

Institutionalizing a get together of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) related stakeholders within ESTONIA.

Prosperity of an economy requires seamless transport facilities. Capacity and safety of existing infrastructure can be improved by implementing suitable ITS solutions, as it is already done in many countries of the European Union. Estonia, having successfully implemented E-government as a front-runner in the past, now has also the chance to become a front-runner in the very field of ITS. Potential stakeholders for a national Estonian ITS association already met to evaluate potentials to institutionalize this dialog and to set appropriate structures.

In that regard ConnectBALTICA has taken up the initiative to embed an ITS-Estonia permanent working group within the organizational structures of ConnectBALTICA. The first respective Working Group meeting took place March 15th, 2012, at the Tallinn Technical University, which also inaugurated the new Institut for Logistics and Transport on March 14th, 2012. The event was attended by participants from the Ministry of Interior, the Transport Department of the City of Tallinn, the Estonian Road Administration, the Technical Centre of Estonian Roads, Tallinn Technical University, as well as stakeholders from the Privat such as Estonian companies as Ramboll, Signaal and IB Floor. The next ITS-Estonia working group meeting will take place on **April 13th, 2012** from 11:00 to 13:00 at the Tallin Technical University.

About ConnectBALTICA:

ConnectBALTICA is a macro-regional initiative and academic forum for sea, road and rail transport in the Baltic Sea region. It touches upon the topics of ITS and Transport Economics. Complementing the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region – a macro-regional strategy targeted to cope inter alia with gaps in transport accessibility – ConnectBaltica's mission is to promote seamless sea and land transport linkages and to develop infrastructure in the Baltic Sea region from patchwork to network. Thereby, ConnectBALTICA takes account of related regional initiatives and projects such as the Baltic Transport Outlook 2030, the Baltic Gateway project, the priority projects of the Trans-European Transport Networks in the Baltic region (TEN-T), the Helsinki Commission, the Baltic Sea Forum, the Union of the Baltic Cities, the European Sea Ports Organisation, the EasyGo project as well as the Nordic Road Association and the Baltic Road Association. ConnectBALTICA was inaugurated – under the auspices of Siim Kallas, Vice-President of and commissioned with the Transport Agenda of the European Commission – in Tallin, November 11th.

For more information please see: www.connectbaltica.org

Contact: Andres Peets (Andres.peets@neti.ee)

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CONNECTBALTICA MTÜ | Mäealuse 4 | EST-12618 Tallinn | Registration No.80327347

Email: info@connectbaltica.org | phone: +372 580 47150 |

Swedbank IBAN EE87 2200 2210 5240 4190 | BIC HABAE2X