

Five museums organizing a unique relay conference from Stockholm to Gävle

Five Swedish museums will be hosting colleagues from the world's transport and communications museums. June 15–18 are the dates of the 39th conference for IATM, the International Association of Transport and Communications Museums.

“We are proud to be arranging the conference in Sweden. In addition, we're doing it in a smart way, as a relay where the museums take turns hosting,” says Robert Sjöo, head of the Swedish Railway Museum and President of IATM since 2011.

IATM was formed in 1968, and is associated with ICOM, the world museum organization, which falls under UNESCO. It works for active collaboration across national borders between museums within its special field. Conferences are normally arranged every year; now it's Sweden's turn, with the Royal Armoury, the Post Museum, the Stockholm Transport Museum, and Tekniska museet in Stockholm—and the Swedish Railway Museum in Gävle—as hosts. The theme is “Exchange Platforms – Hands on and Best Practice”, where the Swedish museums will share what they're best at.

The conference will start off among the royal carriages in the Armoury and conclude in the Railway Museum's restoration workshop. Over the course of the conference, the delegates will get the chance to study the pedagogy of the Post Museum, the new construction plans for the Railway Museum in the gas works district—the location of Stockholm's new cultural scene—and modern exhibition technology at Tekniska museet.

Mr. Sjöo hopes that the nearly 60 conference attendees from 16 countries will guarantee interesting and valuable discussions at all the museums.

The move from Stockholm to Gävle will go off in style with the Swedish Railway Museum's “Vintage Train” with a 1950s flair. **The train will be on Track 6 at Stockholm Central station on Tuesday, June 17th from 11:40 to 11:55 AM.** The delegates will arrive at the station on vintage buses from the Transport Museum. It will be an excellent opportunity to have a chat with a few of the delegates!

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