

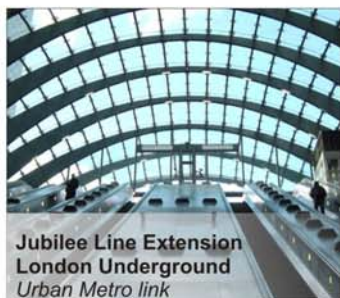
OMEGA CENTRE

Centre for Mega Projects in Transport and Development

A global Centre of Excellence in Future Urban Transport
sponsored by Volvo Research and Educational Foundations (VREF)



**HSL- Zuid
Brussels to Amsterdam**
Highspeed TGV railway



**Jubilee Line Extension
London Underground**
Urban Metro link



**City Link,
Melbourne**
Highway extension



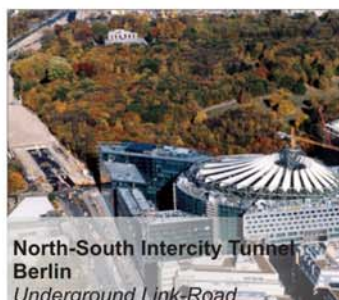
**Millau Viaduct
A75, Midi-Pyrénées**
Highway bypass



**Shuto Expressway
Greater Tokyo Area**
Metropolitan Expressway



**Big Dig
Boston, Massachusetts**
Highway tunnel



**North-South Intercity Tunnel
Berlin**
Underground Link-Road



**Monorail
Chiba**
Urban Metro link



**Rion-Antirion Bridge
Bridge over the Gulf of Corinth**



The OMEGA Centre Seminar will be launched in January 2009 on topics related the planning, appraisal and evaluation of mega transport projects and their impacts on development.

This event will allow the OMEGA Centre to present findings of our UK-based case studies and engage the public both from academic and industrial sectors.

The Centre has undertaken a wide range of research on several pressing issues related to "Treatment of Risk, Uncertainty and Complexity", "The Importance of Context" and "Sustainability" for the study of mega projects in transport and development. We will invite a number of speakers who are involved in a variety of aspects of transport projects in this kind in order to encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration and knowledge transfer.

Programmes of these seminars comprise contributions from the OMEGA Centre and external speakers, including journalists, bureaucrats, planners, industry leaders, and academics. This event will open to everyone who is interested in these issues, especially those associated with major transport project development. All these seminars will be recorded and published on the OMEGA Website.

www.omegacentre.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk

By drawing on experts from many disciplines, we can stimulate debate and further discussions on certain crucial topics, such as transport infrastructure investment, challenges of sustainability, and financing mechanisms within the global market. This event can illuminate emerging issues surrounded the major transport projects and foster generation of ideas on tackling problems, threats and risks in contemporary and future environments.

2009 OMEGA SEMINAR SERIES

Risk Management in a Hypermobile World

John Adams

Department of Geography, University College London

17:30, Wednesday 11th February 2009

room 401 (4th floor), Bartlett School of Planning, UCL

Wates House, 22 Gordon Street, London WC1H 0QB.

Directions available at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/about-ucl/location/maps/>

Hypermobility is a word I use to describe a world in which we are all moving about too much – both physically and electronically. The hypermobile world is one in which people and information move at high speed. It is an anonymous world – every year fewer people can attach a name to their geographical neighbours. It is a world low on trust. As trust decreases paranoia increases. The global sub-prime-credit-crunch has created conditions of unprecedented paranoia.

We are all risk managers. Some of us (not me) are institutional risk managers – managing risk on behalf of others. I shall explore the problem we all have of managing risk in conditions of increasing paranoia.

John Adams, emeritus professor of geography at University College London, was a member of the original board of directors of Friends of the Earth in the early 1970s and has been a participant in debates about **transport planning and environmental risks** ever since.

In 2006 he was elected an Honourary Member of the Institute of Risk Management, and his essay "**Risk management: it's not rocket science – it's more complicated**" was awarded the Inaugural Roger Miller Essay Prize by AIRMIC (the Association of Insurance and Risk Managers). He is currently a member of the Royal Society for the Arts Risk Commission.

He is on the editorial board of **Risk Management**, has published widely on risk issues both in specialist journals and the national press, and contributes to radio and television programmes on the subject. His publications include **Risk and Freedom: the record of road safety regulation** (TPP, 1985), **Risk** (UCL Press, 1995), and (with Michael Thompson), **Taking Account of Societal Concerns about Risk**, a report for the Health and Safety Executive (2002). More information is available on his website <http://john-adams.co.uk/>

This event is free and open to all with no booking required.

For more information, email: yen-ning.tseng@ucl.ac.uk