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- **Braintrain –**
a mobile
Teleworking
Platform for
Mid Sweden
University
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A Research and Development Project

The Braintrain concept has been developed within the framework of a research project at Mid Sweden University. The project is entitled "Public Transport for Productive Network Travelling".

Combining Physical Transportation and Telecommunication

Two different communication systems, physical transportation and telecommunication, are combined in the new concept.

The main feature of the concept is a university train which satisfies the transportation and teleworking demands from everybody within the network university.

The train, and its IT-equipment, is designed for an optimal "production of knowledge".

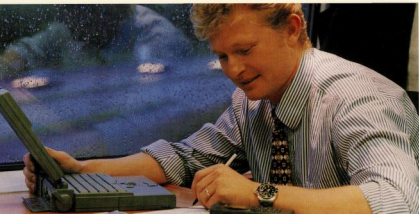
The timetable is an integrated part of the educational structure.

The train offers fully-equipped individual offices as well as compartments for conference groups.



The individual offices will match up to the requirements of a conventional stationary office. The design specifications include space, ergonomics, lighting, heating and ventilation, privacy and all the modern IT-equipment.

The Braintrain also makes it possible to relax without being disturbed by busy fellow passengers.



Concept Output

The Braintrain...

- allows for contact with any part of the world from the mobile platform.
- makes it possible to use the travelling time in a productive way.
- gives access to Mid Sweden University campuses from a large geographical area.
- facilitates an enhanced flexibility in the structure of education.
- enables lectures to be delivered on board the train.

Creating a New Trend in Transportation

The Braintrain concept is seen as a way of initiating discussions about integrated communication systems and design of trains for "efficient travelling" in the 21st century.

It will also influence the structure of education and research in expanding University networks.

The next step for the project will be an extension of the Braintrain to the University of Trondheim, Norway.



Mid Sweden University

Mid Sweden University is a unique network concept with four mid-size campuses located at a considerable distance from each other.

The university comprises about 10 000 students and 800 employees. A central prerequisite for making this structure work as one unit is the use of advanced communication systems. The project is being conducted by Lars F Taffin, M.Sc. and Licentiate of Economics Walter Paavonen at the Department of Tourism Studies, Mid Sweden University. The project is supervised by Professor Bengt Sahlberg of Mid Sweden University in Östersund and Professor Bo Lennart Nelldal of the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm.



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