

Michael Bolton

Deputy Executive Director, Strategic Services at Pace Suburban Bus

Michael Bolton currently serves as the Deputy Executive Director, Strategic Services for Pace Suburban Bus, the suburban bus division of the Northeastern Illinois Regional Transportation Authority. His 40 year career in transit began as a bus operator for the Chicago Transit Authority while he finished his degree at the University of Illinois, Chicago. He work for the Regional Transportation Authority in the late 1970's before beginning a decades long career as a general manager of transit systems a number of cities including Davenport, Iowa; Ann Arbor, Michigan and Austin, Texas. He then served as the Transit Operations Group program manager within North Carolina State University's Institute for Transportation Research and Education in the late 1990's before joining Multisystems, a small consulting company in Cambridge, Massachusetts. As a result of an acquisition he worked for National Express's North American subsidiary ATC in 2002-3 as a Vice President for Business Improvement before joining Pace as a Deputy Executive Director in 2003. During his career he held numerous leadership positions at both the state and national level. He became a champion for the introduction of technology into transit, his team in Ann Arbor developed the first "smart bus" specification, relying on GPS technology and infrared passenger counting technology. At ATC he helped establish a process for finding savings in daily activities, resulting in \$2.5 million return to the bottom line in an 18 month period.