

Newsletter No. 4 - July 2020

Message from the STA Chair

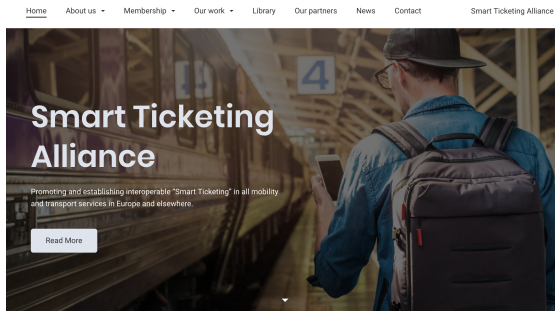
Since our last Newsletter in April, most European countries have eased or started to ease their lock-down measures and people are gradually starting to move around again at least locally in a first instance. The Covid-19 Pandemic has had a terrible impact on people's lives and livelihoods but we hope that we will all be able to return to a new normal. A new normal that seriously embraces the challenges of the next decade and beyond, particularly in respect of mobility in the context of climate change.

This key topic has also been discussed at our recent annual General Assembly meeting, for which the European Commission joined us for a presentation. The requirements of the Green Deal objectives and the need to build a strong multimodal framework for public transport were among the central points highlighted. We will continue to play our part in Smart Ticketing and are looking forward to connecting with all of you after the summer for further discussions and events. In the meantime, I trust that you will find this Newsletter insightful and informative.

All the best,
John Verity

Our topics today:

1. **STA launches new Website**
2. **Joint STA and UITP working group on Ticketing launched**
3. **STA attended MaaS Alliance annual meeting**
4. **Five questions to...**
Dr Dominik Elsmann, Head of the department for cross-border public transport, Aachener Verkehrsverbund GmbH



STA launches new Website

We are pleased to announce that the STA has a new website. In addition to a new design and layout, there is a wide range of information available on the work of the STA and how to join the efforts to promote seamless travel, interoperability and cooperation in all mobility services.

Find out more about us and our successes by visiting: <http://www.smart-ticketing.org>



Joint STA and UITP working group on Ticketing launched

The STA and the UITP IT&I and ITS Committees are enhancing their cooperation by launching a new working group to create a platform for exchange of views and ideas about topics related to ticketing. Guido Di Pasquale, UITP and Chair of the new Working Group on Ticketing states "We are delighted to strengthen our work on ticketing further in a common approach, which will contribute to the public transport sector speaking with one voice in the yet very fragmented world of mobility".



ALLIANCE STA attended MaaS Alliance annual meeting

The STA was invited to attend the MaaS Alliance annual meeting in June 2020 following the signing of the common Memorandum of Understanding earlier this year. The STA Chair, Mr John Verity gave a presentation on the work of the STA highlighting also its international connections with Japan (JR East) and US (APTA). The cooperation between the STA and the MaaS Alliance has been welcomed and encouraged by the European Commission during their intervention, while emphasising at the same time that public transport is the backbone of the mobility chain.



Five questions to...

Dr Dominik Elsmann, Head of the

department for cross-border public transport, Aachener Verkehrsverbund GmbH

What are your main activities during weekdays?

Communication, coordination and project management determine my daily work. In my position as head of the department for cross-border public transport at Aachener Verkehrsverbund (AVV), I'm responsible for the coordination with my counterparts on the Dutch and Belgian side as well as the coordination with all project partners with whom we cooperate on international projects.

Why did you join the STA?

Aachener Verkehrsverbund (AVV) is based in the heart of a border region. The recent past has shown how challenging the establishment of ticketing systems that meet the requirements of all regions can be. Many opportunities are opening up in the context of digitisation, but only a well-coordinated approach will lead to good and sustainable results. The STA offers the possibility to exchange with colleagues from other countries, to discuss potential solutions, to learn from each other and to take promising solutions in the right direction.

What do you expect from the STA?

Being responsible for cross-border public transport in a border region consisting of three countries, I have experienced many times how difficult it can be to establish new mechanisms in public transport. Recognising that the organisation and financing of public transport varies from country to country, in many situations intense coordination is necessary to align processes. I expect the collaboration within the STA to pave the way for a harmonised and interoperable development in the field of ticketing and to make boundaries disappear that are still evident today.

How will you contribute to its success?

We've worked quite intensively on finding solutions for interoperable cross-border ticketing in the last years. With the achievements of the finalised project "European Travellers Club (ETC)" and the recently started new project "easyConnect", we're contributing to finding ways how seamless ticketing can be realised. An account-based ticketing (ABT) approach is most promising from our point of view and therefore the focus of the pre-mentioned projects. Experiences and results are fed into the working groups of the STA in order to take them further.

What do you wish for the future mobility of Europe?

For passengers it should be as easy as possible to travel wherever and however they want. Borders shouldn't prevent people from travelling from A to B and technique should help to make their travel experience as seamless as possible. By continuing the promising work of recent years, I look forward to this future very positively.

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

if you do not wish to receive another newsletter from the smart ticketing alliance please click [here](#).

*Impressum:
Smart Ticketing Alliance
Rue Sainte-Marie 6
1080 Brüssel
Newsletter abbestellen*