

FAO: BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY & TRANSPORT EDITORS

Transport Systems Catapult Media Release PR01-15

For immediate use

Transport Systems Catapult signs MoU with Brazil's Gol Grupo

The Transport Systems Catapult (TSC) announced its first international partnership today (12th January 2015) after signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Brazilian technology provider Gol Grupo.

As a result of the agreement, the Transport Systems Catapult and Gol Grupo will now explore areas of cooperation in technologies and services related to urban mobility and connected smart cities.

"The Transport Systems Catapult was set up not only to champion the development of smarter transport systems for the UK, but also to promote UK expertise in Intelligent Mobility for overseas markets," said Transport Systems Catapult CEO Steve Yianni following the signing of the agreement.

"The huge economic growth of Brazil in recent years has obviously put a huge amount of strain on the country's transport systems, particularly in its larger cities," Mr Yianni added. "But it is also a country with a relatively young population who have been fast to adopt new technologies, particularly in the field of mobile communications, all of which makes Brazil extremely suitable for Intelligent Mobility solutions."

Gol Grupo's Director of International Relations, Bianca Suassuna, visited the Imovation Center TSC in Milton Keynes to sign the Agreement and to discuss initial ideas for the promotion of Intelligent Mobility in Brazil.

"We have significant technical experience in developing solutions that help create smart cities, and have already implemented several significant projects in some of Brazil's biggest urban areas," Miss Suassuna said.

"By signing this agreement with the Transport Systems Catapult, we hope to benefit from a fruitful exchange of knowledge and technological capability and continue the internationalisation of Gol Grupo, following on from this month's opening in Spain of our first European office."

- Ends -

Photos of today's signing event will be available from the news section of the Transport Systems Catapult website (www.ts.catapult.org.uk) from 1500hrs GMT.

For media enquiries, please contact TSC Communications Manager Mark Ledsom (Mark.Ledsom@ts.catapult.org.uk, Tel: +44 7508 023 758) or Gol Grupo Vice President Bianca Suassuna (bianca@golgrupo.com.br, Tel: +55 21 24322620)

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

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Gol Grupo comprises a number of companies that specialise in the creation and development of new ways of accessing knowledge, health services, education and entertainment. Recent projects include the virtual library platform “Nuvem de Livros” (Cloud Books), which was launched two years ago and has already attracted around two million subscribers, and the “156” platform which provides a single call centre, web portal and collection of mobile applications for a wide range of public services, including civil defence, urban sanitation, transport, street lighting and health. For more information see www.golmobile.com.br