Press Release

Enhancing the transfer of Intelligent Transportation System innovations to the market

FP7 project announced

Xavier Leal, Research Development Manager of Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona announces that the university, acting as coordinator of T-Trans consortium, has signed a contract with the European Commission for 1.7 million Euros, with a cofounding of almost 1.5 million Euros, for the support action project entitled "Enhancing the transfer of Intelligent Transportation System innovations to the market (T-TRANS)", which will be funded under the 7th Framework Programme.

Between September 2012 and November 2014, a team of experts in the innovation chain for all the transport modes, from 9 organizations of 7 EU countries, including universities, research centres, companies and associations, will study the innovation mechanisms for the Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) and identify best practices and guidelines for upbringing the related innovative products and services to the market. ITS technologies are highly relevant to enhance the industrial competitiveness at European level.

Project coordinator, Xavier Leal, working at the Technical Innovation Cluster on Aeronautical Management of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, is convinced that the project will contribute to encourage and facilitate an accelerated market deployment of ITS and transport related innovative products and services, as well as to establish the basis for an European ITS innovation network. Three pilot nodes (G-local Communities of Interest to Market CIMs) will be implemented in the EU regions of Central Macedonia (Greece), Galicia (Spain) and Latvia.

Project results will be broadly disseminated EU wide to an already established group of transport and ITS stakeholders.

From Latvian side the project will be supported by Transport and Telecommunication Institute. Main activities of TTI will be related with state-of-the-art of EU level ITS related policies and with organisation of pilot node of G-local Communities of Interest to Market – CIM in Latvia.

More information: www.ttransnetwork.eu

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T-TRANS – Enhancing the transfer of Intelligent Transportation System innovations to the market

A. Background information

About the 7th Framework Research Programme (FP7) of the European Union

The 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (also known as FP7) is the main instrument for funding research in Europe during the seven year period 2007-2013. The programme has a total budget of over € 50 billion and is a key tool to respond to Europe's needs in terms of jobs and competitiveness, and to maintain leadership in the global knowledge economy.

The T-TRANS project is a support action funded under the FP7 horizontal activities for the implementation of the transport programme and is specifically focused on theme TPT.2012.3-2, which targeted support actions for bringing innovative products and services to the market by the analysis of pathways and best conditions for innovation, within the domain "Strengthening the European research area, encouraging participation and fostering innovation".

TTRANS at a glance

Budget: 1.7 M Euros

Duration: September 2012 – November 2014

T-TRANS aims at providing information on innovation mechanisms for the ITS, facilitating the transfer of related innovative products and services to the market.

The project involves all stakeholders of the transport and ITS innovation chain: Universities, R&D and technology centres, enterprises of any size, regional clusters, public authorities and policy makers, venture capital and other investors, with special focus on SMEs.

The project addresses the difficulty of transferring to market developing technologies with a significant potential for improvement, both in terms of efficiency and costs, once they could be commercialised.

The starting point is a comprehensive analysis of the transport and ITS innovation chains, identifying in four specific case studies, the stages of technology development and time to market, the risk profile and the funding sources and gaps. Moreover, the evaluation of the market commercialization of research will be performed with a holistic approach that includes the mapping of instruments that support commercialization of research and technologies, the identification of the market drivers for transport innovation and of the channels and options for the commercialization of research.

Project results will contribute to fostering the development and deployment of new technologies in ITS development areas related to the four case studies.

Finally, an ITS innovation network will be established, initially with three G-local Communities of Interest to Market (CIMs) that will be implemented in the EU regions of Central Macedonia (Greece), Galicia (Spain) and Latvia, thus setting the basis for the European ITS e-innovation network.

TTRANS Case Studies

- ***Smart grid: connection, charging and storage of energy***. Efficient use of intelligent control systems for battery and network management. Smart integration of electric vehicles into the distribution level networks by means of information and communication technologies.
- ***Revenue management technologies for freight transport***. Gradual application of revenue management in air cargo market in terms of product-oriented and price-oriented demands.
- ***Revolution in intermodal transport units: Intelligent inter-modality***. Key technologies for Intelligent Transport Units (ITUs) to increase efficiency, sustainability and transparency of logistic chains with real time information. Advanced information services for freight transportation in Europe with intelligent cargo units that are able to interact with the surrounding environment and autonomously make context-aware decisions.
- ***Rail network technological system wide approach***. Deployment of new technologies to efficiently gain capability in the European rail network, thus providing opportunity to fulfil the increasing freight traffic demands.

TTRANS Benefits

The TTRANS project will

- Assess the current situation of EU transport and ITS research
- Provide best practices and guidelines for strategies in ITS innovation commercialization
- Set the basis for the European ITS e-innovation network

Dissemination

Special attention will be given to large scale dissemination of the project results through the project webpage www.ttransnetwork.eu, publications, conference presentations and electronic communications. Moreover, two workshops in each G-local CIM and a major final event will allow for additional ITS and transport stakeholders' networking.

B. TTRANS Partners

UNIVERSITAT AUTÒNOMA DE BARCELONA (Spain)

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (www.uab.es) is a public university founded in 1968. It currently offers 77 undergraduate courses and a total of 87 doctoral and postgraduate programs covering a wide range of fields such as Health Sciences, Experimental Sciences, Engineering, Biosciences, Social Sciences and Arts. UAB brings together in its Campus more than 40.000 students and almost 3.000 researchers. Counting on a solid and multidisciplinary scientific production mainly settled around its 228 Research Groups, Technology Transfer and Commercialization is a key horizontal activity. UAB has been a pioneering institution as regards to Aeronautical Management in Europe. Currently there are 7 Departments working on research and demonstration projects related the aeronautical field at several levels, from applied engineering to transport economics and logistic fields.

LGI CONSULTING (France)

LGI Consulting (www.lgi-consulting.com) is a very dynamic French consultancy, founded in 2005, that offers services in project management, communication and dissemination, web development, and

strategy and innovation studies with a multidisciplinary and European approach. It has an extensive experience in complex technological sectors, like energy, transport, security and environment and innovation: market analysis, technology screening, R&D strategy, intellectual property rights, business modelling, cooperation strategies and partnership setup, etc.

ATOS SPAIN S.A. (Spain)

ATOS is an International Information Technology Services company with 78,500 employees in 42 countries. Serving a global client base, it delivers hi-tech transactional services, consulting and technology services, systems integration and managed services. Atos Research & Innovation (www.atosresearch.eu) is the research, development and innovation hub of ATOS and, besides leveraging research on new technologies inside the Atos group, it brings research outcomes to customers, introducing innovative approaches, methodologies and tools in their business processes.

KEMA International B.V. (Netherlands)

Established in 1927, KEMA (www.kema.com) is an independent knowledge leader and a global provider of high-level services to the energy value chain, including business & technical consultancy, operational support, measurements & inspection, and testing & certification. KEMA provides impartial advice and support to the producers, suppliers and end users of electricity, gas and heat, as well as to governmental bodies. In addition, the company also certifies products, systems and individuals for a wide range of clients.

SERNAUTO (Spain)

SERNAUTO (www.sernauto.es) is the Spanish Association of Automotive Equipment and Components Manufacturers. Founded in 1967, it represents the members' interests before the public administration and public and private organizations. It is the reference for discussing sectorial issues and meeting point for companies. Moreover, it develops an awareness-raising task about sectorial issues before the public opinion and Administration, communicates and informs the associates every issue that could affect their companies and aims at promoting the sector in and outside Spain.

FRAUNHOFER-GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FÖRDERUNG DER ANGEWANDTEN FORSCHUNG E.V. (Germany)

Founded in 1949, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft research organization maintains more than 80 research units in Germany, including 60 Fraunhofer Institutes. The Fraunhofer Center for Maritime Logistics and Services (www.cml.fraunhofer.de), situated at the Hamburg University of Technology, develops and implements innovative, customer focused problem solutions for the maritime supply chain, private and public sector clients in the maritime industry, including ports, terminal operators, shipping companies and logistics service providers.

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE (Italy)

The University of Trieste (UNITS, www.units.it) was founded in 1924 and consists of 10 Departments, with approximately 700 full-time permanent professors and researchers, and 23000 students (undergraduate, master and Ph.D.). UNITS research and teaching activities cover a wide range of fields such as Life, Natural and Medical Sciences, Engineering and Architecture, Humanities, Law and Business. Within the Department of Engineering and Architecture, the Operations Research and Transportation groups perform their research in the field of air, rail and road transportation.

INTELSPACE INNOVATION TECHNOLOGIES S.A. (Greece)

INTELSPACE (www.intelspace.eu) is a spin-off company founded in 2005 by members of URENIO Research Unit. The company offers engineering, IT, and consulting services in the field of intelligent and smart cities. INTELSPACE is working with interdisciplinary teams and brings together expertise from the fields of city development and planning, knowledge and innovation management, and information and communication technologies.

TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATION INSTITUTE (Latvia)

Transport and Telecommunication Institute (www.tsi.lv), established in September 1999 as a non-state higher education institution, grew itself from the Riga Aviation University (RAU), which replaced the original Aircraft Technical School, founded in 1919. At the moment, the institute is a modern higher education institution which offers different types of educational programmes and performs scientific research in different application areas. It is an expert in transport systems especially in traffic flow simulation on microscopic and macroscopic levels.