The Thirteenth International Conference of the Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies (HKSTS) was successfully held on 13th to 15th December, 2008. The conference was jointly organised by the HKSTS and the Department of Management Sciences of the City University of Hong Kong, with generous financial sponsorship from Autotoll Limited. The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK), Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS), The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE)-Civil Division, and The Operational Research Society of Hong Kong (ORSHK) were the non-financial sponsors of the conference.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Transportation and Management Science”. According to the statistics released by the Census and Statistics Department, the Hong Kong Population was 6.99 millions at mid-2008. In each day, more than 11.6 million passenger trips are made using the public transport modes. In each month, there are 2.7 million visitors arrivals; 0.32 million tones of air cargo and 2 million TEUs port’s container throughputs. The need for maintaining an efficient and rapid transport system in Hong Kong has never been so great. In addition to the large resources that are being invested by the HKSAR Government to improve and expand the transport infrastructure in Hong Kong, transportation planning and traffic management are crucial for the smooth operation of the Hong Kong transportation system. Not only that transport engineers, planners and researchers have to work together, statisticians, operations researchers, economists, urban planners, accountants, environmentalists, practitioners, geo-informatic specialists, and government officials should also play a more prominent role in the transportation planning and management. This Conference has provided opportunities for them to discuss, interact and exchange ideas.

With 89 papers making up the proceedings and 141 participants from local and overseas, we are glad that our conference has attracted much interest not only from the academics but also from government officers, professionals, consultants and practitioners. Ms Eva Cheng, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing of the Transport and Housing Bureau, Hong Kong SAR Government, delivered a very informative Keynote Address on “Transport Management – Hong Kong ‘s Way”. In addition, there were six plenary speeches from:

- Professor Yupo Chan of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, USA: “Cyber Transportation Logistics: Analyzing a Global Value-Chain for Services”;
• Dr. Andy H. F. Chow of University College, London, UK: “Dynamic System Optimal Traffic Assignment – A State-Dependent Control Theoretic Approach”,

• Professor Henry S. L. Fan of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore: “Challenges in Transport Planning and Congestion Management”,

• Professor Odd I. Larsen of Molde University College and Molde Research, Norway: “Toll Cordons and Congestion Pricing – The Case of Oslo”,

• Dr. Theo Arentze of the Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands: “Towards Longitudinal Activity-Based Models of Travel Demand”.

The other eighty-two presentations at the conference were equally broad-based, covering the full spectrum of topics related to transportation. For the first time, we had included a session on Industrial Track and invited three consultants in transportation planning to present their experiences working in the industry. The other 24 sessions covered a variety of topics such as Travel Behavior, Environmental and Emission, Traffic Estimation, Activity and Pedestrian, Regulation on Public Transport, Public Transport in Asia, Railway, Toll and Competition, Scheduling, Traffic Network Equilibrium, Road Safety and Maintenance, Freight and Logistics, Cargo Terminal and Strategic Supply Chain Management etc.

To foster excellence in transportation research and practice, our Society has established the HKSTS Outstanding Dissertation Paper Award which includes the Gordon Newell Memorial Prize of HK$10,000. This year’s winner of the award is Dr. Andy Chow of University College, London, UK. On the other hand, the judges for this year’s HKSTS Outstanding Student Paper Award had a tough task, and eventually declared that for this year we had one winner and two first runner-ups. The winning paper was “Impact of Time-Dependent Transport Management on Activity Location Costs” by Xiaosu Ma of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. The two first runner-up papers were “An Empirical Study on the Transaction Sector within Rail Firms” by Rico Merkert of the University of Leeds and “Analysis of Association between Traffic Exposure and Accident Risk in Hong Kong” by Xin Pei of the University of Hong Kong.

In the past 13 years, the HKSTS annual conference has gone from strength to strength and grown in size and scope, to become one of the leading regional conferences in transportation. Next year, the 14th International Conference of the Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies will be held on 10th to 12th December, 2009, and will be jointly organised by HKSTS and the Department of Geography, Centre for China Urban and Regional Studies, Hong Kong Baptist University. More information on the conference can be found at the HKSTS webpage at: http://home.netvigator.com/~hksts/conf09.htm.
Welcoming Addresses and Keynote Speech

Welcoming address by Dr. Mary Pang, Associate Dean of College of Business, City University of Hong Kong

Welcoming Address by Prof. William H. K. Lam, President of HKSTS

Dr. H.P. Lo, Co-Chair, introduced the Keynote Speaker, Ms Eva Cheng

Keynote Address by Ms Eva Cheng, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing, HKSAR
Prof. Yupo Chan

**Plenary Session I**

Dr. Andy Chow          Prof. H.-O. Günther

Prof. Odd I. Larsen

**Plenary Session II**

Dr. Theo Arentze

Prof. Herny Fan
Ms Eva Cheng presented the award to Dr. Andy Chow, winner of the Outstanding Dissertation Paper Award.

Dr. Stephen Leung, Co-Chair, presented the souvenir to Financial Sponsor, Mr. Paul Cheng, CEO, Autotoll.

Mr. Xiaosu Ma, the Winner

Miss Xin Pei, 1st Runner-up

Outstanding Student Paper Award

Mr. Rico Merkert, 1st Runner-up
Industrial Track Session

Mr. Sam Chow of MVA, Hong Kong

Mr. Man-Lung Yim of Scott Wilson Ltd

Mr. Sven Maertens of German Aerospace Center, Germany

Closing Address by H.P. Lo, Co-Chair

Many thanks to our Conference Secretary, Dr. Susanna Tam