

PRESS RELEASE

HACK TO THE FUTURE: GLOBAL SHOWDOWN IN MONTRÉAL

BRUSSELS, 22 MARCH 2017

From Cambridge to Cape Town, Santiago to Stockholm, more than 25 cities around the world are hosting transport hackathons, with the winners set to meet for a showdown at the upcoming UITP Global Public Transport Summit (15-17 May 2017) in Montréal.

The 'hackathon,' a new initiative from the UITP (International Association of Public Transport) foundation Youth For Public Transport (Y4PT), is bringing together computer programmers, designers, developers and more to collaborate on innovative and sustainable solutions to transport problems. Winners from each local hackathon will then compete in the inaugural **Y4PT Global Transport Hackathon** at the UITP Global Public Transport Summit.

The Hackathon is part of UITP's brand new [InnovHub](#) concept to be launched at the Summit. The initiative gathers some of the most remarkable projects and bright ideas from UITP with its members fostering innovation in public transport, englobing various innovative activities and projects at the Summit, from the Hackathon to the [UITP Awards](#) and more.

Local hackathons began in late 2016 and will continue for the next two months. Winning ideas so far range from air-quality sensors, to bus loyalty programmes and apps encouraging healthy mobility.

Winner of the Cambridge, UK hackathon, J.S. Canavera-Herrera, wanted to address traffic congestion, a serious problem in his city. The solution? An app encouraging public transport and walking through an interactive reward scheme. "The future of transport must be cleaner, inclusive, comfortable, affordable but especially attractive. If people do not feel attracted to use public transport, we will not solve any of our current transport problems," said Mr Canavera-Herrera.

According to the World Health Organisation, air pollution is the world's most serious environmental health risk and Team AIR², winners of the Brescia, Italy hackathon, sought to address this. Their innovative app is connected to sensors measuring air quality around Brescia and can "provide a better quality of life by suggesting less polluted places and routes," noted Massimo Santi, who will represent the winning team in Montréal. The data collected can also be used by public officials for more sustainable policy solutions.

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Supporting organisations



Local hosts





15-17 MAY

MONTREAL 2017

GLOBAL PUBLIC
TRANSPORT SUMMIT

Healthy mobility will be a central theme of the Global Transport Hackathon in Montréal. Representatives of winning regional teams will come together at the UITP Summit to turn their inventive ideas into tangible products, competing to develop the 'world's best ground-breaking transport solution'.

Follow the progress of local transport hackathons at:

www.y4pt.org/projects/hackathon

NOTE TO EDITORS

The Global Public Transport Summit is a unique event that covers all urban and regional transport modes. It combines a full programme of congress sessions with an exhibition of the latest solutions, innovations and products in public transport and urban mobility. The last edition of the event - previously known as the UITP World Congress & Exhibition - took place in Milan in June 2015. The event attracted more than 2,200 delegates from 83 countries and 284 exhibitors from across the industry.

Visit us: uitpsummit.org

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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. Follow us on Twitter: [@UITPpressoffice](https://twitter.com/UITPpressoffice)

Youth For Public Transport is an international non-governmental youth organisation (NGO) that promotes the active participation of young people in advocating sustainable mobility by promoting the integrated use of public transport with other means of transport, to achieve greater well-being and a better quality of life of all people around the world. Find out more: www.y4pt.org

CONTACT

ANDREW CANNING | PRESS & MEDIA MANAGER
+32 2 663 66 39 | ANDREW.CANNING@UITP.ORG

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