



ITS European Congress 2017 - Strasbourg

Where the community gathers

At the 12th ITS European Congress in Strasbourg, the European ITS Platform's Activity "Monitoring and Dissemination" led by Stephanie Kleine organised a session titled "the future of road operation and traffic management". The congress' visitors were given the chance to hear some top-class professionals' view of the future.

Two keynotes, one common topic: cooperation

First Pedro Barradas stressed the importance of cooperation in traffic management as well as the engagement and framework needed to ensure such cooperation. Through his presentation, Pedro Barradas explained how the role of key stakeholders could possibly change, stressing the need for alignment of road maps ranging from public infrastructure operators to service providers and original equipment manufacturers.

Next, Serge van Dam guided the audience to take a quick glimpse of a future where automated driving changes the landscape of traffic management. Lively describing how automated vehicles will evolve to not only see their environment, but also learn to listen and talk to it, Serge van Dam showed how automation will support humans in the future. Cooperation and connectivity are key to reach this future and operators will have to organise the transition phase.

Pedro Barradas

DG MOVE, Policy Officer – Seconded National Expert

Keynote speech:
European collaborative roll-out of enhanced traffic management services for future automated and connected driving



Serge van Dam

Rijkswaterstaat – Principle advisor traffic management

Keynote speech:
Challenges and opportunities of future traffic management, "Reinventing the steering wheel"



A trinity of traffic management

After the presentations, a panel discussion allowed distinguished representatives of the stakeholder groups addressed by the keynote speakers to provide their own perspective: ASFINAG's Head of Telematic Services Manfred Harrer as road operator, Matthias Unbehaun, Executive Director of TISA providing the service provider point of view and ACEA's Smart Mobility Director Joost Vantomme representing the automotive industry.

Regarding the topic of data collection and data exchange, Manfred Harrer convincingly explained, how some data, like the reason for incidents or the time and phase planning of roadworks, cannot be detected by sensors. The provision of regulatory data like the static as well as dynamic traffic signs is needed to ensure the availability of the relevant traffic regulations or traffic measures in future connected vehicles.



Matthias Unbehaun gave the audience a look at the next, urgent steps for service providers to take: Traffic Management as a service. A service provided to road operators who are not able to afford expensive traffic management centres. Taking up on Manfred Harrer's topic, he also stressed the importance of planned data on operator actions, since this cannot be detected by vehicle fleets.

Joost Vantomme explained how vehicles will be able to take over some tasks of traffic management, but stressed that automated vehicles will not be able to perform all traffic management related tasks. Traffic management will still be an important topic in the near and far future and require the cooperation between all stakeholders.

Manfred Harrer



ASFINAG – Head of Telematic Services

Matthias Unbehaun



TISA – Executive Director

Joost Vantomme



ACEA – Smart Mobility Director

A stage for open minds

The audience was given the opportunity and encouraged to participate in the discussions. One topic stood out as particularly important to the audience: the road user, his involvement in the planning of the future and the question of who owns the data produced by automated and connected vehicles.

The consensus of the discussion was, that there are different kinds of data and that all personal related data shall be kept private and only information regarding public interest or car performance and component related data shall be exchanged between relevant parties.

Conclusion

The session attracted many interested listeners and was regarded a great success, strongly stressing the importance of stakeholder cooperation and collaboration needed to leverage the full benefit of automated and connected driving. The eager participation also proves that the community is keeping up with the developments and innovations that are already here as well as those which lie ahead, ready to take on the challenges and provide the required improved road operation and traffic management for the future.

For further information please contact

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