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COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Of **date**

On Public and Private Real-Time Traffic and Travel Information (RTTI) Services for Safe and Efficient Road Traffic

As an extension of the COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 2001/551/EC on the development of a legal and business framework for participation of the private sector in deploying telematics-based Traffic and Travel Information (TTI) services in Europe

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, in particular Article 211 thereof;

WHEREAS:

- Real-time traffic and travel information (RTTI) includes all that information which is relevant to organize and optimize traffic flow and which can give good advice to their users, comprising the collection of traffic data, their interpretation and their application for traffic management purposes, and their transmission to traffic participants by broadcast and/or communication networks;
- High quality traffic information is a pre-requisite for the driver to react safely to the traffic environment and road conditions. Effect of RTTI is estimated at a reduction of 0.2 to 1%¹ on all road fatalities involving equipped cars,
- Traffic congestion and the impact of traffic on the environment can be reduced by well informed traffic management working in real-time with adapted strategies, traffic management tools, and appropriate information channels to the drivers; it is estimated that better traffic management through improved software and real-time traffic data could reduce traffic congestion by up to 40%²;
- Additional costs incurred by public authorities in setting up road transport telematics could positively complement physical road developments, with considerable macroeconomic gains in the form of shorter journey times, improved convenience for all road users, accident prevention and the avoidance of damage to the environment;
- State-of-the-art technology for RTTI services is widely deployed and available for each step of the process; further improvements of hardware and software are under development, standardisation and field operational tests, respectively;
- The European Commission adopted in 2001 the Recommendation (2001/551/EC) on the deployment of traffic and travel services in Europe, in order to facilitate access to public sector data, and to enable the private and public sectors to co-operate in the service provision;

¹ Source: eSafety Compendium, p. 409

² Source: tbf

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- The European Commission Communication on “Information and Communications Technologies for Safe and Intelligent Vehicles” (SEC(2003) 963) stated that real-time traffic and travel information (RTTI) contributes greatly to safety and efficiency of road traffic;
- The European Commission proposed further analysis and recommendations for accelerating the take-up of the measures for accessing the public sector data, enabling the establishment of public-private partnerships, and the provision of reliable, high-quality RTTI services in Europe;
- The European Commission considered drawing up recommendations or legislation aimed at accelerating the deployment of Real-time Traffic and Travel Information services in Europe;
- The “Final Report of the eSafety Working Group on Road Safety” (November 2002) recommended to:
 - Analyse the Member States’ responses to the TTI Recommendation, draw up further actions if necessary, and make a progress report to the Council and the European Parliament;
 - Create public-private partnerships to capture, process, and provide real-time traffic, travel and road condition data from a variety of sources, including Floating Vehicle Data;
 - Support the wider use of the pan-European RDS-TMC network for safety-related traffic information;

PRESENTS THE EXTENSION OF THE 2001 RECOMMENDATION ON TTI SERVICES IN EUROPE

All involved parties are requested to adhere to this updated Recommendation and its Annex (attached) which extends the previous 2001 Recommendation:

AND HEREBY RECOMMENDS

1. The Member States (MS) should adopt a common implementation strategy for the geographic extension of RTTI services, working to European standards: Highways, key inter-urban non-highway routes and key urban routes should be covered, as well as cross-border support and ‘non-traffic’ travel information. The RTTI WG roadmap proposes a development path.
2. The Member States (MS) should promote the safety-related features of the RTTI services and their technologies (TMC and TPEG) through the relevant fora and their activities.
3. The Member States (MS) should take steps to ensure roaming and inter-operability of RTTI services across the EU with clearly defined accessibility to services for roaming devices.
4. The Member States (MS) should make existing public traffic data available for the provision of RTTI services. Member states should provide safety relevant information free of charge at least as far through the service chain as is public.
5. The Member States (MS) should co-operate with the stakeholders of the traffic information chain to develop a feasible and sustainable service/business model to provide safety relevant information free of charge to end users.
6. The Member States (MS) should ensure traffic management centres operate using the latest European data standards including ALERT-C (as embedded in DATEX), DATEX II, RDS-TMC and TPEG.
7. The Member States (MS) should take into account the RTTI ‘basic functionality and standards’ (see Annex) definition when developing RTTI services

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8. The Member States (MS) should identify 'holes' in coverage due to broadcast or data, and motivate broadcasters, service providers and other relevant stakeholders to solve these
9. The Member States (MS) should ensure that frequency spectrum and broadcast capacity will be made available for advanced digital broadcast travel information services via all broadcast technologies such as FM radio, DAB/DMB, DRM, DVB-H/-T in their appropriate spectrum allocations
10. The Member States (MS) should support the development of future advanced services which become possible with new technologies such as DAB, DVB-T, satellite broadcasting, 3G, WLAN etc, supporting the idea of harmonised, compatible pan-European solutions
11. The Member States (MS) should report to the European Commission about the progress as well as the results of the application of this Recommendation within a period of 18 months from its publication.

Done at Brussels

Signature / date etc