During the last two decades, Professor Holguín-Veras and his team have conducted research on the development of freight demand models that bypass the need for expensive data collection efforts. These analytical formulations are designed to infer freight activity patterns based on readily available secondary data, such as traffic counts and freight trip generation estimates. Although there is a long tradition in passenger demand modeling of using matrix estimation techniques, these passenger-inspired formulations are unable to capture the complexities of freight activity such as long delivery tours, empty trips, the multi-commodity nature of the activity, and the multi-class traffic that is generated. Thus, novel analytical models capable of representing the unique features of freight activity needed to be developed. In his lecture, Professor Holguín-Veras will provide an overview of the research conducted and will discuss the application of these techniques to the estimation of the Freight Demand Model for Bangladesh.

About the Presenter
Dr. José Holguín-Veras is the William H. Hart Professor and Director of the VREF Center of Excellence for Sustainable Urban Freight Systems at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His research interests are in freight transportation and disaster response logistics. His work on disaster response has played an influential role in disaster response procedures, and has led to deeper insight into how best to respond to large disasters and catastrophic events. He is the recipient of numerous awards and holds many leadership positions at professional organizations, public sector agencies, and leading journals.