What evidence have existing systems generated to support the case for urban podcars in the future.

Presentation by Richard Isles, Business Development, Ultra Global PRT
Agenda

- Heathrow pod update
- Is urban important?
- Urban issues
- Future urban applications
Heathrow pod update

- Now an established member of Heathrow transport offering
- Has carried 1.2m passengers
- Vehicles have travelled over 2.5m driverless kilometres
- 26066 hours of operation since opening.
- Saves over half a million tonnes of CO2 and removed over 200,000 bus journeys
Is Urban Important?
Is urban important?

• 50% + world population live in urban areas
• The challenges associated with managing urban areas have increased in scope and complexity.
• Managing urban areas one of the most important challenges of the twenty first century.

Figures from UN 2014
Why will podcars be important?

- Smarter cities need more adaptable & flexible solutions.
- Podcar technology designed principally for urban environments.
- Podcar/ATN technology is no longer a concept but a reality.
Urban Issues?
Problem: Congestion

Podcar Solution:

• Podcars remove vehicles from the existing transport network.

• Removing vehicles improves other forms of public transport that are reliant on the road network.

• Efficient last mile connectivity via podcar improves propensity to use public transport
Problem: Environmental Concerns

Podcar Solution:

• Existing and future systems use small lightweight electric vehicles
• The very idea of personal rapid transit is economically friendly
• Low external noise
Problem: Space Restrictions

Podcar Solution:

• Podcars offer flexibility and adaptability
• Lightweight infrastructure, not obtrusive and can conform with public space
• Disruption minimised in the construction of podcar systems.
Problem: Passenger Service Issues

Podcar Solution:
• On-demand, direct, personal
• Predictable and reliable
• Comfortable and secure
• Public transport that people enjoy.
Twitter Feedback

Retweeted by Ultra Global PRT
Andrew Wooliscroft @Wooliscroft · Aug 14
Travelling is worth it for the Heathrow Pods alone!

Retweeted by Ultra Global PRT
ICanCallYouBetty @WHU_AI · Aug 14
So I'm in a small pod going from parking to T5 at Heathrow. I think I'm in total recall

Retweeted by Ultra Global PRT
JJ Jackson @jjperontistis · Aug 13
On the Heathrow pod. 5 mins to terminal...very cool

Retweeted by Ultra Global PRT
Isabel Rogers @IsabelRogers · Mar 26
I have a ridiculous Monday coming up. The only thing offsetting the dread is that I get to ride in the Terminal 5 magic pods at Heathrow.

Retweeted by Ultra Global PRT
Paul Stack @stack72 · Mar 27
Heathrow T5 business parking is amazing. The automated pods to take you to the terminal make life easier and faster
Future Urban Applications?
PRT in Florianopolis, Brazil

Contacted by Brazilian company Brasell last year
- Looking for innovative urban transport solutions
- Identified Ultra through their research from website

Will improve the mobility of the population and reduce travel time between the Mainland and the Island.
PRT in Linkou, Taiwan

To demonstrate to the government and the engineering community:
- That PRT is technically feasible as a public transit system
- That PRT is financially advantageous over other public transit systems

Project explored a potential system for the Linkou region of New Taipei City
Conclusions

• There is a clear opportunity for podcars to make a difference in an urban setting.

• Existing podcar systems and technology demonstrate capabilities that can be replicated in an urban settings.

• Local authorities and transit authorities are now exploring Podcars as a realistic solution to urban problems.
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