

Europe's Road Operators: We deploy C-ITS

'Interoperability' and 'Backward Compatibility' are key to future technologies

ASECAP welcomes the European Commission's proposal for a revision of the ITS Directive.

The ITS Directive 2010/40/EU sets a solid framework for ITS deployment. ITS concerns road safety, traffic management and the environmental performance to reach carbon free of Europe's road transport.

C-ITS enhances road safety and constitutes an essential building block for future automation. C-ITS has to function from day one for the future and be inclusive, since road safety should not be limited by the life-cycle of a car or restricted to certain vehicle fleets. 'Interoperability' and 'backward compatibility' are key to the long-term operation of automotive and road-side radio systems, since they assure that road safety relevant systems are not disrupted.

ASECAP Members deploy C-ITS for road safety. We insist that any future technology works with what we already deploy and hence see 'interoperability' and 'backward compatibility' as key pillars of the ITS Directive.

European roads already now are equipped with various radio systems that comply with EU transport policy, decarbonise transport, improve road safety and environmental performance of road transport, encourage cleaner cars or modal shift, protect drive and rest times of truckers. These systems are compatible with each other and mitigate radio interference risks. More than 80.000 km of roads are covered by electronic road charging systems, that are key to assuring highest road standards and instantly impact drivers' behaviour. The smart tachograph installed in trucks, protects the drive and rest times of truckers and hence improves road safety. C-ITS has to fit into this ecosystem. ASECAP supports the concept of technology neutrality and.

ASECAP calls on the EU institutions in the context of C-ITS:

- make 'interoperability' binding for all C-ITS equipment, to ensure that the current C-ITS deployment in Europe reaches every equipped actor
- make 'backward compatibility' binding for all C-ITS equipment, so that old and new vehicles benefit from the C-ITS road safety benefits, regardless of the technical generation of their equipment
- maintain regulatory stability in radio spectrum regulation. Commission Decision (EU) 2020/1426 offers sufficient radio spectrum for C-ITS and clear rules that incentivise long-term investments.
- cooperate closely with national radio spectrum regulators and ask them to assess the compliance of future technologies with existing radio systems in deployment. In a road transport context: once radio interferences occur, it is almost impossible to combat, since cars move and interferences are difficult to identify. We need a transparent discussion concerning risks arising from radio interferences and their mitigation!

About ASECAP:

ASECAP is the European Association of Operators of Toll Road Infrastructures across 20 member countries representing 135 companies employing more than 50.000 direct jobs and 200.000 indirect jobs. They operate, maintain, manage a network of more than 86.000 km with a long-term vision that ensures highest quality standards to make the road infrastructure safest thank to the user/payer principle providing sustainable financing. ASECAP members are shouldering their responsibility as mobility providers linking inter-urban and metropolitan areas, playing a major role by moving people for their daily trips to go to work, school, hospital....

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