

Press Release

Seamless travel throughout Europe on a single smart card:

Calypso, ITSO, and VDV are the first to demonstrate interoperable multi-application smart ticketing in international public transport use

9th June 2010

Three European smart ticketing organisations Calypso Network Association (Belgium), ITSO (UK) and VDV (Germany) have demonstrated that a single smart card can be used for public transport across all three ticketing systems.

In an innovative international multi-application demonstration, tickets from three national transport ticketing applications – British ITSO, French NaviGO and German Core Application (VDV-KA) – were loaded onto a card, proving that a single smart card can be used for travel on local public transport networks in different countries. This is a major step forward in smart ticketing technology, as most smart cards are currently restricted for use on a specific network.

Interoperability demonstrations took place at the beginning of May 2010 during the UITP hosted Interoperable Fare Management Forum. The meeting and demonstration concluded the work of a two-and-a-half year EU-IFM Project, which objectives was to increase access to public transport networks in Europe and make it more user-friendly and compatible through provision of interoperable ticketing devices.

The Project was coordinated by ITSO. The interoperability demonstration was managed by RATP (France) with active participation from VDV and technical assistance from Nextendis (France) and ESP System (UK). The card used is a common production card from VDV.

The EU IFM Project is funded by the European Commission under the 7th Community Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development through DG INFSO under the IST Programme: ICT for Transport. Partners in the Consortium are ITSO, TÜV Rheinland Consulting, VDV, UITP, Univeristy of Newcastle upon Tyne, URBA 2000, SNCF, Université de Paris Ouest-Nanterre la Défense and RATP.

Notes to Editors:

Details of the **EU IFM Project** can be found at www.ifm-project.eu

Calypso Network Association is a Belgian non-profit organisation resulting from a previous European project that manages open specifications for transport oriented contactless systems secured by microprocessors.

Calypso specifications are used in Belgium, Canada, France, Italy, Israel, Latvia, Portugal and other places, Visit www.calypsonet-asso.org .

ITSO is a non-profit distributing membership organisation run by its members for the benefit of its members and users of smartcard solutions, supported by the UK Department for Transport. Its membership comprises transport operators, local and regional authorities and suppliers to the industry. ITSO is working to stimulate adoption, use and widespread application of smart technology in transport ticketing. Visit www.itso.org.uk .

VDV KA

((eTicket Germany is the brand name for an interoperable electronic fare management (EFM) system based on the VDV KA standard and having a common customer interface. The project is supported by the ministry of Transport. For the customer it should be possible to use EFM systems seamlessly with a single user medium, with a standardised customer interface and his/her common and preferred mode of payment should work in all other EFM systems nationwide as well. Visit www.vdv-ka.org .

UITP is the international association of Public Transport Operators and is based in Brussels. Visit www.uitp.org .