German Society for Intelligent Transport Systems – ITS Germany
Goals and Need for Action

ITS Germany is the society bringing together representatives of industry, research and public authorities who want to contribute to Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) with the objective to broaden the field of applications on a national and international level. This also includes the information and education of the end users about opportunities and chances that come along with the utilisation of Intelligent Transport Systems. The potentials of integrated transport systems in terms of intelligent mobility on rail, road and air traffic can only be effective through further linkages between transport systems and thereby comprehensive, up-to-date and coherent information.

The diverse opportunities offered by the use of information and communication technologies form already today a good precondition for the intelligent usage of the complete range of mobility offered on road and rail, public transport, car-sharing, bicycle traffic up to the navigation of pedestrians. Intelligent Transport Systems can only emerge through a consequent application of its technology. The main focus of ITS Germany is to support and promote this development and to enhance the implementation of products and services that are related to ITS.

Reflecting the federalism in Germany ITS Germany operates as the umbrella organisation of all other ITS related societies on regional and federal level in Germany. ITS Germany also bundles all activities of its members on a national level, whereas most of the ITS Germany members focus their activities on a regional level. It is a particular interest of ITS Germany to include all interested parties in order to unite and represent each facet of intelligent mobility under one umbrella organisation.

This requirement can only be achieved by integrating further important stakeholders in the field of intelligent mobility under this umbrella. This includes associations in the automotive industry, public transport companies, logistics industry, air traffic, and associations representing cyclists as well as other alternative transport modes. From our perspective, it is necessary to lead all these stakeholders towards the common strategy of realising intelligent mobility. Only by achieving this objective, ITS technology can be further developed in a way that reaches the jointly requested success.

Additionally, it is necessary to intensify the contact to representatives of politics and public authorities at all levels up to the European Commission. This mainly involves framework conditions for the implementation and enhancement of Intelligent Transport Systems as well as the prioritisation of applications. Moreover, it is also important to get involved in an advisory capacity for the selection and determination of research and development programs. These activities would contribute to solutions that ensure even more the economic success of Intelligent Transport Systems.

An increasing uncertainty among the population is given in relation to data security and data privacy aspects due to both the accelerated development cycles within the Information and Communication Technology and the processing of the fast-growing data volume. In order to assure the overall acceptance of intelligent mobility, which is prerequisite for the impact of ITS, it is strongly needed to inform the travellers not only about risks but also and especially about chances of new developments. Only by informing in a comprehensive and open minded way we can convince people to accept the further advancement of Intelligent Transport Systems.
Economy, science and public authority. Jointly on a national and international level.

Initial Position and Challenges

Sustainable mobility is a precondition for economic growth and prosperity of a nation and thereby to the wellbeing of its population. Germany is characterised by a very well developed transport infrastructure. However, the transport infrastructure will need a fundamental overhaul and renewal in the next years because of its deterioration. This applies for roads and especially bridges, but also for the rail system. Hence, there will be comparatively less means available for the necessary extensions of the traffic infrastructure within the coming years. At the same time there will be still a significant growth in traffic, especially within freight transportation.

The challenge of the coming years results from the necessity of managing the existing transport and infrastructure in an even more efficient and environmental protecting way. Moreover, it is necessary to guarantee a high level of traffic safety and to satisfy the highly diverse mobility needs. Due to the increasing intermodal orientation of travellers, the integration of transport systems gains an increasing role. Simultaneously, traffic participants demand more and particularly precise information in order to choose the most efficient means of transportation and routes.

Strategic Goals

Germany has a broad spectrum of nationally and internationally recognised industrial companies, research institutes as well as consulting firms that operate very successfully in the field of ITS. This also applies to public transport companies and to other mobility providers of the public and private sector. In order to pool this know-how and to utilise the potential and willingness for innovation, ITS Germany offers a platform to adjust jointly by all involved stakeholders the requirements for the implementation and deployment of ITS according to the respective technological development status.

ITS Germany considers itself as an advocacy group within the described field, promotes the exchange of experiences and knowledge as well as the progress in the field of Intelligent Transport Systems from an organisational, legal, scientific and technical point of view. Besides, the society has the claim to represent the pooled interests within the mobility sector nationally and internationally. The main topics are the advancement of research and development, the implementation and further development of Intelligent Transport Systems for increasing traffic safety and mobility as well as for efficiency enhancement within public, private and freight transport.
Areas of Application for Intelligent Transport Systems

ITS Germany is primarily concerned with developing strategies for the application of Intelligent Transport Systems. This includes traffic issues, but also organizational and legal requirements. ITS Germany seeks to highlight the chances that ITS systems and their consequent applications bring along.

Within ITS applications today, the main concerns are the market introduction and further developments. Currently a special focus is set on the following issues:

- Optimal utilisation of road, transportation and travel data,
- Traffic management and traffic information services,
- ITS applications in order to increase traffic efficiency and traffic safety and to protect the environment,
- Systems integration and open data exchange.

At present, ITS Germany is engaged in the following system approaches and concepts:

- Easy access to all transport and transport related data,
- Automated driving,
- Electric mobility,
- Transportation and logistics.
Promotion of research and development, implementation, utilisation and enhancement of Intelligent Transport Systems to increase traffic safety, secure mobility and protect the environment

Membership Structure

The competence of ITS Germany is based on its network, in particular with regional and nationwide operating ITS societies, but also in the relationships with other partners. Regional ITS societies bundle the interests of individual members from industry, research and public authorities. They represent the interests of their members towards ITS Germany. ITS Germany unites all interests and represents those at a national and international level towards politics and public authorities.

At present, ITS Germany has the following members:

- ITS Baden-Württemberg e.V.
- ITS Bavaria e.V.
- ITS Berlin-Brandenburg e.V.
- ITS Germany e.V. *
- ITS Hessen e.V.
- ITS Niedersachsen e.V.
- ITS Nordrhein-Westfalen e.V.
- ITS Saxonia e.V.
- ADAC (Allgemeiner Deutscher Automobil-Club e.V.)
- BITKOM (Bundesverband Informationswirtschaft, Telekommunikation und neue Medien e.V.)
- FGSV (Forschungsgesellschaft für Straßen- und Verkehrswesen e.V.) – Road and Transportation Research Association
- TelematicsPRO e.V.

* A society located in Hamburg currently in the process to change its name in order to guard against misunderstandings
Involvement in ITS Germany

All people, companies, associations, public and research institutions interested in Intelligent Transport Systems are invited to get involved in ITS Germany either as an individual member of one of the regional ITS societies or directly of ITS Germany if the requirements are fulfilled. Due to the bundling of activities, the interests of the members can more effectively be brought to the attention of politics and other decision makers on a national and international level.

Besides, we offer support to politicians and other decision makers in their work by providing the pooled competence of ITS Germany members.

An ITS Germany membership opens the possibility to be engaged in the development of different topics, to make use of the existing communication platform for the development of project ideas and to find partners for their implementation. ITS Germany acts as a centre of excellence where the members create a network with high level of competence and diversity.

ITS Germany members benefit from the joined public presentation of their competences, the access to national and international partners and networks that bring along the effect of getting to know and utilising further sectors and key technologies. Moreover, members profit from bundled national and international industry and research projects through the support of our ITS Deutschland GmbH, a company which has been founded by ITS Germany for this purpose. Additionally, it is also possible to participate in special events (symposia, workshops, exhibitions, conferences, seminars etc.). This also applies to the ITS Germany platform for publications.

National and international partners and networks
Specific Starting Points for Our Work

ITS Germany will mainly approach the following tasks. The organisation makes use of the competences of its members and the support of ITS Deutschland GmbH. In detail, the following themes are covered:

- Demonstrate the potential and benefits of Intelligent Transport Systems in terms of increasing traffic safety and guarantee a sustainable mobility in connection with an efficient utilisation of present and future mobility services within individual and public transport.
- Promote multimodality through superior linkages between mobility offers and mobility information services with the aim to influence the mobility behaviour in a more sustainable and customer-orientated way.
- Promote the cooperation between private and public providers of mobility services for developing synergies.
- Develop an open forum for the pre-competitive discussion about ITS related themes between the involved stakeholders (public authorities, private sector and science).
- Further develop competences in science and research as well as develop support programs for research and development.
- Increasing the public awareness for intelligent transportation and sustainable mobility facing the major challenges in future: climate change, demographic change, changes of energy and transportation costs etc.
- Promote the joined reflection of mobility of persons and goods as a consequence of the increasing traffic demand and the insufficient expansion of the traffic infrastructure (rail and road) at present.
- Cooperate and support the regional ITS societies in Germany through information exchange, utilisation of networks and joined projects.
- German representative towards ITS Nationals and representing national interests towards Federal and State Authorities as well as other ITS societies within and outside of countries of the European Union.
Visit our homepage to receive further information about current national and international developments in the field of Intelligent Transport Systems as well as an overview about the regional and national ITS organisations insofar as they are members of ITS Germany.

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Intelligente Verkehrssysteme – ITS Deutschland e.V.
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Registered head office of the organisation:
Rheinstraße 45
12161 Berlin
info@its-deutschland.de

www.its-deutschland.info