

MERIDIAN Newsletter VI, November 2024

Contents

Throwback to the Steering Committee in Trento	2
RSS/RVMS E40 Bertem - Sterrebeek built	2
Digital Infrastructure workshop 09-10-2024	5
Bringing Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems to life	6
Next Steering Committee	7
Upcoming events & workshops	8

If you would like to receive the Meridian Newsletter in the future, please mail to:
peter.van.dop@rws.nl and nora.boujdayn@rws.nl.

Throwback to the Steering Committee in Trento

Björn Siebert opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking the organisers. He highlighted the packed agenda, noting that the morning would focus on project administration, followed by updates from the various Work Packages in the afternoon. Afterward, the group would visit the museum Tridentum - S.A.S.S. The day after, a site visit was planned at Autostrada del Brennero. BS also presented each partner with a special gift—an Ocean Bottle featuring the MERIDIAN name—and invited everyone to take one.

Following BS' introduction, the meeting organisers, Giancarlo Anderle and Andrea Steccanella, shared their remarks. GA, head of road infrastructure and reconstruction for the province (2450 km), emphasised the importance of their involvement in the MERIDIAN project. He explained that as traffic becomes increasingly complex, it's essential to address evolving needs. While Trento is a historic city rich in tradition, it is also eager to embrace new technologies.

AS added that the region has a unique butterfly shape and serves as a key transit route to Germany and Austria, attracting many tourists. He explained that the area experiences significant congestion during both summer and winter seasons. Through MERIDIAN, they aim to improve mobility, enhance the transportation network, and provide better digital insights into how people move from one place to another. Their ultimate goal is to create a more efficient and connected system, with 167 traffic stations, real-time data and automatic elaboration.

RSS/RVMS E40 Bertem - Sterrebeek built

This RSS/RVMS E40 Bertem - Sterrebeek built is part of task T4.01 'Dynamic Traffic Management and peak hour lanes' (beneficiary the Flemish Government) of work package WP4 'Bottleneck and Digital Corridor Management'.

The gantries were installed and the lane signalling panels mounted on the gantries. The lane signalling panels were connected to the network of the Flemish Agency for Roads and Traffic, were tested, commissioned, and integrated in the Dynamic Traffic Management (DTM) application of the Flemish Traffic Management Centre (TMC).





The Dynamic Traffic Management application is steering the red X, yellow or green arrows and the speed limit signals on the lane signalling panels. The corresponding

data are also fed into the lane control signalling (LCS or RSS rijstrooksignalisatie in Dutch) open data feeds.

The deployment of lane signalling panels and supporting ITS infrastructure on the E40 highway between Bertem and Sterrebeek allows for variable speed limits and lane control signalling (red X, amber or green arrows). By using lane control signalling we make optimal use of existing road infrastructure capacities, we improve the safety and reliability of the network. In addition, by avoiding traffic jams on the highway, we avoid that cars and heavy good vehicles will search their way through the secondary road network, as such creating traffic jams in smaller communities or introducing heavy traffic in school environments.

Milestone n° 55 ‘MS4.01.3 – RSS/RVMS E40 Bertem - Sterrebeek built’ was reached in August 2024

Digital Infrastructure workshop 09-10-2024

The purpose of task T1.04 is to exchange and build up knowledge on relevant topics, amongst others Digital Infrastructure, C-ITS, Bottleneck and Digital Corridor Management and Multimodal Services, etc.

This time a virtual workshop was organised around Digital Infrastructure, i.e. Artificial Intelligence in Mobility. You can find the agenda, the presentations and the recording of the workshop below...

[Read more button](#)

A dedicated Digital Infrastructure knowledge building workshop took place on October 7th, 2024 addressing ‘Artificial Intelligence in Mobility’, and more particularly for use by road operators/authorities. Over 50 participants attended the workshop.

The workshop kicked off with an introduction on Artificial Intelligence by research centre IMEC, and an explanation of the European AI Act and its impact on NRAs by ERTICO. Afterwards, several participants illustrated their projects implementing AI. Several applications such as automatic traffic and incident detection, optimal deployment of traffic officers, counting and classifying vehicles, road asset recognition, etc. were featured. This highlighted the wide range of uses for AI in mobility. Numerous other applications can be envisioned where AI can help. The workshop ended with a fruitful Q&A session, again highlighting the importance of the topic.

It can be concluded that this was a successful Knowledge Building workshop with a lot of inspiration for the use of AI in mobility.

Bringing Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems to life

To demonstrate the concrete benefits of Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems (C-ITS), Autobahn GmbH hosted an event for interested trade visitors on October 22, 2024 in Frankfurt. Participants experienced first-hand how the integration of vehicles and infrastructure significantly improves road safety. This C-ITS roadshow organized by Autobahn GmbH was part of the international Car-2-Car Forum 2024, which took place at the House of Logistics and Mobility (HOLM), where C-ITS experts from all over the world gathered.

Susanne Schulz, Head of Cooperative, Connected and Automated Mobility at Autobahn GmbH, and Thomas Heinrich, Head of Research at the ADAC Foundation, led an interactive presentation. They presented various C-ITS services that are already in regular operation, including the C-ITS construction site warning system, which is financially supported by the EU-funded MERIDIAN project and sends warnings directly to approaching vehicles. Autobahn GmbH plans to equip all of its service vehicles with this C-ITS service from next year.

The aim of the event was to introduce C-ITS technology in particular to local emergency services such as police, rescue services, road maintenance departments and towing companies. In addition, C-ITS applications for bicycles, motorcycles and agriculture were presented. The EU-funded MERIDIAN project also presented its initiatives and attracted specialists who could support the implementation of MERIDIAN projects. One possible format for this could be the workshops that MERIDIAN organizes at regular intervals.

A highlight of the event were the live demonstrations. The participants took tours of the motorway and the surrounding roads and experienced real-time warnings of construction sites, breakdowns and approaching emergency vehicles directly on the vehicle screen.

Another highlight was the MERIDIAN Networking Event, where MERIDIAN experts and Autobahn representatives were able to exchange about C-ITS.



Learn more [here](#):

Next Steering Committee



Our next Steering Committee is scheduled to take place in Sevilla, Spain on 22 May 2025. Hopefully we will see all our partners there!

Thank you for your continued support and interest in MERIDIAN! We look forward to sharing more updates with you in the next edition of the newsletter, on our [MERIDIAN website](#). And did you know we have a new [LinkedIn](#) page! Follow us for more information.

Upcoming events & workshops

Date	Time	ONSITE/ ONLINE/ HYBRID	TOPIC	Further Description	Organising Project	Link/Registration
18.12.2024	9AM-1PM	HYBRID	DATA SHARING Cross-fertilization event with other EU projects related to ICT tools for multimodality and last mile connectivity.	<p>09:15 <u>Institutional greetings (Port of Ravenna)</u></p> <p>09:30 <u>Introduction to Capitalization workshop (Port of Ravenna)</u> Explaining the scope of the workshop and defining the criteria for the evaluation and monitoring activities to be carried out related to the other 2 workshops</p> <p>09:50 <u>Panel 1 – Ports and Urban nodes and data sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Port of Ravenna - Port of Trieste - Port of La Spezia/ CEFRIEL - Municipality of Amsterdam <p>11:00 <u>Coffee break</u></p> <p>11:15 <u>Panel 2 – Other experience of EU projects on data sharing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MOVE-UP Project - ITL / Municipality of Ravenna 	MERIDIAN	<p>https://meet.google.com/gus-gcdf-rxw?authuser=0 Please confirm your attendance to this mail address: pianificazione@port.ravenna.it</p>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KEYSTONE Project - UniMoRe - MILEPORT project – Port of Trieste <p>13:00 <u>Conclusions (Port of Ravenna)</u></p> <p><u>13:20 Light lunch</u></p>		
January 2025	tba	online	Workshop: Cybersecurity in mobility	tba	MERIDIAN	To follow
March 2025	tba	online	Workshop: Digital Twin	tba	MERIDIAN	To follow