



Identifying ITS Opportunities for the HA EC Policy Newsletter: November 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

■ 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

Green Corridors conference

Source: [European Commission transport](#)

The conference will be held on 9 December 2009, in Brussels. The conference aims to take stock of existing Green Corridor projects across Europe, to discuss the main issues related to their implementation and to launch new initiatives in support of the Green Corridor concept.

Green Corridors is a concept denoting long-distance freight transport corridors where advanced technologies and co-modality are used to increase energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact.

Further information is available on the [EC Transport website](#).

Opportunity for HA to attend

Opportunity to attend ITS UK Security Interest Group conference

Source: ITS UK

The ITS (UK) Security Interest Group will hold an all day conference on 3 December 2009, in London. The aim of the conference is to discuss wide range of topics relevant to ensuring the security of the ITS infrastructure and of travellers and goods in transit.

The technical scope covered by this Group is:

- The security of ITS, including potential threats against such systems and methods of prevention
- Exploiting ITS to enhance the security of the national infrastructure
- Exploiting ITS to reduce the impact of major incidents, such as natural disasters
- Exploiting ITS to reduce the impact of criminal activity
- Exploiting ITS to secure the continued operation of services and infrastructure in the event of major security incidents.

To register your interest in attending the conference, fill in the [form](#).

HA to consider attending

■ CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

No new calls for proposals

■ HOT TOPICS

Summary of the third European eCall Implementation Platform meeting

Source: [ERTICO](#)

Results of the eCall Implementation Platform's Task Force activities were presented during the third meeting of the platform, with each Task Force leader presenting the status of their work.

The Commission shared the results of the eCall Impact Assessment Study with the Platform. Benefits found during the study ranged from 1% to 8% in terms of lives saved, depending on the Member State and type of area. However, due to the current lack of essential data, the overall recommendations are to carry out in-depth analysis of at least 500 cases per country in order to be able to extract scientific conclusions.

During the meeting, the Commission reasserted its position on the possible introduction of regulation in order to encourage the implementation of eCall; the Commission stated:

“It now is the time for deployment. We cannot afford any additional delay. If no progress is made within the voluntary approach by the end of 2009, regulatory measures could be envisaged by the European Commission.”

ITS Radar International will continue to monitor developments

Trans-European Transport Network Coordinators present their annual report and a common Position Paper

Source: [Rapid](#)

The coordinators of the Trans-European Transport Network have presented Vice President Antonio Tajani with their fourth and final report for their first mandate giving a detailed state of play of the priority projects for which they are responsible.

The reports sum up the work carried out over 2008 to 2009 and also the entire four year period covering the first mandate, 2005 to 2009. The reports reflect the coordinators' own perspectives and analyses and contain a series of proposals and recommendations to enable all stakeholders in the projects to take an active role as the projects move forward towards realisation. The Coordinators have also produced a Position Paper for the Vice President in order to contribute to the debate of the TEN-T Review process that the Commission has launched at the start of their second term.

The position paper addresses a number of issues that were identified during work carried out in the first mandate and makes a number of recommendations, such as:

- Include intermodal nodes in the TEN-T network in order to improve, where necessary with financial support, the 'intermodality' of the network
- Urgently tackle the lack of interoperability along many European transport networks and remove main bottlenecks, notably at cross border sections
- Ensure regulatory stability for the market and enforce current European and national legislation.

The position paper can be found on the [EC Transport website](#).

The TEN -T policy review currently under way will identify upcoming challenges for the TEN-T programme and enable added weight to be given to the coordinators' activities.

The European Commission adopts the Action Plan on Urban Mobility

Source: [European Commission-transport](#)

The Action Plan adopted by the EC proposes twenty measures to encourage and help local, regional and national authorities in achieving their goals for sustainable urban mobility. This Action Plan presents a comprehensive support package in the field of urban mobility that local, regional and national authorities are free to use it.

By choosing to use the support and the tools that will be offered, authorities will be better equipped to address the challenge of urban mobility.

The actions are being launched over the four years following the Action Plan's adoption. The European Commission will conduct a review of the implementation of the Action Plan in the year 2012, and will assess the need for further action.

The action plan includes a mix of proposals, such as improving passenger rights in urban public transport. The Commission will work with the sector on a set of voluntary commitments. It will continue to support research and demonstration projects, for example on lower and zero-emission vehicles. In addition, practical links will be established between urban mobility and existing EU policies for health, cohesion and disability

Further information on the Action Plan can be found on the [Europa press release website](#).

The EC launches a public consultation on the European Road Safety Action Programme

Source: [European Commission-Transport](#)

The EC has launched a public consultation on the European Road Safety Action Programme 2011-2020. The website states:

“This consultation aims at engaging the European citizens and stakeholders in governments at national, regional and local levels, as well as the business and professional sectors, in identifying the key road safety problems to be addressed by the European Road Safety Action Programme for the period 2011 – 2020 and the priority actions which could be taken to address the unacceptable and costly levels of road death and serious injury across the EU.”

To take part in the consultation follow the link to the [European Commission-Transport](#) and click on the “Questionnaire” link. Respondents may also send comments to TREN-ROAD-SAFETY-ACTION-PROGRAMME@ec.europa.eu.

The questionnaire aims to gather information on respondents’ opinions about:

- Main issues and problems in road safety
- Which are the best potential countermeasures
- Institutional leadership and coordination
- Role of the EU
- Priority areas for next programme, 2011-2020.

The closing date for the consultation is 20 November 2009.

HA recommended to consider responding

European Electronic Toll Service (EETS) – EC “Clears the Way for a Single European Road Toll Service”

Source: europa.eu/, www.ertico.com/, Traffic Technology International

The European Commission has adopted a Decision setting out the essential technical specifications and requirements needed to launch the European Electronic Toll Service (EETS).

EC Vice-President Antonio Tajani considers this decision to be the most important improvement for drivers since the abolition of border controls, stating that

"The European Electronic Toll Service will enable road users to easily pay tolls throughout the whole European Union thanks to one subscription contract with one service provider and one single on-board unit".

The decision, which was signed on 6th October 2009, also lays down the rights and obligations of toll chargers, service providers, and users. Users will be able to subscribe to the service provider of their choice. Toll chargers will communicate the tolls due to the service providers, who will eventually invoice the users.

The EC press release says:

"Electronic toll systems were introduced in several European countries in the early 1990s... However, the various national and local electronic road toll systems are generally incompatible and can only communicate with their respective on-board units. These non-interoperable road toll systems especially hinder international road transport; for example, to travel from Portugal to Denmark five or more on-board units might be needed on the vehicle's dashboard... For the transporter this entails time-consuming paperwork and costly administrative burden in reconciling travel data, received invoices, contracts clauses and payment orders."

It is planned that EETS will be available on all infrastructures in the entire Community such as motorways, tunnels and bridges where tolls can be paid using on-board equipment. EETS will eventually limit cash transactions at toll stations, thereby improving traffic flow and reducing congestion. It will be available within three years for all road vehicles above 3.5 tonnes or that can carry more than nine passengers. It will be available for all other vehicles within five years.

An article on www.ertico.com/ says,

"The Commission Decision on the definition of the European Electronic Toll Service and its technical elements has been adopted. It will be notified to the Member States under document C(2009)7547.

Between 2005 and 2008, ERTICO ITS - Europe coordinated the Road Charging Interoperability (RCI) project which was contributing to the Directive 2004/52, the basis for the Decision currently adopted. In the RCI project, 26 Road Operators, potential Toll Service Providers and industry suppliers demonstrated interoperable tolling in 6 of the biggest existing tolling markets in Europe. The project specified the European technical framework for interoperable solutions providing a cornerstone

for the CEN TC278 standardisation work and the finalisation of the Decision.

Following the decision, ERTICO is ready to start the preparative work with its Partners, Road Operators, Member States, Toll Service Providers and Industry towards the operational implementation of the EETS in Europe.”

An article in the August/September 2009 issue of Traffic Technology International also discusses EETS further.

ITS Radar International will continue to monitor EETS developments

■ PROJECTS

No new projects

■ RECENT PUBLICATIONS

A sustainable future for transport

Source: [EC Transport](#)

The EC Directorate General for Energy and Transport (DG TREN) has published a communication on a sustainable future for transport. This communication summarises recent developments and current thinking of the commission on the European Transport Policy (ETP).

The communication also attempts to identify transport trends and likely challenges they could pose to society, and proposes some intermediate policy objectives, which could be pursued to address the emerging challenges in the transport sector.

“The ideas put forward in this communication are meant to stimulate further debate aimed at identifying policy options, without prejudging the formulation of concrete proposals in the next White Paper of 2010”.

Ideas put forward in the communication include:

- Transition from an oil dependent transport industry to an electricity dependent one, ensuring that the electricity comes from “green” sources
- Continued emphasis on improvements in transport safety
- Integration of aviation with high-speed rail (passenger transport)
- Realisation of an intelligent and integrated logistics system (freight transport)
- Continued emphasis on developing ITS technologies and utilising Galileo to optimise use of the road network and improve safety.

ITS Radar International will monitor developments

“Take your Seats” article

Source: [Thinking Highways \(Volume 4, Issue 3, Sept/Oct 2009\)](#)

In this article Euro-Lobbyist Tom Antonissen discusses some of the recent developments in the European Transport Policy.

The article suggests that Directorate-General for Energy and Transport (DG TREN) will be split into two DGs. One would concentrate on Energy and transport change while the second, smaller DG will focus on Transport Policy. No likely dates are suggested when this division may take place.

The article also discusses the need for a better way for the ITS industry to communicate the benefits of their technologies to policy-makers and the general public.

A summary of progress on the EC's ITS Action Plan is also offered, with a suggestion that some Member States are reluctant to implement the Action Plan and have some concerns on the competences and priorities of different areas and actions.

■ GLOSSARY

DG TREN	EC's Directorate General for Energy and Transport
EC	European Commission
EETS	European Electronic Toll Service
ETP	European Transport Policy
EU	European Union
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite Systems
ITS	Intelligent Transport Systems: "The integration of information and communications technology with transport infrastructure, vehicles and users" [ERTICO]
OBU	On-Board Unit (for vehicles)
TEN-T	Tans European Transport Network