

# PRESS RELEASE

## NODES TOOLBOX OFFERS KEYS TO BETTER TRANSPORT INTERCHANGES

**BRUSSELS, 22 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**The three-year NODES (New Tools for the Design and Operation of Urban Transport Interchanges) project came to a close today and the project findings are already offering transport practitioners practical steps to build better interchanges.**

Interchanges play a key role in the integration of urban mobility systems and allowing smooth connections between different transport modes. The key achievements of the NODES project were the development of a **toolbox to help practitioners assess and benchmark the performance of their interchange as well as to take practical steps to increase performance**. The Toolbox focuses on five key areas: 1) land use and infrastructure; 2) design; 3) intermodality and ICT; 4) management and business models and 5) energy and environment.

In practical terms, practitioners can more easily identify the design needs and facility requirements in an interchange thanks to the "Typology Diagrammatic Representation tool". Another tool includes practical steps that can be taken to improve the experience of users in an interchange ("the "Station Experience Monitor"), developed by Nederlandse Spoorwegen and tested in nine NODES test sites.

The aim of the research project was to help European cities in the design or operation of new or upgraded interchanges in order to **boost user satisfaction**. Coordinated by UITP (International Association of Public Transport), the project also brought together 17 local government administrations, operators, research centres and European associations.

The Toolbox was tested in real conditions in nine European sites, all of which were undergoing substantial development and upgrading: Reading, Birmingham, Rouen, Toulouse, Osnabrück, Budapest, Rome, Thessaloniki, and Rotterdam, Utrecht and 's-Hertogenbosch (as one site).

UITP Secretary General **Alain Flausch** said: "By providing practical steps to improve stations, the NODES project makes an essential contribution towards a more enjoyable public transport experience".

### INFO

The Toolbox is now available on the NODES [website](#) offering transport practitioners step-by-step guidance on building better urban transport interchanges.

### Note to Editors

The International Association of Public Transport (UITP) is a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. We have 1,400 member companies giving access to 16,000 contacts from 96 countries. Our members are public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, research institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. Visit our website [www.uitp.org](http://www.uitp.org). Follow us on Twitter: [@UITPpressoffice](https://twitter.com/UITPpressoffice)

**NODES** is a three year collaborative research project co-funded by the Seventh Framework Programme. Coordinated by the UITP, it brings together 17 partners representing local government administrations, public transport operators, as well as research centres and European associations.

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