



Transport Network ITS Spatial Data Deployment Platform Policy Paper

The EU project ROSATTE (2008 to 2010) developed a complete framework to enhance quality of and facilitate European-wide access to road safety data. The framework includes procedures, quality principles, specifications, and technical and organisational guidelines.

Considering the scope of Action 1.3 of the ITS Action plan [1, 2] and the objectives of the ITS Directive [3], Annex 1, it is clear that the framework and procedures developed in ROSATTE could provide a direct contribution, and resolve many issues to be tackled in the deployment process of the ITS Directive. At the same time, it also became evident that an alignment to the INSPIRE Directive [4] would be beneficial, both in terms of providing maximum synergies and in terms of minimising administrative burden for authorities, data providers and map makers. Thus, recommendations were made to widen the scope of the ITS spatial data being exchanged with ROSATTE and to align with the INSPIRE spatial data infrastructure.

Following up on the recommendations, the revived iMobility Forum Digital Map Working Group (DMWG) supported by the EU project eMaPS initiated the establishment of an EU-wide independent organisation (the "Transport Network ITS Spatial Data Deployment Platform", or "TN-ITS" for short) to support the exchange of ITS spatial data between public authorities and third parties.

Vision of TN-ITS

Enable and facilitate seamless provision and exchange of ITS spatial data between Public Authorities and third parties.

Goals of TN-ITS

Act as an enabler for the implementation of action 1.3 of the ITS Action Plan in the EU Member States and beyond by:

- supporting the provision and exchange of ITS spatial data between public authorities and third parties
- aligning with the INSPIRE framework legally, organisationally and technically

Mission of TN-ITS

- facilitate and support the provision of accurate navigation and location services to citizens by standardising the exchange of spatial data
- provide an overall framework enhancing effectiveness of operations and reducing costs
- improving the quality of ITS spatial data and their timely updating
- develop and maintain a set of harmonised specifications aligned with INSPIRE
- support members through guidelines, tools and services and through a pool of experts
- solve potential legal issues
- establish best practices for geo-referencing ITS spatial data
- provide a solution for quality control and monitoring

Modus operandi

The organisation is a membership association. Members represent road administrations, map makers, service providers or other legitimate users of ITS spatial data. Continuous work will be done

to increase membership to all EU Member States and beyond. The non-profit business model is based on membership fees and entry fees to cover organisational expenses. The organisation is governed through a President, a Treasurer and a Secretary, who are members of the Board, which is elected by the General Assembly. The organisation is hosted by ERTICO, which acts as permanent Secretary.

The organisation is initially staffed by a part-time staff: the acting President. It will team up with experts from the members and organise working groups on relevant issues. The organisation acts as a service centre for its members, offering organisational and technical advices, start-up kits for newcomers, and tools to verify quality and consistency with standards and specifications.

The basis for TN-ITS

As a result of the ROSATTE and eMaPS projects, a complete framework has been defined to facilitate European wide access to ITS spatial data including:

- technical and organisational guidelines supporting implementation and organisational alignment with INSPIRE
- quality principles supporting both the data provider and the data receiver
- defined data specifications, and an outline for the extension to INSPIRE TN specifications, referred to as TN-ITS specifications
- defined data provision and exchange mechanisms, and description of feed-back loop functionality for data quality assurance
- Letter of Intention and Memorandum of Understanding to motivate members to join
- Terms of Reference for the organisation

Conclusions

It has been and will continue to be important to connect the work with the implementation of the ITS Directive. TN-ITS therefore commits to reporting to the relevant European Commission Officers and to adapt to new needs and requirements if necessary.

In order to align properly with INSPIRE (organisational, legal and technical), TN-ITS will continue to work closely with experts from JRC (EU Joint Research Centre). It will propose a candidate to participate to the INSPIRE maintenance process.

As one of its final tasks, eMaPS will formally establish the TN-ITS organisation. TN-ITS will continue the on-going MoU signature process and invite signatories to the organisation. To further build the momentum, TN-ITS will also continue to promote its vision and goals at meetings and conferences and work closely together with organisations like the Network of National ITS Associations, CEDR and ASECAP.

References

1. Commission of the European Communities, "Action Plan for the Deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in Europe", Brussels, 16 December 2008, corrected version of 20 March 2009, document COM(2008) 886 final/2. Generally referred to as the "ITS Action Plan".
2. Van de Ven, T., Long, J., "ITS Action Plan - Action 1.3 - Availability of Public Data for Digital Maps", report D7 under Framework service contract TREN/G4/FV-2008/475/01 with the European Commission, DG MOVE, RappTrans, 19 December 2011.
3. European Parliament and Council of the European Union, "Directive 2010/40/EU on the framework for the deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport and for interfaces with other modes of transport", 7 July 2010. Generally referred to as the "ITS Directive".
4. European Parliament and Council of the European Union, "Directive 2007/2/EC establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE)", 14 March 2007. Generally referred to as the "INSPIRE Directive".