



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 19.12.2008  
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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**on the conclusion of an Implementing Arrangement between the European Commission and the Department of Transportation of the United States of America in the field of research on Information and Communication Technologies applications to road transport**

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### **on the conclusion of an Implementing Arrangement between the European Commission and the Department of Transportation of the United States of America in the field of research on Information and Communication Technologies applications to road transport**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Co-operation between the European Community and the Government of the United States, approved by Council Decision 98/591 of 13 October 1998 which entered into force on 14 October 1998<sup>1</sup> and was then renewed for a period of five years, effective as from 14 October 2003<sup>2</sup> and in particular Articles 1, 4 and 5 thereof.

Whereas:

- (1) The Agreement makes provision for and encourages the parties to develop and facilitate cooperative activities in fields of common interest where they are pursuing research and development activities in science and technology (Article 1).
- (2) The Agreement makes provision for and encourages the conclusion of Implementing Arrangements between the executive agents of the parties concerned (Article 5). It identifies a number of sectors for potential co-operation, including Information and Communication Technologies and Transportation (Article 4).
- (3) Transatlantic co-operation in the field of research on Information and Communication Technologies applications to road transport is desirable and of mutual benefit.
- (4) The consensus view from exploratory discussions between parties involved is that an Implementing Arrangement would constitute a mechanism for simplifying joint technical and scientific activity.
- (5) An Implementing Arrangement has no direct financial implications. Joint projects will compete for funding through normal RTD and support measures in the relevant research programmes of the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for Research and Technological (2007-2013). In accordance with the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Co-operation between the European Community and the Government of the United States, Community funding will be limited to the European partners.
- (6) Research and development in the field of Information and Communication Technologies applied to road transport constitute an important contribution to the transport policies of the European Union and of the United States of America.
- (7) An overarching agreement between the European Commission and the United States of America for cooperation in policy, implementation and research aspects related to Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) is also deemed necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 284, 22.10.1998, p.37

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 335, 11.11.2004, p.7

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

The Implementing Arrangement between the European Commission and the Research and Innovative Technology Administration of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT/RITA) in the field of research on Information and Communication Technologies applications to road transport is approved.

*Article 2*

The Director-General of DG Information Society and Media is authorised to sign the Implementing Arrangement on behalf of the Commission.

Done at Brussels, [...]

*For the Commission*

*[...]*

*Member of the Commission*

ANNEX  
**IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**The European Commission**

**AND**

**The Department of Transportation of the United States of America**

**FOR**

**Cooperative activities in the field of research on Information and  
Communication Technologies applications to road transport**

Consistent with the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the European Community and the Government of the United States of America, signed December 5, 1997, which entered into force on 14 October 1998 for an initial period of five years, and was renewed for a period of five years, effective as from 14 October 2003 hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement", an Implementing Arrangement to cover cooperative activities in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) research applied to road transport is hereby established between the European Commission Information Society and Media Directorate-General (EC/DGINFSO) and the Research and Innovative Technology Administration of the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT/RITA), hereinafter referred to as the "Sides".

The purpose of this Implementing Arrangement is to advance cooperation on research in ICT for road transport especially to contribute to a mutual understanding of each other's needs on research actions and results, in order to share results, and collaborate on ICT research applications for road transport. This Implementing Arrangement between the Sides respects differences in institutional and operational arrangements governing their actions. Consequently, this Implementing Arrangement does not create rights and obligations under international law between the United States of America and the European Commission.

The activities within the scope of this Implementing Arrangement will form an integral part of the future overarching agreement on cooperation on ITS policy, implementation and research related aspects to be established between the European Commission and the US Department of Transport.

**SECTION 1 - AREAS OF COOPERATION**

Cooperative activities may be undertaken in the field of the Intelligent Car Initiative and Challenge 6: "ICT for Mobility, Environmental Sustainability and Energy Efficiency" as set out in the theme "Information and Communication Technologies" (ICT), objectives ICT-2009.6.1 (ICT for Safety and Energy Efficiency in Mobility) and ICT-2009.6.2 (ICT for Mobility of the future) of the European Community's 7th Framework Programme for research technological and demonstration activities, and as set out in the relevant Programmes falling under the competence of RITA, on vehicle infrastructure integration (VII), intersection collision avoidance, vehicle-to-vehicle and autonomous vehicle safety technologies.

The Sides endeavour to cooperate in the following areas:

- (1) Research and development, particularly coordination of initiatives and projects in the following areas:
  - (a) Co-operative vehicle-to-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure systems;
  - (b) Cost/benefit and impact assessment of Intelligent Transport safety systems both on-board and cooperative, resulting from research projects;
  - (c) Collision avoidance at intersections;
  - (d) Architecture for Information and Communication Technologies for road transportation;
  - (e) Field operational tests for ICT research;
  - (f) Research of ICT applications on energy and the environment;
  - (g) ICT for Mobility services for people and goods.
- (2) Periodic dialogue to deepen mutual understanding of programme implementation and emerging new challenges through exchange of information on:
  - (a) On-going research and development projects;
  - (b) Potential future collaboration on research;
  - (c) Research results take up and awareness campaigns;
  - (d) Other related issues.
- (3) Sharing of ICT research, demonstrations, and Field Operational Tests (FOT) results.

## **SECTION 2 - FORMS OF COOPERATION**

The activities to be pursued in the context of the areas of cooperation referred to in the Arrangement may include:

- (1) Exchanging information and documentation. Each Side is to endeavour to provide the other with all information necessary for the cooperation and the implementation of activities listed under Sections 1. (1) and 1. (2) of this Implementing Arrangement.
- (2) Coordinating studies, programmes, and activities.
- (3) Conducting joint analyses and evaluations.
- (4) Participating in working groups in conformity with rules applicable to such participation.

The Sides are to endeavour to provide equivalent opportunities to the industry from each other's side in terms of contributing to work and access to information and results from the cooperative activities resulting from this Implementing Arrangement, subject to national and international law, policy and other guidance that may apply.

## **SECTION 3 – COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT**

A Steering Group will be established to stimulate and coordinate co-operative activities under this Implementing Arrangement. The Steering Group may consist of two representatives from each Side. Each Side may designate additional participants in Steering Group Meetings. The steering Group may be co-chaired by the Sides.

It is intended that the Steering Group meet at least once a year, alternately in the European Community and in the United States of America, the hosting Side providing organisation and staffing. At their meetings, the Sides expect to evaluate the status of co-operation under this Implementing Agreement. This evaluation shall include a review of the past year's activities and

accomplishments and of the activities planned for the coming year within each of the areas listed in Section 1, an assessment of the balances of exchanges within each of the areas listed in Section 1, and consideration of measures required to correcting any imbalances. Tasks of the Steering Group are to also include: overseeing and encouraging co-operative activities, exchanging information on programmes, practices, laws and regulations relevant to co-operation on research, suggesting objectives and co-operative activities for each upcoming year and proposing ad hoc activities under this Implementing Arrangement.

#### **SECTION 4 - EXCHANGE OF PERSONNEL**

The Sides may, at their own expense, and subject to consent of the other Side, exchange technical/scientific personnel as required to pursue activities identified by this Implementing Arrangement. Such personnel may be from the USDOT, the Commission, or supporting government agencies or contractors, as mutually decided.

#### **SECTION 5 – FUNDING**

Cooperative activities under this Implementing Arrangement are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to the applicable laws and regulations, policies and programmes of each Side, and to the terms of the Arrangement.

Each Side is to bear the costs of participation (e.g., for travel and accommodation) in meetings of the Steering Group. However, other costs directly associated with meetings of the Steering Group are to be borne by the Side hosting the meeting. For DG INFSO the financial implications of the Implementing Arrangement are covered by the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme legal basis.

#### **SECTION 6 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Rights related to any form of intellectual property arising under this Implementing Arrangement should be allocated in conformity with the rules and procedures set out in the Intellectual Property Rights Annex attached to the Agreement.

#### **SECTION 7 – DURATION**

This Implementing Arrangement is to commence upon signature by both Sides. Cooperation under this Arrangement is expected to continue for the period of five years and can be renewed with mutual agreement of both Sides. If a Side decides to cease cooperation under this Arrangement, it should provide ninety days written notice to the other Side.

Signed on



**Fabio Colasanti**  
Director General

Information Society and Media  
Directorate General  
European Commission



**Paul R. Brubaker**  
Administrator

Research and Innovative Technology Administration  
Department of Transportation  
United States of America