Compared with conventional subway, bus and downtown circulation systems, the ALRT design permits urban planners greater flexibility to implement high quality transit in a wide range of sensitive urban environments. In addition to the revolutionary suspension, propulsion and automatic train control equipment, which make it highly reliable under all environmental conditions, the system also requires generally lower operating and maintenance costs.

Since its acquisition of Can-Car Rail in Thunder Bay, Ontario, UTDC has won a number of contracts for vehicles to be manufactured at that plant. These include: 52 ALRVs for Toronto; 50 ALRVs for Santa Clara Country; 126 subway cars for Toronto; and 58 subway cars for Boston. Moreover, as the designer of the largest bi-level commuter car in the world, it is also filling a third order to meet Toronto's regional needs.

Recognizing a need in many cities for strategic planning or urban transportation, the corporation provides a totally integrated approach to planning, design and implementation of new transit services and systems. These services have been successfully marketed in the United States and Latin America.

In addition, the UTDC Transportation Development Centre, which opened in 1978, ranks as one of the largest facilities of its kind in the world. This unique facility provides complete testing for a variety of ground transportation systems.

The 192-hectare TDC is the nucleus of the corporation's technology development programs, providing a base of operation for over 700 specialists and support staff. Laboratories, engineering and administrative offices plus maintenance facilities and test tracks are located at this site.