ERTICO - ITS Europe eNewsletter : No 13/2008 – 25 July 2008

ERTICO - ITS Europe's bi-monthly eNewsletter updates our Partners on ERTICO activities and consolidates ITS news from a number of sources: projects coordinated by ERTICO, info on Partners and general ITS sources. Please note that the news and information included in the articles do not necessarily represent the views of ERTICO itself and the source quoted should be consulted for more information.

If you would like to comment on this service, please send any feedback to info@mail.ertico.com

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General News: ITS Asia Pacific Conference 'connecting U & I' in Singapore

Date: 24 July 2008

9th ITS Asia Pacific Forum & Exhibition was held on 14-16 July 2008.

Vincent Blervaque, Director of Development and Deployment at ERTICO, gave a presentation entitled 'From Research to Deployment of ITS, funding and implementation strategies in Europe' at the recent event in Singapore. He presented the major initiatives undertaken in Europe to support the development and the deployment of ITS solutions. The focus was on activities within the 7th Framework Programme, launched in 2007 by the European Commission in order to address the main challenges of European Transport Policy with respect to safety, efficiency and environment. Furthermore, Mr Blervaque introduced the strategy of ERTICO – ITS Europe to work with its Partners in support of successful implementation of ITS in Europe, giving concrete examples of research, demonstration and deployment activities.

A meeting with ITS Japan was held, with a report on activities in Europe and Japan, as well as to exchange views and experience and develop bilateral cooperation on activities such as cooperative systems and field operational tests. This kind of meeting is organised on a regular basis to maintain close relationships. A festive dinner rounded off an interesting an insightful day at the conference.

Further discussions took place on the fringes of the conference with major stakeholders from the Asia Pacific Region. ITS development and deployment, including Electronic Tolling Systems and the need for interoperability, real time traffic information, the connected traveller concept, ITS for Environment and opportunities for further international cooperation were among the items discussed.

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General News: Lakeside Conference 2008 on natural disaster prevention through ITS

Date: 25 July 2008

"Safety in Mobility: Intelligent Weather Information Systems and Services in Traffic and Transport"

The Lakeside Conference was organised by AustriaTech, ATTC, Lakeside Technology Park and the US Commercial Service Austria. The first conference of its kind, the Lakeside event was held on 9-11 July 2008 in Velden, Austria. As extreme weather conditions have an increasing impact on traffic and transport, the conference focused on the issue of how to prevent or limit the damage caused by extreme weather conditions by using state of the art intelligent weather information systems and services. A significant part of the costs related to damage to homes, businesses, and infrastructure, caused by extreme weather events each year, could be saved.

More than 140 people from over 18 countries – technology providers, traffic infrastructure operators from across Europe, scientists and researchers, finance experts, as well as officials from the European Union and the United States participated in the conference.

Pictures of the event can be found at: www.austriatech.org

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Partner News: TNO lends expertise to project on incident management

Date: July 2008

TNO concept aims to improve coordination at accident sites.
The Dutch government is currently examining how incident management on the Dutch road network is organised. TNO is lending its expertise in a follow-up to a previous study in which TNO had drawn up a concept of incident management in the Netherlands. This second phase will see the improvements implemented.

Whenever an accident occurs on the Dutch road network various emergency services have to be summoned to handle the incident. Based on the severity of the accident, it is decided which services are charged with the rescue effort. In cases where there is only material damage, drivers get their cars off the road as quickly as possible and deal with the paperwork themselves. However, in the event of injury or death, road authorities, police, fire brigade, ambulance and paramedics need to get to the accident site as fast as possible. It is essential that cooperation between the different services works smoothly, so that the suffering of accident victims is minimised and the road can be cleared as quickly as possible.

Optimising cooperation

TNO is investigating how procedures at accident sites can be optimised and cooperation between the relevant services improved. This means that following the report of an incident, the 'right' emergency services must be sent to the site. Much could be improved regarding the reporting process as emergency service staff have to communicate with each other effectively to streamline the process of handling the incident. For this to occur, everyone has to understand each other and, more importantly, respect each other's work.

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Partner News: TNO provides algorithm for Dynamic Route Information Panels

Date: July 2008

Dynamic Route Information Panels inform drivers about the length of traffic jams.

Four Dynamic Route Information Panels (DRIPs) have been positioned on A1 and A12 motorway access roads to the A30 (at the Barneveld junction) in The Netherlands to provide information on the length of the traffic jams, and on alternative routes. In 2003 TNO developed an algorithm to estimate traffic jam lengths on non-motorway roads containing bottlenecks, such as controlled intersections. This

algorithm, named FLIP, was originally designed and calibrated by TNO for the Pleijroute in Arnhem.

The total length of the traffic jams shown by the DRIPs at the Barneveld junction is a combination of the jams caused by the traffic signals (estimated by the FLIP algorithm) and the jam on the A30 (determined by an alternative algorithm). The solution developed by TNO was commissioned by Vialis (in their turn commissioned by Rijkswaterstaat Regional Directorate East-Netherlands) to initially determine optimal locations for measurement loops, and then to calibrate the parameters of the algorithm using data collected by field observer through queue measurements.

More accuracy

At the end of 2007, TNO also recalibrated the parameters of the FLIP algorithm for the Pleijroute, again for Vialis. The number of measurement loops was expanded enabling the length of the traffic jam to be estimated more accurately. The new parameter settings have since been implemented in the Central Drip Management System at both sites and inform drivers of the length of traffic jams.

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Partner news: Loquendo wins Emerging Company of the Year Award

Date: 15 July 2008

Loquendo, a subsidiary of ERTICO Partner, Telecom Italia SpA, has won the "2008 Frost & Sullivan European Telematics and Infotainment Emerging Company of the Year" for its excellence in "new market penetration, strategy innovation, technological innovation and leadership, revenue and market share growth". Paolo Coppo, Vice President of Marketing & Business Development at Loquendo, was presented with the award at the 2008 Excellence in Automotive & Transportation Awards Banquet, on 3rd July at the Hotel Bayerischer Hof in Munich, Germany.

The Frost & Sullivan Award for Emerging Company of the Year is presented each year to a company that is perceived to have exhibited outstanding management, superior market growth, exceptional customer service and the ability to combine technology and successful strategic initiatives.

The Frost & Sullivan award recognises that Loquendo has distinguished itself by gaining a market leading position in its sector. Loquendo has successfully transitioned its products from the telephony sector into other new markets, by scaling down its speech synthesis and speech recognition engines to fit into the embedded space, thus positioning itself as leader in the car navigation and portable navigation device market in Europe.

"With over 30 years of experience in speech and core expertise in this sector, Loquendo has managed to introduce many innovative ASR and TTS solutions, which have enabled the company to gain a market leading position amongst ASR and TTS suppliers in the PND market. The key to Loquendo's success in the European market has been its ability to scale down the speech engines used for telephony applications in the embedded space and also add innovations like phonetic mapping and emotional synthetic speech. This has enabled it to grow into both the PND and car navigation markets," explains Frost & Sullivan Research Analyst N. Praveen Chandrasekar, Industry Manager, Telematics and Infotainment, Automotive & Transportation, EU.

"We are very pleased to receive this award," said Davide Franco, Loquendo CEO. "It is a clear signal that Loquendo's strategy to bring its technologies to new markets has been a great success, and a confirmation that the excellence and innovation of our products has been recognised worldwide."

For more information please contact Paolo Coppo, Loquendo VP Marketing & Business Development, Tel. +39 011 291 3111, or **paolo.coppo@loquendo.com**, or visit www.loquendo.com

For more information about Loquendo, and to hear demos of all Loquendo voices, go to www.loquendo.com.

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Project News: CVIS needs your opinion!

Date: July 2008

Car manufacturers, truck manufacturers and suppliers are invited to participate in a survey on CVIS systems.

The ERTICO-coordinated CVIS project aims to increase safety and efficiency on the road by designing, developing and testing the technologies needed to allow cars to communicate directly with the road side infrastructure. Whilst significant progress has been made on the development side, there are still many unanswered questions regarding deployment. Within CVIS, the DEPN (Deployment Enablers) sub-project team focuses on a deployment plan addressing risks, mitigation strategies, legal, business, market and user acceptance aspects.

A first user survey was carried out last year through automobile clubs from 12 European countries, to assess the level of knowledge and attitudes of motorists towards present and future e-safety systems.

A second survey, aimed more specifically at manufacturers, has now been launched to obtain respondents' detailed opinion on CVIS systems: What do they think about it? Why would they invest in this technology? What kind of implementation scenario is preferred? What are the main arguments for and against different CVIS applications and deployment scenarios?

This survey comprises about 30 questions and **is exclusively targeted at:**
- Car Manufacturers
- Truck Manufacturers
- Suppliers

We value your opinion!
If you work in one of those areas, your expert knowledge and vision would be very valuable to our work and would contribute to the deployment of cooperative systems.

The survey comprises a web-based questionnaire to ensure anonymity. The results will be made accessible to all participants. However, participants' identities will not be revealed, neither to fellow participants nor to the administrators of this survey. All results will only be displayed in an aggregated view, individual responses will not be accessible.

The survey is available at:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=JktXlUORlCEWZ_2bG9_2f_2f7qIA_3d_3d

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Project News: SISTER connects with SatNEx

Date: 24 July 2008

ERTICO – ITS Europe will be the platform for disseminating the output of SatNEx and general knowledge of satellite communication to transport industry and key policy makers.

As a Network of Excellence (NoE) project supported by FP6, **SatNEx** aims at removing barriers, integrating research and spreading excellence in satellite communication technology. SatNEx aims to rectify the fragmentation in satellite communications research by bringing together Europe's leading academic institutions and research organisations in a cohesive and durable way. The resultant pan-European network provides a collective grouping of expertise and state-of-the-art laboratory facilities that would otherwise remain dispersed throughout Europe. The **Satcoms In Support of Transport on European Roads (SISTER) project** works to promote the integration of satellite and terrestrial communications with GALILEO to enable mass market take-up by road transport applications.

SatNEx has been identified as a key project for cooperation with SISTER. Both projects will benefit from the cooperation. SISTER can use SatNEx as a platform to disseminate its outcomes and gather information on R&D of satellite communication. SatNEx would also bring added value to the SISTER project in the area of development and applications of satellite communication technologies. Transport has been recognised as a key application area for the satellite communication industry. A number of common activities from the two projects are envisaged. The SatNEx deliverable "Visions and System Studies" has been used by SISTER for reference. SISTER provides its deliverables on market analysis and operation needs. SatNEx and SISTER will also team up on dissemination activities. The organisation of joint workshops is planned in order to get the dissemination of project results off the ground.

The biggest potential for integration with the SISTER project lies in the transfer of knowledge gathered from the two projects into future research, market development and in feeding it into EC policy formulation. ERTICO – ITS Europe will be the platform for disseminating the output of SatNEx and general knowledge of satellite communication to transport industry and key policy makers. Transport professionals can gather information on satellite communication as well as its potential applications, while satellite communication experts can learn more on user needs in ITS applications. As a result, research activities of satellite communication and ITS communities will be better integrated, and the development of satellite communication in ITS will be promoted.

For more information please contact Yanying Li at y.li@mail.ertico.com.

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Project News: ROSATTE requirements workshop to be held in Paris

Date: 15 July 2008

The ROSATTE project (ROad Safety ATTributes exchange infrastructure in Europe), co-funded by the European Commission (DG INFSO) FP7 programme and coordinated by ERTICO – ITS Europe, started its activities in January 2008.

ROSATTE will be organising a Requirements Workshop on 17 September 2008 in Paris. The project is in the process of elaborating its cases, user needs and system requirements, and the objective of the workshop is to validate these interim results. The workshop is open to any organisation interested in the project and in digital maps generally. The feedback gathered from participants will help to steer the development of a flexible exchange infrastructure to ensure access to road safety attributes in Europe, as well as enable incremental map updates.

Mr Vincent Blervaque from ERTICO – ITS Europe will welcome participants, followed by keynote speakers Elina Holmberg from the European Commission's DG Information Society, and a representative of the French Ministry of Transport. Sophie Dupuis from ERTICO will then present the ROSATTE project in general, before Trond Hovland from NPRA, gives an overview of requirements and architecture. The morning session will be rounded off with individual presentations by test site leaders on the test site requirements, followed by Work package leaders (WP2, WP3, WP4, WP5, WP6) on next steps and perspectives.

The afternoon session will kick off with a panel discussion on requirements and architecture, which will offer participants the opportunity to exchange views, before moving on to a presentation by Dr Jun Shibata from the Digital Road Map Association, who will speak on Japanese activities in relation to ROSATTE. Following a short coffee break, Keith Hamish from Transport for London will present the ROSATTE-related initiative in London. To round off the afternoon session, Jacques Ehrlich from LIVIC will offer participants an overview of the French activities on ROSATTE. Sophie Dupuis will wrap up a hopefully interactive and insightful workshop.

Please register at www.rosatte.eu, where detailed information regarding practicalities is available, including a list of hotels close to the meeting venue. Participants are advised to book their hotel before 31st July (afterwards all rooms blocked by ERTICO will be released).

Registered participants will receive the finalised deliverable in early September, in order to be well prepared for the workshop.

We look forward to welcoming you in Paris on 17 September!

For more information on the ROSATTE project, please visit www.rosatte.eu or contact ROSATTE_info@mail.ertico.com

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Project News: FeedMAP workshop on 9 October 2008, Trento, Italy

Date: 9 July 2008

Final FeedMAP event to showcase map updating results.

On 09 October 2008, the ERTICO-coordinated FeedMAP project will hold its final workshop in Trento (Italy) to present and showcase its final results.

The FeedMAP consortium has studied the commercial and technical feasibility of map deviation feedback. The project has developed a framework to detect map anomalies. If a car encounters a faulty map attribute, the maps of all other vehicles are instantly updated, using a standardised mechanism for delivering incremental map updates as developed in the ActMAP project. FeedMAP's main focus is on static and semi-static changes to the road network. In addition, real-time status reports on events such as traffic jams or accidents can be verified and returned to the system with the same mechanism.

The FeedMAP event on 9 October will feature an extensive set of presentations and demonstrations of the project's achievements. Part of the day will be dedicated to some brief presentations describing the FeedMAP concepts, architecture and validation results. Attendees will also have the opportunity of testing the FeedMAP concept in a number of equipped vehicles and computer demonstrations.

All FeedMAP components (FeedMAP clients, Service Centres, Map Centres and ActMAP service centres) will be presented at this promising workshop as well as some specific deviation detections such as wrong or missing road geometry data, missing or outdated information on speed limits, or wrong or missing information on turn restrictions. The entire chain from the release of Map Deviation Reports to the generation of ActMAP updates will be demonstrated.

The registration process has just opened. Please visit www.ertico.com/feedmap to register online. Further details about the precise venue will shortly be communicated.

For further information about this event, please consult the FeedMAP website and register for the FeedMAP forum, or alternatively contact the project team at feedmap_info@mail.ertico.com