

Final Draft Memorandum of Understanding to promote a pan-European road data infrastructure



Background

The EU-funded project EuroRoadS terminated on 31 August 2006. EuroRoadS has defined common specifications for the quality assured provision and exchange of road data, carried out demonstrations and proposed implementation and exploitation activities.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is intended as a basis for discussion between potential founders of a EuroRoadS Forum. The idea to establish a EuroRoadS Forum is to promote and exploit the results of the European project “EuroRoadS” and to support both providers and users of public/private-source road data.

The process to establish a EuroRoadS Forum starts with setting up this MoU. The content of the MoU is decided by stakeholders participating in the process. All providers and users of road data, European organisations working with road information as well as other as other interested parties like research institutes are welcome to take part in the process.

Memorandum of Understanding to promote a pan-European road data infrastructure

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) records the basis on which a EuroRoadS Forum shall be established. The EuroRoadS Forum is intended to promote and exploit the results of the European project “EuroRoadS” and to support both providers and users of public/private-source road data.

Whereas

- The EU-funded project EuroRoadS terminated on 31 August 2006. EuroRoadS has defined common specifications for the quality assured provision and exchange of road data, carried out demonstrations and proposed implementation and exploitation activities,
- There is an interest amongst road data providers and users to establish a forum to address some or all of the following needs:
 - support, correct and improve these specifications following the end of the project
 - support users of the EuroRoadS specifications
 - support the development of national, regional and local spatial data infrastructures with regard to the efficient handling of road data
 - support users by implementing data quality management concept
 - represent the EuroRoadS achievements in the INSPIRE process
 - promote the implementation of EuroRoadS by the widest community of public data suppliers in Europe
 - provide a platform for potential users and data suppliers to collaborate
 - identify needs for further research and development
 - identify projects and activities that should make use of EuroRoadS’ results and improve existing results
 - develop guidelines and distribute information on best practice
 - develop commercial environment aiming to facilitate a widespread market adoption of EuroRoadS compliant data

To achieve the above mentioned objectives there is a need to form an administrative structure – a EuroRoadS Forum. This MoU intends to form the basis for the establishment of such a forum.

Management of the EuroRoadS Forum

A management group will be formed by stakeholders signing this MoU. The purpose of the management group is to meet the above needs by the creation of an appropriate EuroRoadS Forum, which is to address the above needs and others as the management group decides. All parties signing this MoU will meet the costs of all activities from their own internal resources.

Status of the Memorandum of Understanding

This MoU summarises the current understandings and intentions of the Parties. Nothing in this MoU legally obligates any Party to any other Party. This MoU does not affect the rights (including intellectual property rights) of any Party to material supplied by them.

Review of this MoU

The Parties will periodically review the results and consequences of their co-operation under this MoU and, when appropriate, will consider the need for improvements in their co-operation and make suitable modifications.

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Signed by

Name

Status

Organisation

Contact Address

Date

The following activities were discussed during the statutory meeting on 30 November 2006. In order to plan for the future work it is important to have an understanding on priorities and resources available to carry out the different activities. Therefore, each organisation is requested to give their opinion on priorities by using the scale 1-5 (where 1=essential, 2=very important, 3=important, 4=less important, 5=not of interest) and eventual additional activities. Furthermore, please indicate possible contribution for carrying out the different activities from your organisation.

Framework of specifications	Priority	Contribution
Inform about the framework of specifications		
Take care of proposals concerning changes		
Represent road data stakeholders in the INSPIRE-process, e.g. review of implementing rules concerning road network		
Develop guidelines & support the use of the framework		
Inform on early adoption & distribute information on best practice		
Promote implementation of the framework in commercial GIS		
Develop profiles of the specifications		
Initiate formal standardisation		

Metadata service	Priority	Contribution
Continue running the prototype with data from test areas		
Extend the metadata supply with data from all participants in the EuroRoadS Forum		
Link the metadata service to the EU-portal		
Be active in the European metadata development (INSPIRE drafting teams, CEN-standardisation)		

Tests & demonstrations	Priority	Contribution
Continue the follow-up of experiences from tests		
Improve and make adjustments according to experiences		
Test special techniques to handle large data volumes		
Initiate new projects built on EuroRoadS results		
Initiate R&D activities		

Dissemination of information	Priority	Contribution
Inform on facts and experiences concerning current situation		
Arrange workshops & seminars		
Develop leaflets/brochures (pdf)		
Web & newsletters		
Projectplace (common document archive)		

Business model	Priority	Contribution
Deployment of the suggested business models		
Develop support services for suppliers and users: - user support - help-desk - errors and updates - liaisons and organisation of cooperation - rights management		
Establish quality certifications and compliance testing procedures		

INSPIRE	Priority	Contribution
Represent the road data community as an SDIC (Spatial Data Interest Community) in the INSPIRE process by contributing to the work with implementing rules concerning data specifications, metadata and network services		

Annex B – Description of the Parties

Please give a short description of your organisation.

Lantmäteriet – the National Land Survey of Sweden – is a Government agency. The mission is to give support for creating an efficient and sustainable use of Sweden’s real property, land and water. The organisation has three main activities, which also form the organisational structure: Cadastral services, Land and Geographic Information Services, and Metria (working on a competitive, commercial basis). Support for these activities is provided by Corporate functions.

The Swedish Government has given Lantmäteriet the national responsibility coordinating production, cooperation, provision and development of all geodata (geographic and real property information) in Sweden. Lantmäteriet will also be responsible for coordination and providing support in connection with the implementation of EU directives and will also guard Swedish interests in the international work in this field.
