



Intelligent Urban Transport Systems



TechnologyRegion Karlsruhe to present IT and mobility expertise

Members plan to exhibit at international IT-TRANS trade fair in Karlsruhe

TechnologyRegion Karlsruhe (TRK) continually sets new trends when it comes to future-oriented mobility. It is this expertise that its members wish to showcase at **IT-TRANS** – the international conference and exhibition on intelligent urban transport systems – between 6 and 8 March. Sharing a joint stand, they will inform public transport experts and thought leaders from all over the world about the latest projects and products from the TRK. As Jochen Ehlgötz, Managing Director of TechnologyRegion Karlsruhe GmbH, explains: “There are many pioneering mobility projects currently taking shape in the TRK. **IT-TRANS** is the ideal platform for conveying our expertise in these areas to thought leaders from IT, municipalities, science, academia and public transport.”

Positioning as a profile region for innovative mobility solutions

In addition to the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and other exhibitors, TRK’s joint stand will feature local public transport providers. Together with further participants from the realms of business and research, they will be providing information about their mobility solutions and offering a varied programme of forums. Similarly, the TRK partners will also be presenting themselves in the Market Update Forums, which form part of the conference programme. As Britta Wirtz, Managing Director of KMK, reports: “Our co-organiser, the International Union of Public Transport (UITP), has put together an impressive conference programme in which innovative thinkers from the sector discuss their solutions and visions. I am delighted that TRK will also have the chance to demonstrate its strengths in the field of IT and mobility there.” As well as this, TRK companies are inviting **IT-TRANS**’s international trade audience on a technical visit – for instance to the autonomous driving test area.

The test area is one of the largest mobility projects currently being conducted in the TRK. Here, companies and research institutions can try out innovative technologies relating to automated and connected driving in traffic as well as new mobility possibilities such as car-sharing with autonomous vehicles. Trial operation began on 6 December and official operation is scheduled for spring 2018.

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www.messe-karlsruhe.de
www.it-trans.org
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Intelligente Lösungen für den öffentlichen Personenverkehr



World's first autonomous air taxi

One of the TRK companies exhibiting its wares is Volocopter GmbH from Bruchsal. At its stand, it will be presenting its namesake product – an autonomous air taxi that undertook one of its first test flights in Karlsruhe Trade Fair Center's dm-arena in 2013. In September, the Volocopter flew completely unaided for the first time in the centre of a megacity. It is a vertical take-off and landing plane with 18 motors powered entirely by electricity. As Alexander Zosel, co-founder and Chief Innovation Officer of Volocopter, explains: "In just three years from now, people will be using Volocopters to fly from A to B in cities, escaping the traffic jams. The multiple redundant powertrain and intelligent autonomous flight control provide the extremely high reliability that is synonymous with German engineering." The company, which was founded in 2011, was already presented with the TRK Innovation Award in late November for its pioneering air taxi.

With the RegioMOVE project, Karlsruhe is one step closer to becoming a smart city. The aim is to bring together the mobility offerings in the Karlsruhe region to form a cross-system, networked, environmentally friendly and user-friendly whole. To facilitate this, mobility hubs known as "ports" are to be set up over the next few years to allow passengers to change quickly and easily between the various forms of transport. Many of RegioMOVE's project partners are also exhibiting at **IT-TRANS**.

With its internationally known dual-system trams – known as the "Karlsruhe model" – the high concentration of companies from the ICT sector and its positioning as Europe's third largest IT cluster, the TRK has long been a global pioneer when it comes to future-oriented public transport. Intelligent systems for traffic management, planning and information that were developed in Karlsruhe are used all over the world.

IT-TRANS is the leading international event geared towards digital solutions for public transport. Between 6 and 8 March 2018, decision-makers from public and private sector transport operations and international representatives from the realms of politics, business, science and academia will be coming together for the sixth time in Karlsruhe.

Further information: www.it-trans.org and www.twitter.com/IT_TRANS



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[Caption]

The Volocopter – an electric, autonomous air taxi for two people – is set to change the mobility of the future and can be seen at **IT-TRANS** in Karlsruhe between 6 and 8 March 2018. The Volocopter flew for the first time in urban surroundings in Dubai last September.

IT-TRANS, International Conference and Exhibition on Intelligent Urban Transport Systems, celebrated its debut in Karlsruhe in 2008. Within a short period, the biennial event was established as the most important platform for the industry. It is organised by the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) and Karlsruher Messe- und Kongress GmbH. **IT-TRANS** 2018 is under the patronage of Violeta Bulc, EU Commissioner for Traffic and Transport and is supported by the Association of German Transport Companies (VDV), the Italian Transport Association (ASSTRA), ITS Spain and the Polish Chamber of Railway. **IT-TRANS** is aimed at all players in the public transport sector, and in particular at decision-makers from transportation companies and representatives of the private sector, government and professional associations. At seminars, workshops and presentations held during the three-day conference, international speakers will discuss innovations and how to practically implement IT solutions for public transport. About 250 international companies and service providers will present their latest products at the exhibition.

The next **IT-TRANS** will take place at the Karlsruhe Trade Fair Centre from 6 to 8 March 2018.