

PRESS RELEASE



30 November 2011

innovITS ADVANCE demonstrates comprehensive eCall test and certification capability

New European automatic communication system aimed at reducing emergency services response time to accidents involving eCall equipped vehicles – tests at innovITS ADVANCE have demonstrated this UK facility’s capability to evaluate the performance of products incorporating eCall.



Simulated rear end collision using dummy vehicle to test eCall operation

The new eCall technology is in the process of being adopted by a large number of EU member states. If an eCall equipped car is involved in an accident in which airbags are deployed, the car automatically calls the nearest emergency centre even if the driver and any passengers are unable to speak due to injury. In such circumstances the system automatically transmits a minimum data set including the exact location of the crash site and identification of the vehicle, thus reducing emergency service response time. In addition, when a driver or passenger in an eCall equipped car witnesses an accident, they can report it and automatically summon assistance while giving precise location information, all at the push of a button.



PRESS RELEASE



Engineers interrogate the eCall system to confirm that the emergency call has been successfully routed to an external Public Service Access Point (PSAP) from innovITS ADVANCE

Prompted by the need for automakers and their Tier 1 suppliers to supply eCall equipped products to the European markets adopting this technology, innovITS ADVANCE has carried out a demonstration of capability in the area of eCall testing and certification. With its independent and fully controllable private GSM network and Skyclone GNSS denial capabilities, innovITS ADVANCE is uniquely placed to provide an environment in which eCall systems can be tested under all conditions of signal quality and attenuation.

To carry out this first demonstration of eCall using at the innovITS ADVANCE facility, innovITS worked together with partners DENSO, CINTERION a Gemalto Company, TRL, MIRA and PMN, to connect the site's private GSM network to an external eCall Public Service Access Point (PSAP). With this first vehicle test successfully completed, innovITS and its partners are now planning to work towards implementing a comprehensive eCall test and certification service based at innovITS ADVANCE – one of the first such facilities to offer this service in Europe.

“By successfully demonstrating functionality tests on an eCall equipped vehicle, innovITS ADVANCE has thus proven its capability to act as a robust and reliable site for the testing and certification of eCall products,” explains innovITS CEO Phil Pettitt. “The presence of a network of roads covered by a fully controllable private GSM network is fundamental to the ability to provide such a robust testing environment. Over the coming months we will be working with our partners to establish on a permanent basis an eCall test and certification service that can be offered to customers on a commercial basis.”



PRESS RELEASE



With its extensive road layout configurable to represent virtually any urban environment and its comprehensive telecoms infrastructure including a private GSM network GNSS attenuation and denial capability and Wi-Fi mesh, innovITS ADVANCE is ideally suited to the testing, development and certification of new ITS technologies such as eCall

“eCall is a very promising technology which I believe will have a major role to play in improving emergency service response times in those EU states implementing the system,” added Marcel Visser, global vice president automotive of CINTERION and chairman of the ERTICO Automotive Suppliers Sector Platform. “By working together in a proactive manner, the technical partners in this self-funded project have demonstrated that the European automotive industry supply chain will be ready to embrace the test and certification needs of eCall using the dedicated ITS test and development facilities such as those of innovITS ADVANCE.”

Ends



PRESS RELEASE



NOTES TO EDITORS:

innovITS is the UK ITS (Intelligent Transport Systems) Centre for Excellence for Transport Telematics and Technology for Sustainable Mobility. It was set up by the UK Government's Department for Business, Innovation and Skills(BIS) as a non-profit making organization in 2005 and has the fundamental objective of achieving a world-class position for the UK ITS industry. innovITS brings together expertise from the Automotive, Highways and Telecommunications industries to build collaborative partnerships, seeking out inventive telematics technologies to integrate on a realistic scale and validate that it delivers value to road users and transport operators. As a result, it acts as a catalyst for the subsequent promotion, deployment and commercial exploitation of these technologies and technology providers on a global scale.

innovITS – ADVANCE is the result of a collaboration between innovITS, MIRA Ltd, one of the world's leading automotive design and development organisations, and TRL, the UK's internationally recognised Transport Research Laboratory, a leader in research and development of ITS solutions and strategic applications. The facility is hosted at the Nuneaton headquarters site of MIRA.

Examples of the type of projects, which might be carried out by innovITS ADVANCE customers, include:

- Collision avoidance and mitigation
- Driver behaviour studies
- Intersection safety
- Vulnerable road user detection
- Robustness in poor reception areas
- Electric vehicle charging development
- Road sign detection
- Traffic management
- Advanced driver assistance systems
- Time/distance position based charging
- Autonomous vehicles
- Denial of service response

Media contact:

Anthony Smith
MediaTechnical Ltd
Tel: +44 (0)1273 382710
E-mail: avsmith@mediatechnical.com
Web: www.mediatechnical.com

