



KEY MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

Pre-1980s

1980s

1990s

2000s

2010s

- 1914** | The first three-colored traffic signal is deployed in Ohio
- 1935** | The first parking meter is deployed in Oklahoma
- 1956** | Congress passes the Federal-Aid Highway Act (Eisenhower Highway Bill) and the U.S. interstate network is created
- 1963** | The first ramp meters are deployed on the Eisenhower Expressway in Illinois
- Mid-1960s** | General Motor's Driver Aided Information and Routing System is deployed
- 1960s** | The first mobile robots are developed
- 1960s** | The first dynamic message signs are deployed
- 1967** | Government agencies begin setting vehicle and highway safety standards; seat belts, padded dashboards, standard bumper heights, and dual braking systems become mandatory for new cars in 1967
- Late 1960s** | The first North American traffic management centers are deployed
- 1966** | The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is established
- 1968** | The first 911 system is installed in Alabama
- Late 1960s** | The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Electronic Route Guidance System is deployed
- 1970** | The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is established by the Highway Safety Act
- 1972** | Minneapolis introduces a bus bypass lane at metered ramps to promote use of mass transit
- 1970s** | Early generation bus automatic vehicle location mapping technology is deployed

- 1984** | Los Angeles Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control System integrates vehicle detectors, closed-circuit TV, and coordinated signal timing data
- 1985** | The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Autonomous Land Vehicle demonstrations begin
- Mid-1980s** | The Crescent Demonstration Project researches ways to pre-screen and weigh commercial trucks at highway speeds
- 1986** | The TRANSCOM coalition forms to improve incident notification, regional incident management, and construction coordination
- Mid-1980s** | The Automatic Route Control System is the first autonomous route guidance system utilizing on-board computer with digitized maps, map-matching software, and dead-reckoning subsystem
- Mid-1980s** | The FHWA Traffic Systems Division partners with several universities to conduct exploratory projects on freeway management, advanced traffic control, computer simulation, and driver information systems
- 1987** | U.S. Congress establishes the University Transportation Centers through the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act
- 1987** | Northeast corridor states embark on electronic toll collection interoperability (NY, NJ, PA)
- 1988** | Mobility 2000 is created — a collaboration with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Transportation Research Board, Highway Users Federation for Safety and Mobility, and FHWA
- 1989** | Mobility 2000's first meeting is held in Dallas, Texas
- 1989** | Weigh-in-motion technology is deployed for commercial vehicle operations
- 1989** | Operation Greenlight addresses vehicle congestion in the Illinois area and includes freight modes: trucking, rail, marine terminals, airlines, and freight associations
- 1989** | The World Wide Web is invented by Tim Berners-Lee

- 1990** | Intelligent Vehicle Highway Society of America (IVHS America) incorporates in Washington, DC
- 1990** | In California, the Pathfinder in-vehicle information system assesses communications technology for route guidance and in-car traffic navigation
- 1991** | The Intelligent Vehicle Highway System (IVHS) Joint Program Office (JPO) is established as part of the FHWA
- 1991** | IVHS America holds its First Annual Meeting in Reston, VA
- 1991** | The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) is passed by Congress, and the federal ITS research program is established
- 1991** | ISTEA designates IVHS America a Utilized Federal Advisory Committee to the USDOT's IVHS Joint Program Office
- 1991** | The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority's Pikepass becomes the first electronic toll collection system in the United States
- 1991** | The E-ZPass Interagency Group is created to develop an interoperable tolling system among seven independent toll agencies throughout New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania
- 1992** | FAST-TRAC integrates advanced traffic management systems and advanced traveler information systems in Oakland County, Michigan
- 1992** | TravTek deploys in-vehicle traveler information system and navigation device
- 1992** | The Guidestar Program Genesis project deploys wireless personal communications devices to send drivers alpha-numeric text travel information in the Twin Cities area
- 1992** | INFORM Project presents traffic flow and alternate routing information through changeable message signs in Long Island, New York
- 1993** | Truck rollover warning system is deployed
- 1993** | The Chicago Transit Authority integrates smart card technology into its automated fare collection system
- 1993** | The I-95 Corridor Coalition is formed as a partnership of transportation agencies, toll authorities, public safety, and related organizations
- 1993** | E-ZPass is deployed at the New York State Thruway
- 1993** | The USDOT identifies four intelligent transportation system (ITS) priority corridors, including Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee Corridor, Northeast Corridor, Southern California, and Houston

- 1994** | IVHS America becomes the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America)
- 1994** | The National Automated Highway System Consortium is established to address ISTEA AHS Automated Highway System (AHS) mandate
- 1994** | The term "ITS" is officially sanctioned by USDOT as a replacement for IVHS
- 1994** | Bluetooth is invented
- 1995** | The first implementation of congestion pricing using electronic variable tolling is deployed in Orange County, CA
- 1995** | "No Hands Across America": Researchers from Carnegie Mellon University drive a specially outfitted car with autonomous capabilities from Pittsburgh to Los Angeles
- 1995** | GPS is commercially available
- 1995** | The Crash Avoidance Metrics Partnership (CAMP) is launched by Ford and General Motors
- Mid-1990s** | The IVHS Program develops a national systems architecture and standards to promote interoperability and coordinated national approach
- 1996** | The USDOT selects four Metropolitan Model Deployment Initiative locations with public private partnerships in regional transportation systems
- 1996** | The USDOT establishes the ITS Standards Program
- 1997** | Congressionally mandated AHS Demonstration is held in San Diego, California
- 1998** | Speed cameras are deployed as a traffic surveillance method
- 1998** | The USDOT's Intelligent Vehicle Initiative (IVI) Program is established
- 1998** | U.S. Congress passes the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)

- 1999** | The Commercial Vehicle Information Systems and Networks Deployment Grant Program is initiated
- 1999** | ITS America successfully petitions the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to allocate 75 MHz of spectrum in the 5.9 GHz band for ITS
- 2000** | The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is established as a separate operating administration within the USDOT
- 2000** | FCC designates 511 as the single travel information telephone number across the country
- 2000** | Travel time information is displayed on dynamic message signs as part of 511
- 2002** | The USDOT releases the *National ITS Program Plan: A Ten Year Vision*
- 2003** | The USDOT launches the Vehicle-Infrastructure Integration (VII) Program
- 2003** | First forward collision warning system is offered in the United States on a Toyota Lexus LS 430
- 2004** | The Research and Innovative Technology Administration is established within the USDOT to support ITS initiatives
- 2004** | The USDOT's Clarus initiative is established to reduce the impact of adverse weather conditions on surface transportation users
- 2004** | The first lane departure warning system available in the United States is developed by Iteris and Valeo for the Nissan Infiniti FX
- 2004 and 2005** | The DARPA Grand Challenge is conducted to accelerate the development of technology for autonomous vehicles
- 2005** | The National 911 Program Office is established by NHTSA and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration
- 2005** | The USDOT initiates a 5.9 GHz-based VII proof of concept; a continuation of the Advanced Vehicle Control Systems envisioned by Mobility 2000
- 2005** | The Mobility Services for All Americans initiative begins
- 2005** | The Integrated Vehicle-Based Safety Systems initiative is established to develop and test integrated safety systems on light vehicles and commercial trucks
- 2005** | The first high occupancy toll lanes are deployed in Orange County, CA
- 2005** | U.S. Congress passes the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)

- 2006** | The USDOT partners with CAMP to develop and test prototype vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) safety applications
- 2006** | The USDOT launches an integrated corridor management initiative to improve corridor performance
- 2007** | Blind spot detection is offered on vehicles
- 2007** | Apple's iPhone 1.0 is released
- 2007** | Lane departure warning, blind spot monitoring, and collision avoidance systems are available on luxury vehicles
- 2008** | The USDOT conducted a proof-of-concept test to investigate the technical feasibility of V2V and V2I applications in Michigan and California test beds
- 2009** | Google's Self-Driving Car project starts
- 2010** | Crowdsourcing apps are developed for use in transportation
- 2011** | The first public connected vehicle demonstration is held at the 18th ITS World Congress in Orlando, FL
- 2012** | U.S. Congress passes the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)
- 2012** | The USDOT launches the 2012-2013 Safety Pilot Model Deployment demonstrating V2V communication
- 2014** | General Motors announces semi-autonomous driving features and V2V communication capability in some 2017 Cadillacs
- 2014** | NHTSA mandates back-up cameras
- 2014** | The USDOT issues Advanced Notice of Rulemaking for V2V communication technology for light vehicles
- 2014** | Google unveils driverless car without pedals or a steering wheel
- 2014** | ITS JPO releases the *ITS Strategic Plan 2015-2019*
- 2015** | President Obama announces the Smart Cities Initiative and Secretary Foxx launches the Smart City Challenge
- 2015** | National Operations Center for Excellence is unveiled as a collaboration between ITS America, AASHTO, and Institute of Transportation Engineers, with support from FHWA
- 2015** | Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment awards are announced
- 2015** | President Obama signs the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act into law
- 2015** | President Obama announces the Smart Cities Initiative and Secretary Foxx launches the Smart City Challenge
- 2016** | The USDOT announces seven finalists for Smart City Challenge; the winning city will be announced in June 2016

KEY

- Policy/Anniversary
- Technology/Deployment
- Research/Academia
- Stakeholder Champion or Meeting

Without question, ITS technology has made transportation safer and more efficient. While many think improving our nation's transportation system solely means repairing aging infrastructure or building new roads, the future of transportation lies not only in these efforts, but also increasingly in implementing ITS technologies. The benefits of ITS are wide reaching and applicable to urban and rural populations; commuters and commercial truck drivers; and pedestrians, bikers, and public transportation system users. Building on decades of ITS research and deployments, the very near future will likely include vehicles that can talk to one another and roadside infrastructure to avoid collisions, improve congestion, and recognize environmental benefits. ITS will enable automated vehicles to interact with the transportation system—a concept that has captured the human imagination for decades, and is closer than ever to widespread deployment.

ITS technology has already had a significant impact on the current transportation environment. We are now on the verge of greater benefits and impacts due to advances in technology. For example, connected vehicle technology research indicates that vehicle-to-vehicle safety systems may address up to 80 percent of collision-based accidents where the driver is not impaired. Fully automated vehicles may offer even greater safety benefits. As research, development, and deployment marches on, these advanced solutions will increasingly yield even more mobility, environmental, safety, and other benefits.

Over time, the ITS field has evolved, not only technologically but also in the area of public and private interactions. The relationship between industry and the government has

“ We are not just in the transportation business. We are in the quality of life business. ”

—James Pol, Technical Director of the Federal Highway Administration, Office of Safety Research and Development

progressed into an essential partnership, which has catalyzed the development of new technologies. This partnership is critical to the success of ITS. The *History of ITS* report highlights both public and private agency investments and advances, often achieved through collaborations between the two.

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office (ITS JPO) commissioned this report in part to celebrate the convergence of three milestone anniversaries occurring in 2016 — the USDOT's 50th Anniversary, the ITS JPO's 25th Anniversary, and the 60th Anniversary of President Eisenhower signing the Federal-Aid Highway Act. In addition to celebrating these milestones, the ITS JPO wants to highlight the history and future of ITS developments and how these technologies have shaped our current environment and will influence our future.



2016 is the **25th anniversary** of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office.

Download your free copy of the *History of ITS* at: www.its.dot.gov/history.

Journey through the history as we prepare for the future of intelligent transportation.



WWW.ITS.DOT.GOV/INDEX.HTM
ITS HISTORY BROCHURE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: FHWA-JPO-16-404



U.S. Department of Transportation Celebrates **50 Years** of Innovation in Intelligent Transportation

DOT'S HISTORY OF INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At this moment, our nation stands at the cusp of some of the most revolutionary changes to our transportation system in decades. Connected and automated vehicles are closer than ever to being part of our everyday world, and the decisions we make regarding these and other advanced technologies could profoundly affect the future of transportation. As we move toward a more intelligent and connected transportation system, it is important to reflect on the history of the field, recognize lessons learned, identify trends and their historical implications, and acknowledge both the successes and the failures that have brought us to our current point in the evolution of intelligent transportation systems (ITS).

ITS is an operational system of various technologies that, when combined and managed, improve the operating capabilities of the overall system. According to a recent national survey conducted by the University of Iowa,¹ there are very large gaps in the public's knowledge about ITS.¹ Many people have little knowledge of “formal” ITS, yet they benefit from its existence every day. ITS technology is the phone application that you use to determine how long to wait before walking to catch the next bus. It is your car's advanced braking system that monitors wheel speed and adjusts brake pressure so that you can stop quickly and safely without

“ The history of ITS was greatly influenced by specific champions who pushed the branding of ITS and created a much-needed consciousness of what ITS can do. ”

—Scott McCormick, President of the Connected Vehicle Trade Association

losing control of your vehicle. ITS allows you to drive at highway speeds through toll collection kiosks, and helps you determine the exact location and delivery date of your online purchase with just a few clicks of the mouse. Moreover, ITS technologies (such as GPS use for mapping and positioning) and operational advancements (such as coordinated traffic management centers) allow quick and efficient mobilization of responders to an incident by providing real-time traffic, route, weather, and even hazardous material information across agencies.

¹ <http://www.sltrib.com/home/2929434-155/survey-shows-big-gaps-in-knowledge>