

Guidance on Euro NCAP Local Hazards

Version 1.1

Euro NCAP, the European New Car Assessment Program, includes “Local Hazards” in its Safe Driving Vehicle Assistance Protocol¹ for 2026. Local Hazard warnings help drivers to drive attentively and prepare for upcoming hazards. These warnings can be conveyed via Direct Communication and via Cloud Communication. For Direct Communication, the EURO NCAP Program refers to the C-ROADS specifications, which explain when to send and how to interpret these hazard warnings, so that they can be understood in the same way throughout Europe. This document gives a brief overview to OEMs. Implementation details are provided in a separate *C-ROADS Interoperability Guide* provided by C-ROADS.

The Euro NCAP 2026 protocol includes 10 local hazards which are all covered by C-ROADS specifications:

Euro NCAP Local Hazard	Sending	Receiving
Construction zones	✓	✓
Items on road	(✓) *	✓
Stopped vehicle	✓	✓
Broken down vehicle	✓	✓
Post crash	✓	✓
Poor weather	✓	✓
Poor road	✓	✓
Wrong way driver	✓	✓
Amber + Blue lights	N/A ** ✓	✓
Traffic jam	N/A ** ✓	✓

*) C-ROADS specifies “Items on road” for I2V. V2V implementations need to follow the same interoperability requirements.

**) N/A means: not applicable in Euro NCAP 2026. C-ROADS specifications exist.

The benefits for drivers and implementers are clear:

- C-ROADS use cases are **specified, validated, ready-to-market**. All C-ROADS use cases in the table above have been tested and validated in pilot deployments on public roads before they were published. This ensures that the implementation is working and thus “ready to market”
- C-ROADS specifications are **interoperable** and **backwards compatible**. Long term availability of new use cases and new standards are carefully evaluated w.r.t. backwards compatibility: “Not one C-ITS implementer is left behind”.
- C-ROADS has a broad scope covering road safety and traffic efficiency in urban, interurban and motorway environments. This opens several possibilities of further **driver benefits**.

C-ROADS does not perform vehicle tests but offers so-called “cross border tests” in its member states (contact secretariat@c-roads.eu for details). Since several years, there are operational deployments in C-ROADS member states and beyond. C-ROADS specifications are publicly available and have also been used for deployments outside C-ROADS. C-ROADS is a joint effort of European road operators and road authorities, organised in the C-ROADS platform, in collaboration with the automotive industry.

Link to the **C-ROADS Release**: <https://releases.c-roads.eu/>

¹ <https://www.euroncap.com/media/85818/euro-ncap-protocol-safe-driving-vehicle-assistance-v10.pdf>