Driving the Future of Public Transportation

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) operates the nation's second largest public transportation system. The CTA is using one of its busiest locations—the 79th Street bus corridor—as a test bed for measuring transit occupancy. New IoT technology—such as LIDAR sensors and onboard Wi-Fi beacons—is installed and integrated with existing fare systems and onboard video feeds. AI aggregates and analyzes data at the edge, then shares the data with CTA operators in near–real time. A machine learning algorithm helps CTA operators deploy city buses more effectively without needing to replace their current fleet management system. This flexible, open-architecture solution can be easily expanded to other vehicles to deliver long-term improvements citywide.

"We have to add more technology. We have to be agile. We have to look for those partnerships that build those strengths."

Molly Poppe, Chief Innovation Officer, Chicago Transit Authority

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