

2013 ITS Florida Technical Conference

The 2013 ITS Florida Technical Conference was held from October 9 to 11, 2013 at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, FL. If you weren't there, what did you miss? Only the premier ITS event in Florida this year. This three-day conference presented the latest in technology and thinking from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), vendors, consultants, and academics.



The Conference started with the *Connected Vehicle 101* course presented by Mike Pina and Robert Sheehan from the US Department of Transportation. Attendees learned about the safety, mobility, and environmental applications envisioned for connected vehicles. Mike and Robert presented an overview of the infrastructure requirements being developed, including communication standards, operations and maintenance implications, and upcoming policy decisions. Bottom line of the course – connected vehicles are closer than you think.

Thursday began with a vendor showcase. Ten vendors provided presentations on the latest technologies in the ITS industry. These new technologies included the use of RFID in transit, thermal CCTV camera technology, an automated warning gate that can be used for MOT and traffic control applications, and the latest way to locate underground cable. These fast-paced presentations provided a lot of information in a short time.

All this information and the Technical Program hadn't even started! That started after lunch on Thursday with opening remarks from Conference Chair Ken Jacobs, Pinellas County Traffic Engineering. New ideas from the areas of connected vehicles, ramp metering, adaptive signal control, TSM&O, data warehousing, and autonomous vehicles were presented by consultants, manufacturers' representatives, public sector employees, and academicians. There were many ideas presented over the two days!

2013 ITS Florida Awards

The highlight of any ITS Florida event is the opportunity to network. Hosted by ITS FL President John Easterling, the ITS Florida Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet provided a meet-and-greet opportunity, as well as an opportunity to recognize some of the organization's stars of 2013. Recipients included:

2013 Anne Brewer Scholarship – Academic – Mr. Tolga Ercan, a Master of Science in Civil Engineering student from the University of Central Florida.

2013 Anne Brewer Scholarship – Technical Training – Mr. Robert Woda of TransCore. This was the first time the technical training scholarship was awarded.

ITS Florida Outstanding Achievement Awards:

FDOT District One Traffic Incident Management Team and its leadership by Bill Fuller for successfully conducting Strategic Highway Research Program training.

FDOT District Four ITS Unit for deploying a Districtwide power distribution system and installing back-up generators along the I-95 and I-75 corridors to offer a steady power supply for the ITS network. District Four also implemented a Maintenance of Communication Plan to emphasize continuity of ITS systems during interstate construction projects.



Advanced Protection Technologies, Inc. for establishing a customized ITS-specific surge protection training seminar that is provided on an on-going basis to educate FDOT ITS personnel, ITS consultants, and ITS contractors from all over Florida on surge protection issues related to deployment of ITS infrastructure.

The Manatee/Sarasota Traffic Management Center (TMC) received a Certificate of Outstanding Achievement. This unified regional TMC currently manages approximately 414 traffic signals, 150 CCTV cameras, and 60 vehicle detectors that are connected via fiber optic cable and Ethernet communications. Operators monitor and operate the system via individual workstations and a 15-cube video wall display.

John Beck of the Beck Consulting Group received a Certificate of Appreciation. John has been a friend of and advisor to ITS Florida for many years and has assisted us with issues such as the elimination of funding for the Road Rangers, a PPP training course, and meeting our state legislators.

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2014 ITS Florida Election

The ITS Florida Nominating Committee is meeting and will be developing the 2014 Election Ballot. This will be emailed to the organization. Each organization with voting rights will have one vote. The election will be held electronically with a link to the polling location.

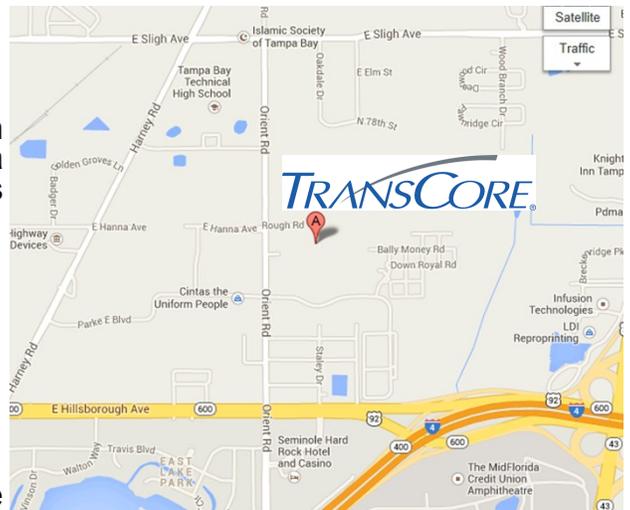
November 2013 ITS Florida Board Meeting

The ITS Florida Board meeting for November will be held via teleconference on Tuesday, November 12 at 1:30 PM. The information is posted on the ITS Florida Calendar on our website.

December 2013 ITS Florida Board Meeting

The ITS Florida December Board meeting will be held in Tampa on Tuesday, December 10th. TransCore will host a luncheon followed by the Board Meeting. TransCore is located at 6021 Orient Rd, Tampa, FL 33610.

Please register using this link: http://fs16.fomsite.com/ITSFlorida/ITS_FL_Dec2013_Luncheon/index.html



ITS Florida Membership Invoices

The ITS Florida Board of Directors approved a that the membership dues would remain the same. The membership fees are \$420 for membership. Organizations with a total of three or less employees and public agencies with less than 100,000 in population may qualify for a reduced membership fee of \$250. Membership runs January—December each year.

Invoices will be sent via email the beginning of November. Please assist by processing the payments early. You may send a check to ITS Florida at 215 NW Monroe Circle North, St. Petersburg, 33702 or by credit card at the following link: <http://itsflorida.org/join/membership-dues/>

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

