

TREN/A4/124-2/2009 Study on Public Transport Smartcards – Final Report

Abstract

The “Study on Public Transport Smartcards” Final Report (May 2011) summarises work undertaken by a consortium including AECOM, the lead consultant, The Transport Operations Group (TOrg) of Newcastle University, PJ Associates, AustriaTech and NEA. The Study was to identify what steps if any should be taken by the European Commission to encourage interoperability between smart ticketing systems, with the aim of reducing barriers to the use of public transport.

Greater deployment of smart ticketing systems can be expected to result in improved travelling experiences for the passengers and an increase in public transport usage. This would deliver benefits to public authorities, private operators, public transport users and society as a whole.

In addition to increasing revenues, more journeys being made by public transport, instead of by private car, have the potential to contribute positively towards a wide range of sustainable transport and other goals. Benefits include: reducing congestion, making networks more efficient and reliable; reducing vehicle emissions, contributing to a lower carbon footprint and improving the quality of life of those living near main roads, through improved air quality, reduced noise pollution and road safety;

The Report:

- reviews the current situation with regards to public transport ticketing, payment and verification systems across Europe and globally;
- reviews trends in ticketing and fare payment / management and technological development in this area, considering the value chain and the business drivers associated with such technology and synergies with other potential applications;
- reviews current and emerging standards for such ticketing and fare payment systems;
- suggests steps that could be taken at an EU level to enhance / accelerate the development, deployment and integration between smart ticketing schemes
- considers the likely impact of such initiatives; and
- Presents recommendations for actions to be taken by the European Commission to encourage and support the implementation of smart ticketing schemes within Europe