

SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY FOR ADVANCED RAILWAY SIGNALLING

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STARS: Satellite Technology for Advanced Railway Signalling

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European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency

SATELLITE NAVIGATION IN RAIL

Daniel Lopour Market Development Officer

This presentation can be interpreted only together with the oral comments accompanying it

European GNSS Agency (GSA) mission

Support European Union objectives and achieve the highest return on European GNSS (Global navigation satellite systems) investment, in terms of benefits to users and economic growth and competitiveness

- Staff: c.a. **135**
- Nationalities: 21
- Headquarters: Prague
- Other Locations:
 - St Germain en Laye
 - Swanwick
 - Torrejon



What is Europen GNSS?





Where we want to be how to get there

Where we want to be

How to get there

EGNSS adopted as a part of future evolutions of ERTMS and for train positioning subsystem

Multi-constellation use of GNSS for multimodal logistics applications

Support UNISIG in their effort to define industry requirements

Coordinate relevant R&D activities together with key funding and standardization bodies (ERA, Shift2Rail, ESA)

Cooperate with railway associations and EC to foster the role of EGNSS in the evolutions of ERTMS standard and in the standardization and certification of EGNSS receivers

Support the establishment of EGNSS enabled asset and cargo tracking solutions

E-GNSS in Rail – Roadmap

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Roadmap was developed with active involvement of main stakeholders interested in European GNSS potential in railway signalling applications is leading towards inclusion of E-GNSS into ERTMS

Stakeholders currently involved in the process are:

- EC (DG MOVE, DG GROW)
- ERA
- UNIFE
- UNISIG
- CER
- ESA
- ESSP

Roadmap is available for download at the GSA Rail segment website



THE EUROPEAN GNSS ADENCY IS WORKING TOGETHER WITH RAIL AND SPACE INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS TO ENABLE THE USE OF SATELLITE-BASED POSITIONING FOR RAILWAY SIGNALLING At the heart of this multi-stakeholder initiative lies the European Train Control System (ETCS), which is now being adopted both in Europe and byrond, as one of the components of the European Rail Traffic Management System (ETCS). The positioning of the train is based on "balise", a physical element mounted at specific intervals along the railway track. The goal is to ensure that wherever possible, the physical balieses can be replaced by virtual ones, based on precise, GNSS-based positioning without any operational or safety implications on the ETCS. The neadmap below summarises the main projects currently running and planned, as well as the involvement of the various stakeholder to achieve the objective of E-GNSS coupled positions (Storgether with the GSA.

The GSA's managed funding mechanisms promote the development of EGNSS solutions









Fundamental Elements

Fundamental Elements projects focus on fostering the development of innovative Galileo- and EGNOS-enabled receivers, antennas and chipsets technologies.



Collaboration and information exchange between projects in H2020 and Shift2Rail is a prerequisite to speed up the delivery of necessary R&D results leading to real applications



European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency

Thank you

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Introductory remarks

GNSS applications in Railways are become more and more frequent, but so far the **highest growth** has been in **non-safety related applications** such as:

- Passenger information systems
- Freight logistic
- Infrastructure data collection



GNSS has a long history of safety critical applications in aviation, but this cannot be used as a basis for similar applications in the railway domain:

- The railway environment for GNSS is significantly more challenging
- Certification procedures and related requirements are totally different



To push GNSS applications into safety applications, a much **better understanding** of GNSS behavior in the railway environment is needed:

This is especially true for standardized applications, such as ERTMS

Expected results

- To predict performance in the railway environment in terms of accuracy, availability and safety
- To achieve interoperability
 between equipment of
 different suppliers
 - To allow inclusion of GNSS into ERTMS

Key project objectives

To develop a **universal approach to predict the achievable GNSS performance in a railway environment**, especially for safety critical applications within ERTMS and to determine the necessary evolution of ETCS to include GNSS services

To **quantify the economic benefits** through reduction of cost, which will increase market appeal of ERTMS



Basic figures about the STARS project



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STARS Project Consortium









Overall structure of the STARS work-plan

GNSS Measurement Campaign

- Preparation of campaign
 - Methodology, Procedures, Identification of the suitable lines
- Field measurement, data collection

GNSS Data Analyses and Performance Evaluation

- Data post-processing, Railway environment characterization
- EGNSS services evolution, EGNSS performances assessment in rail environment

GNSS Economic Evaluation

- Cost Benefit & Impact Assessment
- EGNSS / ERTMS evolution roadmap
- Implementation plan

Major links between STARS and other projects / initiatives





Why use GNSS with ETCS

- ETCS is a train control system which provides the driver with information on how fast and until where he is allowed to drive
- ETCS also supervises the movement of the train and prevents the driver from exceeding the indicated limits
- ETCS uses balises in the track as location references for the safe localisation of trains and for communicating movement authorities
- Eliminating those balises would be beneficial in many applications, not only in lowering the cost of signalling systems, but also to increases flexibility, availability, improve maintainability and reduce exposure to theft, vandalism etc.
- Higher accuracy might be achieved, as repositioning with balises is only possible every 1-2 km if cost shall be reasonable



Challenges of using GNSS on Railway Lines

- The main technical challenges for using GNSS on railway lines lie in the environment, which differs significantly from the one in aviation and marine applications
- Major differenced are
 - limited and continuously changing visibility of satellite
 - signal attenuation due to e.g. foliage
 - electromagnetic interference, especially from traction systems but also from nearby sources
 - significant multipath signals
- In some locations, such as in urban areas, multiple of these effects might appear at the same time





Performance Requirements

- The requirements on train positioning in ETCS are well defined. It is also understood that these requirements can not be met by GNSS alone at every location along railway lines
- It is however not clear how big the gap is in regards to safety, accuracy and coverage between what GNSS can provide and what is required by the ETCS application
- It is also not fully understood in detail in which environments performance is degraded to which extent
 Safety
 Accuracy
 Availability
 Current ERT
- Whatever gap will have to be closed by other means, such as e.g. other sensors or also route maps
- Also predictability is essential, in order to decide where GNSS can be used and where other means need to be applied for safe train localisation





Performance Requirements

- UNISIG is currently investigating to which extent the overall requirements can be reduced, e.g. by better analysis of individual operating scenarios or by limiting the use of satellite positioning to certain applications
- The question remains however how much can be contributed by a satellite navigation system to fulfill the application requirements
- For that purpose the STARS project has been set up. It's field measurement campaign and subsequent data analysis are set up to close this gap
- The contribution of EGNOS is also being investigated, including how it is best integrated into ETCS





Measurement campaign

- Key element of the STARS project is a field measurement campaign to collect GNSS data, which is then being analysed to identify and quantify possible local effects which have an influence on GNSS performance, such as:
 - Multipath signal propagation
 - Electromagnetic Interference
 - Reduced satellite visibility
- Prior to the campaign techniques have been assessed how to identified these phenomena, which resulted in a measurement setup that collects the necessary signals
- A so called Ground Truth has also been defined, to achieve a very accurate train position to which GNSS can be compared





Measurement campaign

- Measurements will be performed in the Czech Republic, in Italy and in Switzerland in order to get data from different environments
- Measurements will be performed with identical equipment and setups, to make the results from the three sites comparable
- Analysis of the collected data from all three sites will be performed in a joint work package
- Measurements are scheduled to start later in 2016 and to last through most of 2017





Next steps in the project

- Parallel to the preparation of the measurement campaign the data analysis procedures and tools are being prepared
- Large volumes of data will be collected, which will have to be managed during analysis
- Data analysis is scheduled to start as soon as field data is available
- In parallel the possible contributions of EGNOS are being studied, both in regards to accuracy and safety
- An economical analysis of the benefits of GNSS usage is also being performed



Expected results

To predict performance in the railway environment in terms of accuracy, availability and safety

To achieve interoperability between equipment of different suppliers

To allow inclusion of GNSS into ERTMS

Achieving the key project objectives

- Preparation of measurement ongoing, with measurements to start still in 2016
 - Analysing of data under preparation, to start early 2017 as soon as data is available
 - Investigation of inclusion of EGNOS started



Quantification of the economic benefits started



Project on track to deliver promised results



FOR ADVANCED RAILWAY SIGNALLING

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Thank you for your attention!

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♥ UNIFE

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