

## DATEX II FORUM 2018 AND BEYOND

### REFLECTIONS ON COMMUNITY INPUT

*Date: March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

The 2018 DATEX II Forum concluded with the “Declaration of Utrecht”: a non-binding guidance document for the future of DATEX II. It consists of 10 statements written entirely during the Forum, derived from the break-out sessions, answers of the platoons and from highlights of the program. The statements were presented, discussed and finalized at the end of the Forum in a panel discussion with DATEX II experts and representatives of relevant stakeholders. The Declaration of Utrecht therefore contains the concluding statements of the Forum and shows us how DATEX II should evolve in the coming years. The DATEX II Steering Group has since adopted the Declaration of Utrecht and has taken into account its content in writing the work plan for 2019-2020.

The statements from the Declaration of Utrecht are stated below. After each cluster of statements, a short reaction is written from the DATEX II Steering Group on how the DATEX II organization will incorporate the feedback received from the community.

#### **Stakeholders and outreach**

- DATEX II will strengthen and expand the stakeholder community and work together.
- DATEX II should connect, cooperate and align with adjacent information and technology domains.
- DATEX II is an important backbone to enable C-ITS. Close cooperation is needed between C-ITS – DATEX II – OEMs in order to develop interoperable harmonized profiles.
- The DATEX II organization is prepared and happy to support the urban domain to improve transport and make mobility future-proof.

The DATEX II organization aims to manage expectations from both the road traffic management and travel information domain as well as from neighbouring domains. Liaison activities are an important way to manage this. Liaison activities are incorporated in all activities of the DATEX II PSA. In addition, a task force has been set up to write an outreach strategy for DATEX II until 2020 and present it at the next SG meeting in June of 2019. Topics like the relationship with neighbouring standards and domains will be tackled in this strategic document, which will detail liaison activities to be undertaken in relation to different stakeholder groups.

With regards to neighbouring standards (TPEG, ...) the DATEX II organization wants to work towards a clear view on how the different standards relate to each other, thereby making sure all standards share the same message.

In relation to the liaison with C-Roads specifically, a collaboration note will be drafted by C-Roads and DATEX II beginning of 2019 which is to be signed at the European ITS Congress in June. This will strengthen the strategic cooperation between both programmes to further support the development of interoperable harmonized profiles, for which a cooperation already exists on an operational level.

## Information exchange

- DATEX II will aim towards future-proof information exchange
- Standardized information exchange is needed to achieve interoperability and continuity of traffic and travel information services. To this end DATEX II should develop common minimum profiles.
- DATEX II calls upon road operators and other data collectors to use the DATEX II standardized SRTI messages as they contribute to increased road safety.

The steering group recognizes the need for DATEX II to be a future-proof standard. There are several ways in which the steering group works towards achieving this goal. Firstly, risk management is a reoccurring topic on the SG meeting agenda, prepared by a dedicated task force. High priority and impact risks are identified, and the appropriate measures are discussed and implemented when needed.

In addition, the outreach strategy will help detailing the liaison activities that need to be undertaken to help make DATEX II a future-proof standard.

Finally, there is a specific activity in the DATEX II PSA focused on the development of common minimum profiles: Activity 2, Data profiles. This activity expects to reach several important milestones until 2020, having just released the reference SRTI profile and now working towards a reference profile on RTTI, MTTIS and truck parking. Activity 1, User support, will make sure that the community is kept up to date on its progress and will deliver supporting documentation.

## Open data

- D2Light will improve innovation and accelerate deployment of end-user services driven by the open data community.
- The DATEX II data dictionary should be published in a natural language.

Both statements relate to work done in Activity 6 of the DATEX II PSA: Enhanced usability of DATEX II. The activity focusses on D2Light, JSON mapping, open data, ASN.1, tool enhancements and the RAV Centre. The new DATEX II work plan for 2019 and 2020 which was adopted at the last SG meeting in January of 2019, states that an upgraded version of the D2Light app will be implemented. New end-points will also be incorporated in the app. Next to the simplified situation publication, parking and travel times will also be modelled.

The D2Light app however is not meant as an end-user service. It is a showcase of the possibilities of the DATEX II Light model. It has shown users that it makes data easier to use.

To promote the use of DATEX II and its position as Open Data, the DATEX II publications will be defined as Linked Data. By publishing structured data, DATEX II can be interlinked and become more useful through semantic queries. The existing description which serves human readers will be extended and shared in a way that can be machine readable and adopted for Open Data standards.

## User support

- DATEX II should enhance operational support to developers by stronger community support.

User support is tackled in Activity 1 of the DATEX II PSA. This activity consists of several tasks which each has a different focus. In this activity, user guides are developed, in addition to supporting material for EU deployment projects. Also, the DATEX II Academy (documentation portal) is managed here as well as the overall information provision to the community (website and social media management). Several major steps have been taken in the past year in terms of improved user support. DATEX II has become more visible through a modernized website, a growing presence on social media like LinkedIn and it has launched the Academy, or docs portal, with all information on the standard available at one location. Regular news updates are posted on both the LinkedIn page and the DATEX II website to keep the community up to date on recent developments and achievements. Continuous improvements are planned for the way in which information is offered to the community, based on a revised communication plan to be finalized before the summer of 2019.

Users can contact the DATEX II helpdesk for technical questions via the helpdesk email address and the contact form available on the website. Strategical discussions are facilitated on the LinkedIn discussion forum and LinkedIn page. Task 1.6 of the DATEX II PSA, responsible for information provision and knowledge dissemination, will continue to make sure that information is regularly produced and circulated to the community via the relevant channels