



## Identifying ITS Opportunities for the HA EC Policy Newsletter: October 2009

### ■ ITS RADAR INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

This project is providing intelligence for the Highways Agency on ITS developments in Europe and around the world. It is carried out by TRL and AECOM on behalf of the HA. The project summarises key information for decision makers and practitioners on activities related to Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS). The project covers specific areas of key interest to the HA.

Regular newsletters are being produced, covering information which is in the public domain. For more information about the project and the services provided, the web site can be reached at:

<http://www.highways.gov.uk/itsradar>.

To contact us and let us know what you would like this project to deliver please email us at: [ITSRadarInternational@trl.co.uk](mailto:ITSRadarInternational@trl.co.uk)

### ■ ABOUT EC POLICY

The European Commission area of the project is designed to inform the Highways Agency about activities concerning policies, legislation, regulations and other initiatives that have an impact on ITS in Europe and are relevant to the Highways Agency. The two key Directorates with responsibilities for ITS in the European Commission are DG TREN (Transport and Energy) and DG INFSO (Information Society and Media).

### ■ MEETINGS

#### **Future road transport – safe and clean**

Source: [Swedish Presidency of the European Union](#)

The meeting will be held in Sweden, over 26 to 27 October 2009. This high-level meeting will aim to bring together 250 invited decision-makers from the European Parliament, the European Commission, EU Member States and industry.

The meeting will facilitate discussions on how to make road transport safer and more environmentally-friendly by increasing the use of both new and established technologies.

Further information on the event can be found in the [event programme](#).

## **ITS Radar International will monitor the outcome of the meeting**

### ■ CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

No new calls for proposals

### ■ HOT TOPICS

## **Mobile phone operators sign eCall MoU**

Source: [Telematics Update](#) and [ERTICO](#)

The body representing the worldwide mobile communication industry, GSMA (Global System for Mobile communication Association) has signed the European Commission's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which commits them to working to secure the deployment of a single in-vehicle emergency call service - eCall - across Europe.

The MoU creates a framework for the introduction of eCall. It is designed to encourage co-operation between vehicle manufacturers, telecommunications operators, the European Commission and the EU Member States, as well as other relevant parties and industry bodies.

The eCall system can be activated either manually by the car occupant or automatically via in-vehicle sensors in an emergency situation. The system will send data such as time, location, direction of travel and vehicle identification, to the operator in order to speed up the response time of emergency services.

Full deployment of eCall requires close cooperation between public authorities, car companies and mobile phone operators. Shortly before signing the MoU, the GSMA published a paper on eCall which set out their position on the issues which are seen as key to pan-European eCall: stakeholder collaboration, differentiating Third Party Services from the core E112 service, the need for a single harmonised solution, arrangements for issue of SIM cards, protecting privacy, and liability. The paper can be found on the [GSMA web site](#).

## **ITS Radar International will continue to monitor eCall developments**

## **Economic crisis responsible for reduced congestion in the UK**

Source: [roadtrafficttechnology.com](#)

A report, 'Congestion – Commuting, An Economic Barometer', recently compiled and published by Trafficmaster and the AA is based on data from 75,000 drivers over the last five years .

The report states that congestion across UK's motorways and trunk roads has reduced by 31 percent in the last two years. The weekday morning peak times showed the highest drop in congestion with a 15 percent average cut over the last year. This figure corresponds closely to the period of time that saw a large number of job losses.

The report highlighted a trend that shows a close correlation between major financial events and congestion levels. Trafficmaster have also stated that this is the first time in the last 20 years that congestion levels have shown a decrease. The report shows changes in traffic levels at key points on the road network, highlighting differences in both commuting and leisure traffic. It is available on the [AA web site](#).

## **HA to note**

### **eSafety Technologies demonstrated during eSafety Challenge**

Source: [eSafety Support](#) and [eSafety Challenge](#)

The first eSafety Challenge event took place over 8 to 9 September 2009 in Italy. The event, co-funded by the European Commission, the FIA Foundation and eSafetyAware, and supported by Euro NCAP, provided the opportunity for delegates to see and experience the latest eSafety Technology.

Technologies demonstrated included:

- Electronic Stability Control
- Lane support systems
- Blind spot monitoring
- Speed alert
- Warning and emergency braking systems

Delegates were also offered test rides to experience the functioning and safety benefits of the five technologies. Each of the demonstrated systems has the potential to save lives by addressing the root cause of some of the most common accidents, and could lead to major reductions in road deaths and casualties. Estimates for Electronic Stability Control (ESC) alone show that in Europe it could save 4,000 lives and prevent more than 100,000 injuries if fitted to every car.

## **■ PROJECTS**

No new projects

## **■ RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

### **Links Course**

Source: [Traffic Technology International](#)

This article discusses the best potential way forward for implementing interoperable Road Pricing systems across Europe. The article discusses the pros and cons of various technologies, such as GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite Systems) and DSRC (Dedicated Short Range Communication), and highlights specific challenges and hurdles. It notes that potential barriers to interoperability are not only those associated with technology limitations and/or legislation, but also those associated with developing a business case for developing interoperable systems.

Various types of Road Pricing and tolling systems have been around for a long time, far longer than the concept of their interoperability. It is therefore

pointed out that projects such as CESARE IV, working on developing common standards for electronic fee collection, are vital to achieving interoperability and contributing to the development of the European Electronic Toll Service (EETS) standard.

#### ■ GLOSSARY

DSRC	Dedicated Short Range Communication- Standard enabling data transmission at a frequency of 5.8 GHz. Radio system with focus on short range communication, which is intended for electronic toll collection systems
EC	European Commission
EETS	European Electronic Toll Service
ESC	Electronic Stability Control
EU	European Union
FIA	International Federation of the Automobile
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite Systems
GSMA	Global System for Mobile communication Association - The body representing the worldwide mobile communication industry
ITS	Intelligent Transport Systems: "The integration of information and communications technology with transport infrastructure, vehicles and users" [ERTICO]
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding