

Press release

3 June 2019

Major ITS European Congress Brainport 2019 opens with pilot 'priority facilitation for emergency services'

Today at 16:30, the 13th ITS European Congress Brainport is officially opened by the Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, Cora van Nieuwenhuizen together with Chairman of ERTICO-ITS Europe, Angelos Amditis and organizer of the Congress, and the Mayor of Eindhoven, John Jorritsma. Two years ago, the Netherlands was selected as the host country for this major Congress: the largest event entirely dedicated to smart mobility and the digitalization of transport.

Minister Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, Infrastructure and Water Management: "The title of this congress is "Fulfilling ITS promises ". That name is well chosen because promises have been kept and there is real delivery. More and more innovations in the field of mobility are being applied and used. Now is the time to further expand this. In the Netherlands, but also in the rest of Europe."

Angelos Amditis, ERTICO: "The ITS European Congress represents the ultimate showcase of mobility services deployment and an ideal opportunity for industry, authorities and knowledge institutes to come together and discuss the latest developments in ITS in Europe. As the host of this year's 13th European Congress, the Brainport region and the Netherlands clearly demonstrate how they are forerunners in the field of smart mobility. The Congress is the ideal platform to celebrate all innovations and projects in the realm of connected and self-driving cars, tailored mobility services, congestion prevention and logistics."

Host Cities

The Cities of Eindhoven and Helmond are hosting this year's Congress, offering the delegates an inspiring program at the Evoluon Exhibition Centre including a Dutch Street and a Start-up Zone. This year's demonstrations, 19 in total, will be showcased at 3 different locations: 15 at and around the Automotive Campus in Helmond, 1 at the Evoluon and 3 at ITS Corridor between the Evoluon and the Automotive Campus. Examples of Smart Mobility include flying cars, delivery drones, electric racing cars and virtual reality games. Visitors will also be able to learn more about autonomous driving, shared cars, smart traffic lights, in-car services, Adaptive Cruise Control and other driver assistance systems. And there will be live demonstrations of automated vehicles, vehicles talking to traffic light controllers, trial circuits with steps, trendy e-bikes and a 'drive smart and sustainably' competition.

John Jorritsma, Mayor of Eindhoven, Chairman Stichting Brainport: "It makes sense that ITS 2019 settles in Eindhoven and Helmond, the heart of Brainport. We are internationally recognized as an innovative region. With a unique collaboration between Government, Business and Knowledge institutions we come up with solutions for the future. With a very strong emphasis on smart mobility. These close partnerships ensure that we not only come up with and develop solutions, but that we can also implement them quickly."

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Elly Blanksma-van den Heuvel, Mayor of Helmond: “Smart mobility is Dutch reality! Three-quarters of the Dutch automotive sector is located in Brainport. This region is an European front runner in the development and implementation of intelligent transport systems and smart mobility solutions. We offer a huge living lab and high-quality mobility test facilities. During this week you will be able to witness multiple innovative demonstrations on the Automotive Campus. In Helmond, we don’t just develop technologies but also use them.”

Mobifestival

On Sunday 2 June, anticipatory to the Congress, the hosts organised a Mobifestival for the general public: the end-users of future mobility. People were invited to get up to speed with the various applications of ITS, to learn more about smart mobility and to try out new hands-on technologies.



See also video of the Mobifestival: <https://bit.ly/2MISeSn>

Christophe van der Maat, representative of the province of Noord-Brabant (Mobility and Cooperation): “During the Mobifestival, visitors were able to experience what is happening in the field of smart and sustainable mobility and which innovations are already available. In the coming years we will continue to invest in innovations and smart mobility for even safer and more sustainable traffic. Brabant aims to remain a pioneer in this area. We distinguish ourselves internationally by mainly putting new techniques into practice. This way we learn continuously, and we can use that knowledge again in innovations and applications.”

Kick-off pilot Priority Facilitation for Emergency Services

The official opening ceremony was preceded by the festive start of the pilot ‘priority facilitation for emergency services’ with Congress’ main sponsor Dynniq, the mayor of Helmond, the Province of Noord-Brabant, KPN, and the fire brigade of Helmond.

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Congress' main sponsor Dynniq, together with its cooperation partner KPN and their clients, the Province of Noord-Brabant and the Municipality of Helmond, announced the official start of the pilot 'priority facilitation for emergency services' that will drastically reduce the number of road accidents involving priority vehicles. This will facilitate priority for emergency vehicles (ambulance, fire brigade, police and logistics service providers) at intersections within the municipality of Helmond and allows them to reach their destination more quickly and safely. The pilot is part of a national roll-out of priority facilitation in the context of the Talking Traffic program. With the 'GreenFlow for BlueLights' technology developed by Dynniq, emergency vehicles with blue flashing lights communicate with the traffic lights on the route. These vehicles are recognised as priority vehicles and are given priority on request, so that they can pass the intersection safely and unhindered.

Cees de Wijs, CEO Dynniq: "Thanks to the Talking Traffic infrastructure and KPN's Data Services Hub, we can implement innovative technology that makes society safer and more sustainable. We are proud to cooperate with our partners to make this life-saving pilot possible."

Your Future Festival

For the first time ever, the ITS Congress features a 'Your Future Festival' event on the second night of the ITS European Congress at DAF Museum Eindhoven, where its main sponsor HERE organizes a Hackaton stage. "Your Future Festival" is the place where top students, young professionals and companies can connect with each other to share inspiration, research and experience and make valuable connections for the future.

Nico Anten, Executive Chairman Connekt: "Fulfilling ITS Promises is our drive. And we will only be able to keep fulfilling ITS-promises if we dare to look at the future – and anticipate what we see. That's why we dedicated a big part of the program to new promising ideas and impactful, innovative technologies that make life and mobility more enjoyable, safer and cleaner. In the Netherlands we strongly believe in the power of collaboration in public-private partnerships and a trusted environment. That's the basis of our network – and of this Congress."

Implementation Visits

The Congress does not only focus on the Brainport Region, but organises guided tours to various destinations throughout the country.

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Smart Mobility, Dutch Reality

Public and private parties work together on a national level to show visitor to the congress, how they implement the joint Dutch 'Smart Mobility – Dutch Reality' label. The Netherlands is an international frontrunner particularly because of how it puts new techniques into practice to achieve large-scale effects. During the week, a large number of Dutch public and private partners can be found on the Dutch Street on the 3rd ring in the Evoluon – a special exhibition floor where visitors can find numerous examples of the Dutch Reality.

End of press release

Further information

We are very happy to answer your queries. Please contact (on behalf of all Dutch host partners): Iris Casteren van Cattenburch, Connekt, iris.casteren@connekt.nl, +31 6 245 738 26, +31 15 251 65 65.

On behalf of ERTICO: Cordelia Wilson c.wilson@mail.ertico.com +477 286128

For interview requests for Mrs Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, please contact Ivar Noordenbos, spokesperson, 31 6 317 534 05.

Organizer ITS European Congress 2019: ERTICO - ITS Europe

ERTICO-ITS Europe is a multi-sectoral partnership of around 100 companies and institutions involved in the development of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). ERTICO partners jointly develop initiatives for the development and implementation of intelligent transport systems that promote road safety, a cleaner environment and cost-effective mobility. ERTICO hosts the ITS Nationals Network to which Connekt / ITS Netherlands is affiliated on behalf of the Dutch parties.

Host cities of ITS European Congress 2019: Cities of Eindhoven and Helmond

Governments and companies work together as Smart Mobility Region within the Brainport region of Eindhoven. With the mobility consumer as central pivot, Brainport Region Eindhoven is working on a network of smart mobility solutions that increase accessibility, quality of life and safety.

Support partners:

Connekt/ITS Netherlands, Brainport Eindhoven, province of Noord-Brabant and the ministry of Infrastructure and Water management.

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