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Electronic Communications Networks and Services

**Radio Spectrum Policy Group**

**RSPG Secretariat**

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**RSPG16-041 Final**

## **RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP**

### **Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Intelligent Transport Systems**

## Progress Report of the RSPG Working Group on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS)

The RSPG at its Meeting #39 established a Working Group to deliver an Opinion developing Europe's spectrum policy strategy regarding Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), as set out in the RSPG's "Work Programme for 2016 and beyond".

The Working Group has comprised members from the European Commission, Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and UK and we would like to thank them all for their valuable input. In addition, ETSI attended as an observer.

This Working Group has held three meetings jointly with the Working Group for IoT. The third of these meetings was also attended by the co-rapporteur for 5G, to develop a position on the connections between IoT and 5G.

### Opinion on ITS

Following the time schedule set out in the Work Programme, a draft Opinion has been developed, and is presented alongside this Progress Report for approval by the Plenary with a view to public consultation in the coming weeks.

The headline conclusions are:

**Road:** There is no evidence that spectrum availability is currently a constraint on the development of ITS, and there is no immediate need to take regulatory action in this regard.

**Rail:** We do not recommend any regulatory action at the European level. Rail operators are invited to consider the options for the future of railways communications with the relevant administrations. And some Member States may need to implement solutions that allow for cross-border co-operation, in particular for the transitional period, and in busy border locations.

We propose to hold a further Working Group meeting to discuss responses to the consultation, and to propose a final draft for adoption by the RSPG Plenary Meeting #42.

### Further work on ITS

The Work Programme does not propose further deliverables. However, the draft Opinion identifies some areas where the RSPG may want to consider further activity:

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- The draft opinion identifies a risk that the development of potentially competing technologies for ITS in the same band could impact on the robust and safe operation within 5875-5905 MHz. It is important that in-band co-existence and cross-border operation of ITS is ensured, especially for safety-related ITS. RSPG may want to monitor developments in this area.
- The draft opinion recommends that the options for ITS (in particular non-safety related ITS) to expand to share spectrum in the 2x20 MHz above and below the existing designation should be kept available for the time being. We recognise the risk that this could constrain other potential future uses of this spectrum, and recommend that this risk is kept under review.
- We note in the draft Opinion that mobile networks may provide opportunities for services to complement road ITS, in particular using 5G features, but this is not explored in the draft Opinion.
- The draft opinion notes that the spectrum demand for future rail systems remains uncertain, and will depend on a number of factors. The draft Opinion does not explore in further detail any broader ITS-related issues for rail, beyond the replacement of GSM-R.

There is no decision required on these matters now. The Working Group will make a proposal for any ongoing activity in our next progress report.

Proposed course of action

The RSPG Plenary Meeting #41 is invited to approve the publication for public consultation of the draft Opinion on ITS.

Erika Forsberg

Rapporteur

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