itsaustralia Awards 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Intelligent Transport Leader Peter Bentley Awarded Lifetime Achievement

Australian transport industry leader Peter Bentley has been recognised for his broad and impactful contribution to the nation's Intelligent Transport Systems industry, receiving ITS Australia's highest honour, the Max Lay Achievement Award. The award celebrates the achievements of leaders in the transport industry and ITS and is recognised globally.

Before his retirement in June 2021, Mr Bentley was the Managing Director of Collaborative ITS Consultancy Australia Pty Ltd (Cica Group). Throughout his more than 45-year career, Mr Bentley has meaningfully contributed to the success of a diverse range of companies in the transportation, infrastructure and defence sectors. Peter is a specialist in the management of large operational businesses and has been a long-time leader in Australian road tolling.

"For more than 30 years, Peter has been a highly engaged participant in Australia's ITS industry," said Dean Zabrieszach, ITS Australia President.

"Peter is a motivational leader and is highly regarded for his strong business ethics and for setting a high benchmark for personal credibility and integrity in the transport industry. Peter is a very worthy recipient of the Max Lay Award, and I congratulate him on behalf of ITS Australia."

Mr Bentley served as President of ITS Australia from 2004–2008, sat on the board of directors from 2001–2010, and has been involved in ITS Australia activities for more than 30 years. Peter was a key participant in conceiving and delivering the inaugural NeTC (National Electronic Tolling Committee) Industry Forum, held in 2006. The Forum emerged from the tolling industry's engagement and collaboration to achieve a nationally uniform approach to interoperable Free-Flow Electronic Tolling in the 1990s. Peter was a long-time participant in NeTC and served as Chairman of the Australian National Toll Road Operators Association, which represents all of the operating toll roads in Australia and ensures national interoperability in tolling across Australia.

"Peter's impressive career of more than 40 years involved the management of many of Australia's most innovative ITS and smart technology tolling projects," said Brian Negus, Ambassador, ITS Australia and Chairman of Cica Group.

"As President of ITS Australia, Peter served with distinction, helped establish countless initiatives, and worked tirelessly to grow and elevate the association. Peter was instrumental in establishing the Australian National Toll Road Operators Association, with a focus to ensure National interoperability in tolling across Australia. All of us at ITS Australia owe a great debt of gratitude to Peter."

Mr Bentley's career spans an expansive list of Australia's most respected and innovative transport organisations. His most recent position is as Managing Director of Collaborative ITS Consultancy Australia Pty Ltd (Cica Group). A long-time member of ITS Australia, Cica Group is a leading Australian transport consultancy. At Cica Group, Mr Bentley was engaged as the Strategic Tolling and Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Specialist for the development of the tolling and O&M strategy for the specification and procurement of the $16B North-East Link Project. At Cica Group, Mr Bentley also served as Principal Consultant to NSW Roads & Maritime Services as Project Director of its $54m Tolling Systems Upgrade Program. He later served as a member of the Program Steering Committee.

From 2004–2010 Mr Bentley served as Chief Operating Officer of ConnectEast Group. He was responsible for all operational aspects of the EastLink Concession with the State Government of Victoria, including Road Operations and Asset Management, Customer Operations, Enforcement, and Business Information Services. Mr Bentley was a crucial player in the inception and delivery of EastLink. The seven years he spent with the organisation included the tender response, construction and the first two years of operations. This period included the delivery of all the tunnel mechanical and electrical systems and its ITS systems.

From 2010-2011, Mr Bentley provided due diligence on the Queensland Motorways Limited (QML) Operations, including its tolling road-side system, tolling central system, and Intelligent Transport Systems for Queensland Investment Corporation. In 2011, Mr Bentley assisted the transition process on behalf of Queensland Motorways Limited (QML). This role also saw him deliver a Tolling Strategic Review Project Plan for the acting CEO and provide Post Purchase Provision of analysis and comments on Board Papers for new directors. Following that, Mr Bentley worked with the Brisbane Airports Corporation to prepare the documentation necessary for a request for proposal to procure a new Taxi Access Fee Collection System for Brisbane Airport.

From 2012-2013, Mr Bentley served with Brisbane City Council, providing governance and advisory services to the Transaction Manager for the Councils Legacy Way Project Tolling Capability procurement.

The Max Lay Award is named in honour of Dr Maxwell Lay (AM), an Australian pioneer and ITS researcher, engineer, project implementer and passionate advocate for the advancement of ITS. Max Lay was a board member of ConnectEast during Mr Bentley's term as Chief Operating Officer.

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Intelligent Transport Systems Australia (ITS Australia) promotes the development and deployment of advanced technologies to deliver safer, more efficient, and sustainable transport across all public and private modes: air, sea, road, and rail.

Established in 1992, ITS Australia is an independent not-for-profit incorporated membership organisation representing ITS suppliers, government authorities, academia, and transport businesses and users. Affiliated with peak ITS organisations around the world, ITS Australia is a major contributor to the development of the industry.

Key ITS Australia initiatives include convening national summits and international conferences; facilitating dialogue between transport modes and across government jurisdictions; and promoting research, development, and the export of Australian technologies.