

**Press Release Information**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE – ITS CONTRACT AWARDED**

RPA is pleased to announce that the contract to provide the back office for the Integrated Ticketing Scheme (ITS) has been awarded to IBM Ireland. The contract, which commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, will provide a state-of-the-art system that will manage all smart card activities in Dublin. The system to be developed is based on the best-in-class system in Singapore and IBM will be supported by their sub-contractor, MSI, a Singapore company, in modifying the Singapore system to meet the needs of Dublin.

The Integrated Ticketing Scheme, which commences roll-out to customers in late 2009, will provide a pay-as-you-go system on re-usable smart cards as well as holding weekly, monthly and annual tickets for regular commuters on Luas, Dublin Bus, Irish Rail, Bus Éireann and privately operated services. The Singapore system on which the Dublin scheme will be based is one of the leading examples of integrated ticketing with over 7 million smart card holders using public transport.

This is a major milestone in the delivery of the ITS project. David O'Callaghan, Chairman of the Integrated Ticketing Project Board, which is tasked with overseeing the project, welcomed this significant development. "We are delighted to be able to link up with such a significant scheme as Singapore and to have a world leader like IBM overseeing the development," said O'Callaghan.

ITS Project Director Tim Gaston is also very pleased with this progress and recognises the strategic importance of the ITS project in the overall context of the Transport 21 investment programme. "Smart cards will provide a simple and convenient method of using public transport for regular commuters, less frequent users, visitors and tourists", said Gaston.

Ends.