

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Birmingham Officially Announced to Host the 2027 ITS World Congress

**London, 4 September.** In an atmosphere charged with anticipation at the distinguished surroundings of the House of Commons, Transport for West Midlands were officially announced to host the 33rd ITS World Congress in Birmingham, from 25-29 October 2027.

In conjunction with the Intelligent Transport Systems UK's annual Parliamentary Reception, inviting hundreds of local and regional representatives, Joost Vantomme, CEO of ERTICO – ITS Europe and Sharon Thompson, Deputy Mayor of West Midlands Combined Authority, signed the official Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to host the 2027 ITS World Congress. This strategic cooperation marks a major milestone in the next three years' journey towards the most significant event in the world of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). Hosted by Transport for West Midlands, and support from the Department for Transport, the Department for Business and Trade, the Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles, Visit Britain, NEC Birmingham (National Exhibition Centre) and ITS UK, the 2027 ITS World Congress will offer a unique occasion to shape the trajectory of global mobility and transport.

"This partnership demonstrates a testament to our joint commitment and leading role in shaping the future of mobility. The commitments I have seen so far are remarkable," says Joost Vantomme, ERTICO CEO. "Through the combination of ERTICO's innovative approach with Birmingham's rich industrial history and forward-thinking mobility initiatives, the 2027 ITS World Congress will perfectly blend tradition with future vision, driving transformative advancements in mobility."

Birmingham's well-connected transport system and ongoing projects in smart and sustainable mobility exemplifies the ultimate experience of cutting-edge advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous vehicles to smart ticketing system and sustainable urban mobility solution. Known for its role in historical and contemporary advancements with vibrant streets, canal networks, and cultural sites, Birmingham will offer a dynamic fusion of heritage and modernity which defines the city.

Sarah Sharples, Chief Scientific Adviser to the United Kingdom Department of Transport said, "I am delighted that DfT is a partner in this event, which will provide a fantastic opportunity to bring the ITS world to England's West Midlands and showcase the innovation and technology happening in the UK at the moment".

The ITS Congresses, organised by ERTICO, is the yearly event of showcasing smart and sustainable mobility advancements, emphasising the importance of raising awareness among policymakers, industry experts, thought leaders and all stakeholders. In collaboration with the two regions of America and Asia-Pacific, ERTICO invites the global community to network, discuss, and exchange knowledge through a comprehensive Congress Programme, live demonstrations and vibrant exhibitions that showcases cutting-edge technologies and innovations in smart and sustainable mobility.

**About ERTICO – ITS Europe:** Founded in 1991, ERTICO is a European public-private partnership organisation, pioneered by the European Commission in 1991. With 120 members, connecting eight sectors across the ITS community. ERTICO embodies thought leadership and stakeholder engagement through facilitating, contributing and promoting innovation through European co-funded partnership projects, innovation platforms, mobility data spaces and international cooperation advocacy. ERTICO organises the ITS European Congress for two consecutive years, attracting more than 3,000 attendees from 50 countries and every third year, the ITS World Congress which welcomes up to 15,000 attendees from 100 countries

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