.org.

Patrick Jones, IBTTA Executive Director and CEO, will participate in a discussion about priced managed lanes at the National Press Club (NPC) during its "Newsmaker" news conference entitled, "Priced managed lanes 2.0: The next generation of U.S. highways,' on Monday, April 22nd at 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. EST. The National Press Club is located at 529 14th Street, NW, 13th Floor, Washington, DC. For more information on the event, please visit the National Press Club's event calendar or contact event host, Herb Perone at herb@peronecomm.com.


# # #


*The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (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 20 countries and on six continents implementing state-of-the-art, innovative, user-based transportation financing solutions to address the critical infrastructure challenges of the 21st century. Through advocacy, thought leadership, and education, IBTTA has become the world's leading resource on highways and tollways. Follow us on Twitter @IBTTA and join the conversation at #tollroads. For more information, visit www.IBTTA.org.*