

C-Roads - The platform of harmonised C-ITS deployment in Europe

Europe converges on C-ITS deployment

The C-Roads Platform is a joint initiative of European Member States and road operators which are in the phase of installing C-ITS for the testing and operation of C-ITS Day-1 and Day 1.5 services. Pilot installations will be harmonised in light of cross-border interoperability based on cooperation within the C-Roads Platform. Key elements are the joint development of technical specifications that form the basis for all pilot deployments, as well as the commonly prepared cross-site tests to demonstrate cross-border interoperability of the deployed C-ITS services.

Develop commonly agreed specifications

Since 2016, the C-Roads Platform has successfully proven its capacities for European harmonisation, so it is more than ever open to other Member States and road operators interested in participating in the technical work and deploying C-ITS services. In accordance with the C-ITS Platform recommendations, harmonised specifications are constantly being developed and the harmonised communication profile for C-ITS services is already available. All developed specifications are publicly available and form the basis for pilot installations on the road network.



European Commission and INEA

The European Commission (EC) and the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) are closely linked to the C-Roads Platform and have supported the initiative from the very beginning. They will follow and actively participate in the C-Roads Platform providing the legislative framework and ensuring the link to other relevant stakeholder groups. They additionally contribute the policy support needed for a pan-European and harmonised deployment of C-ITS.

Full commitment to hybrid communication

In accordance with the European strategy on C-ITS (COM(2016) 766) the C-Roads Platform supports the use of hybrid communication technologies. The starting point for pilot deployments is the combination of ETSI ITS-G5 and existing cellular networks. The first C-Roads hybrid specification provides a basis for backend exchange of C-ITS messages. In this way, the same C-ITS messages can be provided through different channels, mainly ITS-G5 and cellular.

European pilots for interoperable C-ITS services

The setup and operation of pilots is in the responsibility of the single C-Roads Platform Member States. Each piloting Member State will perform tests based on the common communication profiles agreed at C-Roads Platform level.

Additionally they will give access to all other deployment activities for interoperability testing. Consequently, the Working Group for Evaluation and Assessment details the main principles for these tests, in particular considering the support provided by the „visited site“ to the „visitor“.

Achieving interoperability based on the commonly specified communication profile is a joint responsibility of all C-Roads Platform partners. The pilot operation will take place in all C-Roads Platform Member States.

With 18 European States currently participating as core members, the C-Roads Platform approach will pursue cooperation on a holistic level in order to cover all dimensions linked with the deployment of C-ITS, such as sharing experiences and knowledge regarding deployment and implementation issues as well as user acceptance. Following a bottom-up approach, the national pilots form the basic elements for a later pan-European C-ITS implementation. The national pilot initiatives are running from February 2016 to December 2020 and move on to cross-site testing, which allows them to grow together and achieve transnational interoperability. In this way C-Roads will ensure European cohesion of C-ITS deployment with regards to a long-term roll-out.

Harmonisation is the core asset of the C-Roads Platform, since it ensures sustainable and efficient deployment. Consequently, all partners share the vision of the main objectives, laid down in the Terms of Reference, which are harmonisation, (pilot) implementation, demonstration of C-ITS deployment and advance to large-scale deployment on both motorways and urban areas.

For detailed information and access to the harmonised communication profile visit www.c-roads.eu

