

The theme comes alive

Specialized periods, a program set up for the first time in world exposition history, highlights aspects of the transportation and communications theme through state-of-the-art technology and flashbacks to the past. Several international conferences, professional seminars and trade exhibitions are central to specific periods. The highlights include:

• Polar transportation and communications

May 5 — 11

Demonstration of vehicles, vessels, aircraft and equipment designed for operations in polar environments. A world-class gathering of ice-breaking and ice-capable vessels, the International Polar Transportation Conference and the Pipeline Transportation Symposium are scheduled.

• Search and rescue

May 12 — 18

Launched by a sail-past of rescue vessels, the period features displays and demonstrations of air, marine and land search and rescue techniques and technology. Activities include seminars on hovercraft and rigid hull inflatables, SAR programs from Britain and France, a demonstration of (SARSAT), Canada's search and rescue satellite, and Rescue 86, an aquatic conference and lifeguard championship.

• Trucks and intercity buses

June 9 — 15

Efficiency, economy, performance, reliability, safety, passenger comfort and the impact of large specialized vehicles on urban and rural road systems are the concerns of this period. The International Highway Transportation Exhibition features modern equipment from many countries and displays of vintage trucks and buses on the EXPO site.

• Urban transit

June 16 — 30

Focusing on urban rail and bus transit technologies in industrialized and developing countries, this period features the annual conference of the Canadian Urban Transit Association as well as important meetings of public transportation groups. Special seminars cover the Canadian-designed Vancouver light rapid transit system, the French SK people-mover, the Japanese HSST and Swiss transit technology.

• Automobiles

July 6 — 19

Displays, demonstrations and rallies for automobiles. An EXPO 86 special event, the Vintage International Antique Auto Show presents 700 classic vehicles. In the innovative vehicle design competition teams of engineering students design and build vehicles.

• Communications and mobility for elderly and disabled people

July 20 — 25

Demonstrations of equipment and technology for elderly and disabled people, as well as a program of sports for the disabled. Other activities include Mobility in the Global Village, the fourth International Conference on Transport and Mobility for Elderly and Disabled Persons, and the International Conference on Medical Transportation and Communications.

• Marine commerce

July 21 — August 2

Displays and demonstrations of marine communication, navigation and collision avoidance systems, cargo handling, vessel management, and commercial vessel technologies and a towing competition. Conferences include the Third International Maritime Law Seminar, the Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering Conference, the Pan Pacific Sister Port Seminar and the Maritime Transportation History Symposium.

• Aviation

August 1 — 10

AIR FAIR 86, a major trade exhibition, the Flight Into History, a flypast of transport aircraft, and the Abbotsford International Airshow, are highlights. Other events include the Canadian Open Aerobatics Competition, an International Hang-Gliding Competition, airship demonstrations and a seminar on "Aerospace and the Community of Man".

• Alternative fuel and power systems for transportation

August 8 — 17

The focus is on recent technological developments in alternative fuels and power systems for transportation. Two alternative fuel automobile rallies and conferences on Gaseous Fuels for Transportation and Alternative Power Systems for Automotive Propulsion are scheduled.

• Transportation for recreation

August 18 — 24

Displays of recreational vehicles including off-road vehicles and air and water craft. Events include the 1986 Jeep Cup, the Women's World Sailing Competition, ultra-light and hot air balloon rallies and an international skateboard competition.

• Human powered transportation

August 25 — 31

The first truly multi-modal, international human powered vehicle competition is being held. The world championship of BMX Freestyle is the first world event of "bicycle gymnastics".

• Communications

September 7 — 13

The International Communications and Computer Exhibition, the International Conference on Satellite and Fibre Optic Communications and seminars on Communications Systems for Responding to Hazardous Material Spills present the latest technologies in communications.

• Underwater and offshore resources

September 12 — 21

Current technology on submersibles, diving equipment, remote operated vehicles and life support, exploration and communications are demonstrated. Scheduled are the Challenge of Offshore Development from an International Perspective, the International Symposium on Coal Transportation and the Marine Technology Society Conference with a presentation by the leaders of the *Titanic* expedition.

• Modern rail

September 29 — October 5

Future directions for the design of vehicles and systems for modern rail operations are being explored. A display of passenger and freight rolling stock and equipment takes place in the Canadian National railyards adjacent to the exposition site. The American Railway Engineering Association Conference, the Third International Heavy Haul Conference and a Swissrail Symposium are scheduled.