

Preface

This book contains the edited version of papers presented at the 20th International Conference on Urban Transport and the Environment, held in The Algarve, Portugal. It is Volume 138 of the very successful series WIT Transactions on the Built Environment.

Urban Transport is one of the most important conferences organised by the Wessex Institute, having been held annually for the last 20 years. The first Conference started in Southampton in 1995, continuing in Barcelona (1996), Acquasparta, Italy (1997); Lisbon (1998); Rhodes (1999); Cambridge, UK (2000); Lemnos, Greece (2001); Seville (2002); Crete (2003); Dresden (2004); Coimbra (2005); The New Forest (2006); Cordoba (2007); Malta (2008); Bologna (2009); Cyprus (2010); Pisa (2011); A Coruna (2012); and Kos in 2013.

The Meeting has always attracted delegates from all over the world and is well established as the premier event of its type.

Transportation in urban areas and in particular their efficiency and convenience is one of the most challenging areas of research and development in our Society.

Transportation is one of the largest consumers of energy, particularly hydrocarbons and has a considerable share of the economies of governments, industry and householders. As the world continues to develop towards a global economy, the importance of transportation grows and consequently the need to find new solutions.

Transportation in urban areas, with its related environmental and social impacts, is a topic of significant concern for both policymakers and governments, as well as most citizens who need effective and efficient transport systems.

The papers contained in this Volume address some of these concerns and propose new solutions to allow transport system planners and operators to deliver the high quality outcomes expected by the public.

Papers presented at Wessex Institute conferences are referenced by CrossRef and regularly appear in notable reviews, publications and databases, including referencing and abstract services such as Scopus, Compendex, Web of Knowledge, ProQuest and Scitech Book News. Conference papers are also archived online in the WIT eLibrary (<http://library.witpress.com>) where they are immediately and permanently available to the international community.

The Editor is grateful to the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee and other colleagues who helped select the papers contained in this Volume; and to all the authors who contributed to this Volume.

The Editor
The Algarve
2014