

Brussels, 19 December 2008

Key EU initiatives launched before Christmas

The European Commission adopts the ITS Action Plan and announces GNSS FP7 2nd Call

The EC Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) Action Plan was adopted on Dec 16, and the second call for Galileo and EGNOS project proposals has just been announced, today Dec 19.

The MENTORE secretariat welcomes the **EC's ITS Action plan** which is a major step towards the deployment and use of ITS in the road transport sector. The document suggests a set of concrete measures and a directive laying down the framework for their implementation. Specific emphasis is put on the interoperability of the different systems in place in order to ensure that they will work all over Europe.

The ITS Action plan is adamant on the need to use the full potential of EGNOS now and Galileo as of 2013 for freight transport logistics in particular. The deployment of ITS applications for **freight tracking and tracing** (as demonstrated by MENTORE project) **will be followed by the deployment of other commercial applications requiring guaranteed positioning and navigation services.**

The **FP7's second call for proposals** was launched this same week. A budget of €30 000 000 will be allocated to collaborative projects which should aim to promote growth in the use of Galileo and EGNOS services in the open, commercial and regulated sectors. The call is split into 3 activities ("exploiting the full potential", "adapting receivers to requirements and upgrading core technologies" and "supporting infrastructures evolution") with a general objective for projects to have short-term market impact. In most cases, proposals are required to submit a preliminary business plan for the commercialisation of project results. Deadline to submit proposals is 31 March 2009 at 17:00.

Further details and explanations will be made available during the **Growing Galileo 2009** conference and information day on 27/29 January in Brussels. Registrations to this event are now open.

Sources: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/its/road/action_plan_en.htm, <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7> and <http://www.gsa.europa.eu>

Coordinated by Telespazio and with the ERF – IRF BPC among the participants, MENTORE (iMplemENtation of GNSS tracking & tracing Technologies fOR Eu regulated domains) is a project devoted to introducing EGNOS/Galileo in regulated "Tracking & Tracing" users' domains. Further information on www.gnsstracking.eu



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