

FAO: NEWS, PICTURES, POLITICS, BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & TRANSPORT EDITORS

Transport Systems Catapult Media Release PR03-15

For immediate use

Labour leader Miliband backs smarter transport solutions

Labour Party leader Ed Miliband gave his backing to more intelligent transport solutions during a visit to the Transport Systems Catapult on Monday.

The opposition leader, accompanied by Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer Ed Balls, was in Milton Keynes for a meeting with local labour councillors, but made time beforehand for a tour of the Catapult's headquarters and state-of-the-art "Imovation Centre".

Mr Miliband and Mr Balls were welcomed to the Catapult by CEO Steve Yianni, and were then given presentations on several major projects, including the LUTZ Pathfinder driverless pods and the Departure Planning Information (DPI) programme – recently installed at seven UK airports with the aim of using real time departure information to reduce passenger delays.

"It was great to see the Transport Systems Catapult's innovative work," said Mr Miliband at the end of his visit. "The Catapult is playing a vital role in making our transport systems more efficient and sustainable as well as making an impressive contribution to the Milton Keynes economy."

Mr Yianni said: "It was great to see the enthusiasm that Mr Miliband clearly had for the work we're carrying out here.

"The Catapult programme has enjoyed cross-party support all along, which is extremely important as we continue our efforts to create smarter and more efficient transport systems - both for the UK and for the rest of the world."

- Ends -

For media enquiries, please contact TSC Communications Manager Mark Ledsom (Mark.Ledsom@ts.catapult.org.uk, Tel: +44 7508 023 758).

The Transport Systems Catapult is the UK's technology and innovation centre for Intelligent Mobility, harnessing emerging technologies to improve the movement of people and goods around the world. It is one of an elite network of not-for-profit technology and innovation centres established and overseen by the UK's innovation agency, Innovate UK. For more information see www.ts.catapult.org.uk