

Position Paper December 2012

The Swedish ITS Board's position on ITS and Traffic Safety

1. Why ITS and Traffic Safety?

Everybody has the right to travel in the transport system without risking loss of life or damage to health. Everybody has the right to use different transport systems without unintentionally exposing other travelers or the environment to risks. The limited space has to carry several heterogeneous categories of travelers. Nowadays, more people move by means of bicycle, walking or public transports. As citizens we should be able to expect that society systematically and continuously works to improve our traffic safety, irrespective of our choice of means of transport. Sweden has made good progress in enhancing traffic safety. For instance, Sweden ranks number one worldwide in terms of the lowest number of deaths in road traffic per 100,000 inhabitants. This result is thanks to the systematic work for improved traffic safety which has been conducted in collaboration between industry and the public sector and guided by a collective attitude.

New technological advances assist our development process. ITS is the focus area deemed to have by far the greatest potential to continue to increase traffic safety. Against this background, it is crucial that all the stakeholders involved (academia, public sector and industry) work closely together to, by means of ITS, develop the safety solutions of tomorrow.

The Government Instruction

According to the Government Instruction¹, the ITS Board should work for increased Swedish action within the area in the EU. The reason behind this instruction is that the Government sees a prospect of accelerating and influencing the introduction of various ITS services as well as coordinating the services on European and international levels. In the long run this will benefit Swedish industry, in particular our export industry.

The position papers describe on a comprehensive level the Swedish position on ITS matters and how we act within various EU contexts as regards ITS. The documents should be useful for industry, public organizations, academia and its researchers as well as for professional organizations. Each position paper covers the multimodal perspective.

¹ The Government Instruction: http://www.sou.gov.se/kommittedirektiv/2010/dir2010_67.pdf

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Ongoing work

The following projects have been initiated within the framework of ITS and Traffic Safety:

- Cooperation has started with Volvo Cars around the company's vision for safety, Volvo 2020. The company has established the target that by the year 2020 nobody will be seriously injured in or by a Volvo car.
- Development of smarter alcolocks is underway as part of an international cooperation. The objective is to implement a contactless system for detection of alcohol in the air.
- Sweden contributes actively to the work of the EU aiming to improve traffic safety. For the EU White Paper Sweden has, for example, assisted in developing strategies for achievement of the EU's Vision Zero by the year 2050. Moreover, Sweden participates actively in the work to produce an Action Plan pertaining to traffic safety.
- The Swedish Transport Administration has started to work with ITS and prevention of personal injuries within the railway sector. Sweden also participates in a number of EU projects within this area. Personal injuries also constitute a problem related to trucks².
- As for the railway sector, Sweden is involved in the development of the traffic management system ERTMS on a European level.
- The Swedish Transport Administration and the insurance sector are cooperating in the field of smart insurances, (Pay-As-You-Drive), and several projects have been completed. The point of departure is that people who drive safely should be rewarded with favourable insurance premiums.
- Cooperation is taking place between the vehicle and telecom industries and authorities based on the common view that vehicles and road-users as well as infrastructure need to communicate in order to further strengthen the work on traffic safety. New vehicles have advanced sensors and systems which create information that could be of more use if possible to circulate for use by other vehicles and road-users.
- Sweden has been certified in accordance with the ISO standard 39001³, a management system for traffic safety. The implementation of the standard is an important and prioritized work as it concerns, in particular, how deviation handling and follow-up of new technical solutions could be introduced in the operative work.

2. Prioritizations for the future

The following have been assessed to be important focus areas for the future:

- In order to prevent collisions at railway crossings, a number of projects have been initiated to investigate how ITS could be used to increase the safety at these locations. These projects are to be followed up and further developed.

² The ITS Board's report *ITS och Cykel*: <http://www.sou.gov.se/its/pdf/skrivelser/2011-04-26%20Cykel%20och%20ITS%20-slutleverans.pdf>

³ ISO 39001: http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_ics/catalogue_detail_ics.htm?ics1=03&ics2=220&ics3=20&csnumber=44958

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- Although smart mobile telephones bring many advantages, they constitute a danger from a traffic safety perspective. Sweden shall contribute to the development of new solutions for safer handling whilst driving.
- Sweden should participate in the development of Traffic Sign Recognition technology for vehicles. Road markings which can be read by vehicles' sensor systems⁴ are a high priority area for the future. The objective is that it shall be possible for the vehicle to detect where it is located in relation to the road markings, thereby enabling steering adjustments in emergency situations to correct deviations from the road. Sweden shall participate in the development work in order to ensure that the road markings of the future facilitate the vehicles' recognition systems.

3. The position papers of the ITS Board

The following position papers have been produced to date. They shall be dynamic in nature and will be successively amended. These documents are available on the website of the ITS Council, www.sou.gov.se/its.

- Publishing transport-related data irrespective of the mode of transport
- ITS for Goods
- Vehicle-related ITS
- Attractive Travel Services
- Common payment system within the transport sector
- Traffic management in metropolitan areas– all modes of transport
- ITS and Traffic Safety

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⁴ Roads that cars can read: <http://www.trafikverket.se/Aktuellt/Nyhetsarkiv/Nyhetsarkiv2/Nationellt/201106/Framtidens-bilar-och-vagar-ska-radda-tusentals-liv/>