



2012 OUTSTANDING STATE CHAPTER AND STATE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AWARDS* (for the 2011 Calendar Year)

APPLICATION FORM
(Submitting Chapters may apply for either or both awards.)

EMAIL COMPLETED FORM TO CTENNYSON@ITSA.ORG BY

CLOSE OF BUSINESS FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD

Chapter: ITS Connecticut

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I. OUTSTANDING STATE CHAPTER AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA (FOR THE 2011 CALENDAR YEAR)

Please submit a brief narrative regarding how your chapter excels in the following areas (no more than one page for each of the four categories).

- Part 1) Strong and Engaging Chapter Governance
- Part 2) Significant Impact via Networking, Outreach, and Advocacy
- Part 3) Effective Organizational and Professional Development
- Part 4) Emerging Experiences that Provide Lessons Learned, Case Studies, Best Practices, etc., related to State and/or Local Planning, Deployment, and Evaluation of ITS

As part of your electronically submitted entry, you may provide electronic links to your website, social media, or add photos to support your application. Many of your policies and practices are ongoing and you will necessarily have to include them in your application; however, since this is an annual award, please highlight the specific enhancements to, and accomplishments of, your chapter during 2010.

Part 1: Strong and Engaging Chapter Governance

- **Chapter has an active board representing the range of ITS stakeholders in its jurisdiction, driven by clear updated by-laws, and standing committees to serve the membership.**

ITS CT has an active board of directors including the State Department of Transportation, Municipalities, Universities, regional planning agencies, private consultants and product vendors. This allows us to ensure all facets of the industry can be serviced. Our by-laws are reviewed and updated annually. We have committees to promote membership, maintain our website, prepare our newsletter, organize events, research training events, support of our student grant initiative and maintain our bylaws.

- **Chapter's effective governance is shown by membership representative of the local ITS community, solid finances, and widespread participation of chapter members in governance, financial support, program development, and administration of chapter activities.**

ITS CT is in strong financial standing and promotes a student grant project twice a year. We have recently reduced our membership dues for private companies and eliminated dues for State agencies, regional planning agencies, and municipalities in order to increase our membership. Sometimes, we host events at no cost to promote ITS in Ct.

- **Chapter interacts regularly with and engages ITS America and other ITS America chapters as appropriate to share information, participate in joint initiatives, and further the overall mission of the ITS Community to promote and achieve national, interoperable deployment of ITS.**

We have several members that participate in ITSA activities. We actively participate in the State Chapters Committee and have members who attend the ITSA annual meeting. We also have a member of FHWA on our board who serves as an ex officio. When the World Congress was held in NYC, ITS CT participated by hosting an event at Grand Central Terminal.

Part 2: Significant Impact via Networking, Outreach, and Advocacy

- **Chapter encourages collaboration and networking among its members.**

ITS-CT sponsors several membership meetings each year. The meetings have varied from all day workshops that include vendors showcase and various training sessions to evening dinner meetings with one or more guest speakers. Topics have ranged from traffic reporting to roadway pricing to ITS chapter best practices. Technical sessions presented by various vendors are also featured.

ITS-CT is careful to sponsor these meetings at different locations throughout the State to make it more convenient for members to attend at least one meeting a year. Venues have included the University of Connecticut's football stadium (Rentschler Field) in East Hartford, the new Convention Center in downtown Hartford, the Hartford Science Museum, the sports museum at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, and restaurants in New Haven and Meriden. In addition, since 2006, we have added some "fun" networking opportunities including golf outings and cocktail socials.

We take every opportunity to make our meeting venues as well as presentation topics interesting to our diverse membership. Attendance at our meetings has ranged from about 20 to about 100. Average attendance is about 45-50 members.

- **Chapter publicizes the benefits of ITS to local community and other transportation, enforcement, and safety stakeholders.**

ITS-CT has a diverse membership that ranges from municipal public works and planning departments, ITS vendors, State DOT, universities, transit operators, and metropolitan planning organizations. In addition, our members belong to and hold office in other organizations such as ITE-CT (an association of traffic engineers), the Statewide Incident Management Task Force (an association of traffic incident

management responders), and the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (a committee consisting of enforcement and safety stakeholders), so “cross pollination” among these groups is effective.

- **Chapter responds to the information needs of members by distributing pertinent information in various ways, including, but not limited to email communications, publishing newsletters, and providing online services, such as Web sites, bulletin boards, or listservs.**

ITS-CT reaches out to its members and the interested public through a website (<http://www.its-ct.org>) that is updated on a regular basis and through a newsletter that is published annually (<http://www.its-ct.org/publications.htm>). The website includes the membership list, contact information for officers and board members, meeting announcements and minutes, and information about training opportunities, our Student Grant program, and our ITS-CT awards program, as well as information about ITS-America and the World Congresses. The newsletter contains articles about ITS innovations, meeting announcements and summaries, our award-winning ITS projects and individuals, our student grant projects, and a membership application. Lastly, our membership committee chair sends timely emails to our membership regarding job opportunities, training opportunities and the like.

Part 3: Effective Organizational and Professional Development

- **Chapter responds to the needs of its members for building a community of knowledge through the hosting of conferences and meetings that offer pertinent and timely educational opportunities to attendees.**

ITS-CT has established various committees to help members participate in various activities. ITS-CT hosts conferences and meetings throughout the year to promote new technological advances in the ITS industry. Even students of local universities are encouraged to present and work on recent advances as part of Student Grant Program. Every year the Chapter selects students to receive grants for research on various ITS technologies and issues. The students prepare a final report and present their findings at our Annual Meeting. This program encourages young professionals to become involved with ITS while also keeping members educated on the latest technologies and research. This symbiotic relationship has resulted in projects on Advanced Traveler Information Systems, Transportation Tracking Technologies, and Adaptive Signal Control Systems.” ITS-CT has established a training committee which provides information on latest webinars and training opportunities that the members can take advantage of.

- **Chapter promotes the professional development of its membership and/or the ITS Community at large and demonstrates willingness to advance unique ideas and practices, both to its membership and to non-members, as in the case of state legislators, government officials, non-profit organizations, and the public.**

ITS-CT, with the leadership of its Board of Directors, strives for a clear understanding of their chapter goals and the goals of ITS America. ITS CT actively provides its members with benefits that strengthen member knowledge and abilities within the ITS industry. These benefits include, but are not limited to, member correspondence through newsletters, ITS CT website and annual meetings/receptions. ITS CT also posts information on their chapter website relating to upcoming training opportunities in the industry. All monthly meeting minutes are also posted on the chapter website for members and other industry personnel to review and learn from. At annual meetings, ITS-CT has often invited state legislators, state DOT commissioners, and other key individuals to hear and listen to unique ideas and practices in the ITS industry.

Part 4: Emerging Experiences that Provide Lessons Learned, Case Studies, Best Practices, etc., related to State and/or Local Planning, Deployment, and Evaluation of ITS

- **Chapter encourages partnerships that lead to its members engaging in demonstrable transportation solutions fueled by ITS applications.**

ITS-CT has enabled various member agencies to cooperate amongst each other and develop unique ideas and approaches towards creating a robust environment. ITS-CT consists of a strong mix of agencies in the public and private sectors which are focused on obtaining knowledge and applicability of latest ITS advances.

- **Chapter members play a strong role in promoting planning, deployment, and evaluation of ITS solutions.** ITS-CT has participated in the VII technology demonstration which was held as part of an annual meeting. ITS-CT participates in the State Chapter meetings to obtain knowledge of new ITS solutions and then develops a game plan of promoting such solutions at a large event. Several member firms within the chapter have been involved with ITS for a long time and they help the chapter by sharing their experiences relative to a specific project.
- **Chapter identifies emerging ITS activities (whether or not it has a direct role in their development) as a way of increasing awareness and understanding of these initiatives, promoting greater involvement, and contributing to the greater knowledge base of ITS within the chapter and across the United States.**

Knowledge of emerging ITS techniques is essential for the ITS-Ct membership. The chapter is blessed as it is sandwiched between two large metro areas of Boston and New York where there is an unlimited pool of knowledge. At annual meetings and other events, ITS-CT has invited keynote speakers to present lessons learned, case studies, or best practices associated with various stages of ITS starting from planning to deployment. Over the past few years, there have been several initiatives in the region that have created awareness towards the use of ITS technology.

II. STATE CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AWARD SELECTION CRITERIA (FOR THE 2011 CALENDAR YEAR)

Provide the numerical data to reflect the growth in your membership level along with a brief description of the activities undertaken to achieve this membership growth (this information will be invaluable to share among all the chapters). Append this with explanatory details, if needed.

- 1) 2011 Membership: 38 (No. of Organizations represented) 2010 Membership: 32 (No. of Organizations represented) 2011 Membership Increase: 19 (Percentage increase over 2010)
- 2) Briefly describe the activities the chapter used to achieve this growth in membership.

ITS-CT has a membership committee which has taken an active role in promoting the chapter. Many of our members have personally made an effort to “spread the word” and invite fellow practitioners to join the chapter.

In cases where the chapter’s membership includes individual members, please estimate the total number of unique organizations that these individual members represent. We request that each unique organization must consist of at least two individuals.

ITS-CT does not have individual members but consists of organizations with more than two individuals.

***This year’s Awards Program incorporates 3 Divisions of Chapters** with the two awards to be issued in each Division. If there are insufficient entries in any of the Divisions and categories, ITS America and its SCC judges reserve the right to not issue an award.

- Division 1 (9): California, Florida, Georgia, Gulf Region, Heartland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Texas
- Division 2 (9): Arizona, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, Midwest, Pennsylvania, Rocky Mountain, Tennessee, Virginia
- Division 3 (9): Alaska, Nevada, New Mexico, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin