



CLEVELAND, OH – The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) was presented with the Innovation Award from Trapeze-Vontas at its 2021 virtual [Think Transit Conference](#) today.

The award is for "the most innovative and forward thinking person or organization", and was granted to RTA for the development, design and implementation of a new on-board and integrated communications system.

The new system eliminated outdated technology and replaced it with a number of new features including, state-of-the-art vehicle alarms, priority cellular service, new radio communications towers and a turn-by-turn navigations system.

In 2019, RTA was operating one of the oldest radio and computer systems of all the public transit authorities nationwide. Installed in the mid-2000s, the onboard system was obsolete, difficult to maintain and offered limited capabilities to the riders, says Michael Lively, project manager, and RTA's Manager of ITS.

"With the help of grant funding, a bold vision and a small, dedicated team, RTA now operates one of the most advanced systems in the country. Within a 14-month period (July 2019 – September 2020), RTA was able to transform its operation by removing and installing new onboard equipment on more than 500 vehicles," said Lively.

Details are here:

<http://www.riderta.com/news/rta-named-most-innovative-2021-trapeze-vontas-conference>

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