

Newsletter No. 9 - December 2021

Message from the STA Chair

As the year 2021 comes to an end, I am proud to look back on the achievements of the STA. Despite the ongoing pandemic, we have held two successful open workshops, our Annual General Assembly, as well as other exchanges directly with our members. We have also grown as an association and have made significant progress in our Working Groups not least by publishing our Glossary of Terms, continuing to see new certificates being issued under the STA Certification Scheme and working jointly with the UITP on Ticketing in MaaS. We have also concluded new liaison agreements with the MaaS Alliance and the International Union of Railways (UIC), expanding significantly our reach and partnership base alongside other bodies such as the NFC Forum. It is in this spirit that I look towards 2022, when we are planning to meet you all again at IT-TRANS in Karlsruhe in March 2022 and to continue our ambitious work plan to build trust in ticketing across all mobility modes!

In the meantime, I wish you all the best for the festive season!

Kind regards,
John Verity

Our topics today:

1. **STA Annual General Meeting to take place at IT-Trans in Karlsruhe**
2. **STA held its workshop "Travel only with your name" on 20 October 2021**
3. **STA published Trust in Ticketing leaflet**
4. **Update from the UITP & STA joint Working Group on Ticketing in MaaS**
5. **Interview with Nils Zeino-Mahmalat, CEO of VDV eTicket Service GmbH &**



Intelligent Urban Transport Systems STA Annual General Meeting to take place at IT-Trans in Karlsruhe

The STA is planning its next Annual General Meeting to take place at the IT-TRANS in Karlsruhe, Germany, on 8-10 March 2022. On this occasion, elections for the Board will take place and the next workshop of the series "Travel only with your name" will be organised. Detailed information will be made available in early 2022 and we look forward to seeing many of you again in person.



STA held its workshop "Travel only with your name" on 20 October 2021

On 20 October 2021, the STA has held its

second workshop of the year, as part of the series “Travel only with your name”. The theme “How adapted are open and closed loop systems in Account Based Ticketing and MaaS?” was discussed by the panellists Victoire Champenois, (DG MOVE, European Commission), Sylvain Haon (UITP). Roberto Andreoli (ATM Milan) and Nils Zeino-Mahmalat, (VDV-ETS).

Insights and examples on the various systems in place were shared and the UITP also presented their Urban Mobility Open Payments Forum. Participants appreciated the enriching discussion, which is why the STA is planning to drive forward this future-oriented debate again in 2022.



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Learn more about the STA
www.smart-ticketing.org

STA published Trust in Ticketing leaflet

The STA has developed a "Trust in Ticketing" leaflet, highlighting the importance of trust to ensure that the wide range of smart ticketing offers are taken-up and seamless travel including cross-border with interoperable systems, become a reality. The customer needs to trust that the smart

ticket works seamlessly in all its aspects and all mobility partners need to trust that there is a fair distribution of compensation in an ever complex system.

[Download the leaflet](#) to learn more about STA's views on trust in ticketing.



Update from the UITP & STA joint Working Group on Ticketing in MaaS

The UITP & STA joint Working Group on Ticketing in MaaS is an attractive initiative for stakeholders from all over the world. More than 70 organisations contribute to the deliverable of the project, which will be a concise report with a number of key findings, good practices and real-life use cases from various implementations of ticketing in MaaS.

At the end of November, a workshop was held on the challenges and possible solutions in Ticketing in MaaS. This was followed-up with a second workshop in December that focused on the perspective of trust and how to manage trust and risks.

Both workshops illustrated the good cooperation among all parties involved and the strong will to address challenges with the aim of presenting a common and worldwide view on Ticketing in MaaS. The outcome of these discussions will be summarised in a report that will be published in the first quarter of 2022.



Interview with Nils Zeino-Mahmalat, CEO of VDV eTicket Service GmbH & Co., Germany

What are your main activities during weekdays?

I am currently very busy with the development of the new version of our eTicket standard. The VDV-Kernapplikation is being revised and published step by step as a new version under the name ((etiCORE. There is hardly an area in our company that is not touched in some way by this major task. By the way: ((etiCORE will be published in English.

Why did you co-found the STA?

In Germany, we - the VDV eTicket Service - are responsible for standardisation and interoperability in public transport ticketing. This is why we are very much aware of how important cooperation and technical collaboration are. I am convinced that the significant goal of "seamless travel" in Europe can only be achieved if all players work together constructively and strive for harmonisation wherever possible. For me, the STA is the ideal organisation to make this cooperation possible with everyone working together.

What do you expect from the STA?

On the one hand, the STA is supposed to carry out the fundamental work. It is already doing this, for example, by publishing technical glossaries and running a certification programme for smartcard readers. It is incredibly important that we all use the same technical terms in Europe to

ensure we understand them in the same way. Technical harmonisation is essential so that there is a basis for organising ticketing across systems and countries.

On the other hand, I would like the STA to become even more of an exchange platform for all relevant stakeholders. Good exchange creates common understanding and also trust. Trust among each other is enormously important to work together constructively and successfully in ticketing.

Finally, in my opinion, the STA is the organisation that represents public transport, without economic self-interest, also vis-à-vis the European institutions.

How will you contribute to its success?

The goals of the STA are with no doubt ambitious and this inevitably comes with a significant workload. This is why, we at the VDV eTicket Service have decided to allocate the necessary staff to the committees and working groups of the STA.

What do you wish for the future mobility of Europe?

I would like to see the public transport sector in Europe remain self-determined and technology-dominant in ticketing. As digitalisation continues to advance, we need high level of data security to ensure that data misuse and surveillance of citizens are ruled out as much as possible. We should rely on open standards in order to minimise dependencies on large globally operating IT companies.

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More information about the Smart Ticketing Alliance and current topics and events can be found at www.smart-ticketing.org

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