The ITS (UK) Manifesto

ITS (UK) is a membership organisation supported by a Secretariat to deliver the policies and priorities of its members, as prescribed by the ITS (UK) Council made up of representatives from Executive Members. *ITS (UK) is not the Secretariat, ITS (UK) is its members supported by the Secretariat.* Therefore, the ITS (UK) Strategy Committee – a sub-committee of Council – has drawn up this Manifesto to detail the priorities it wishes the Secretariat to deliver.

ITS (UK) vision

ITS (UK) is an independent membership society of private and public sector transport technology-related organisations plus academia. Serving multinationals to micro SMEs, ITS (UK) facilitates excellent networking, knowledge sharing and PR opportunities and is also the powerful combined voice of the ITS Industry, leading the conversation about intelligent mobility.

By 2030, transport technology will be the first option for improving access and connectivity, ahead of building new capacity. The UK will be recognised as an innovative world leader in the field and will possess a large, young and diverse ITS workforce from a variety of disciplines.

ITS (UK) pledges to...

- Deliver support to the World Congress bid if successful
- Deliver the ITS (UK) skills plan
- Be a knowledge sharing hub for innovation and best practice
- Advocate ITS across the transport industry and beyond
- Promote the UK’s transport and technology expertise in the UK/abroad
- Support ITS for all members of society by ensuring we promote technology for inclusive mobility
- Assist members, especially SMEs with procurement and finding funding
- Grow members, especially SMEs with new technology and solutions
- Transition to the new world of transport
- Champion the role transport technology can play in improving the environment

Please see over for details of this 10-point plan
The 10-point plan in detail

1. Deliver support to the World Congress bid if successful
   ITS (UK) supports Transport for West Midlands’ bid for the UK to host the 2024 World Congress in Birmingham. We believe that hosting the event will be a significant boost to the whole ITS industry in the UK and all our members will benefit from the exposure that transport technology will enjoy. Should the bid be successful, ITS (UK) will use our experience from contributing to the delivery of the 2006 World Congress and the European Congresses in 2013 and 2016 to support the delivery of the 2024 Congress. This will involve serving on the Host Committee (which will ensure that the themes and agenda are in line with members’ needs and objectives), promoting the Congress via our national and international network, helping to create a programme which reflects the excellence of UK ITS, and joining in the creation of a valuable legacy of the Congress for the industry.

2. Deliver the ITS (UK) skills plan
   ITS (UK) will develop an ITS skills paper detailing the role ITS (UK) should undertake with future skills development, including the design of formal qualifications. We will recruit volunteer ambassadors, of any age, to promote the STEM ITS agenda and attract the next generation to the ITS profession. ITS (UK) will work with suitable partners to develop new ITS qualifications and will be at the forefront of helping to attract the next generation of school and university leavers to the ITS profession and to assist with their Continuous Professional Development. This is in addition to the work already done by the Young Professionals Forum.

3. Be a knowledge sharing hub for innovation and best practice
   ITS (UK) will harness our members’ resources to share best practice, innovation information and thought leadership. Without affecting a member’s commercial advantage, ITS (UK) will be the conduit to ensure the industry is able to keep updated on the latest technological advances and thinking. We will also be a channel to share opinions and guidance about the implications and opportunities from changes in policy. We will grow resources on members’ pages on the ITS (UK) website to be the go-to place for information about a wide range of transport technology solutions, hosting papers, presentations, video and audio and any other relevant material. The ITS (UK) Summit is designed to discuss the latest thinking surrounding the policy, funding and procurement relating to transport technology implementation in the UK. Subject to commercial considerations, ITS (UK) commits to holding the Summit in the autumn of each year. ITS (UK) will continue to publish our ITS Review magazine and will ensure that it is continually developed to properly promote the value of ITS as a whole and ITS (UK) as a Society. ITS (UK) will continue to deliver regular Forum meetings and other events across the UK.

4. Advocate ITS across the transport industry and beyond
   ITS (UK) will continue to promote ITS and the solutions it offers in cooperation with our Members in order to deliver a single voice to Government (national, local and devolved) and promote the fact that ITS solutions deliver better transport cheaper, quicker and more efficiently than infrastructure investment on its own. ITS (UK) will seek to grow our contacts in local government to deliver more value to existing members and the travelling public by properly explaining and promoting ITS solutions.

5. Promote the UK’s transport and technology expertise in the UK and abroad
   As the first national ITS Society, ITS (UK) is globally respected. ITS (UK) will maximise this respect and the influence it delivers by engaging with other ITS organisations around the world. ITS (UK) is a leader, and past Chair, in the ITS Nationals organisation across the European continent (both inside and outside the EU) and has strong links and MoUs with ITS organisations in, among others, Australia, the US, China, Japan, the Arab Region and South Africa. In a post-Brexit world, this valuable network will ensure the UK’s solutions are known about and respected everywhere.

6. Support ITS for all members of society by ensuring we promote technology for inclusive mobility
   ITS (UK) is proud to support delivery of transport technology solutions which help those less able to use the traditional transport network such as the elderly and disabled. The ITS (UK) Inclusive Mobility Forum already provides guidance and leadership in this field and ITS (UK) will invite members of this Forum to give their feedback and advice on all aspects of the organisation, including all other Forum activity. In 2019 ITS (UK) led a panel discussion on Inclusive Mobility at Traffex and will press to deliver similar thought leadership at other events across the country in the future. This will not be a talking shop – ITS (UK) and its Inclusive Mobility Forum will commit to delivering advice and guidance to actually deliver positive solutions.

7. Assist members, especially SMEs with procurement and finding funding
   ITS (UK) will work, with others as expedient, to share intelligence about funding streams and procurement options. We will extend particular support to SME Members by promoting their capabilities and helping them make the most of opportunities. We will also join with like minded organisations to provide suggestions and best practise examples to improve funding and procurement mechanisms. ITS (UK) will endeavour to share best practice with fellow societies in Europe but outside the EU to ensure members are aware of project and funding which they are permitted to bid for.

8. Grow membership, targeting providers of new technology and solutions
   The ITS industry is changing and ITS (UK) recognises that it needs to reach new members delivering services which were not even thought of a few years ago. We will continue to work with existing members to attract new mobility providers such as ride hailing and sharing operators, data analytics and AI companies etc. With e-mobility growing, we will also engage with infrastructure builders to share ideas on the use of technology in future smart cities.

9. Transition to the new world of transport
   With data being described as “the new gold”, ITS (UK) will be at the forefront of thought leadership in understanding the benefits of data and its challenges. All Forums will be encouraged to consider data, its potential value and such issues as social equity, cyber security and privacy wherever relevant. ITS (UK) will also study user acceptance, legacy systems and how new solutions reach the transport network.

10. Champion the role transport technology can play in improving the environment
   ITS (UK) launched its Smart Environment Forum before the issue of transport and the environment was widely agreed to be something that needed addressing. ITS (UK) will continue to promote technological solutions to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality. This involves anything from technology supporting the implementation of clean air zones, through more efficient traffic management to mobility solutions which reduce the reliance on the private car.