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Calling upon EU decision makers to act now and to establish fair and equal access to in-vehicle data and functions at once!

A broad coalition, of which CECRA is part, urges the EU to act without delay and to ensure fair and equal access to in-vehicle data and resources as it safeguards competition, free consumer choice and boost innovation.

In order to continue offering the high level of competitive services requested by customers, together with improved operational safety and environmental compliance, independent service providers must be able to compete on an equal footing with vehicle manufacturers (VMs) by continuing to access the vehicle, its data and functions in an independent and direct manner.

This would allow the development of new competitive digital services resulting in true consumer choice and enabling consumers to fully decide with whom they share their data.

However, with the proposed model put forward by the VMs, the so-called 'Extended Vehicle', this would not be possible! All future communication and data access will channel through VMs own backed servers and would exclude independent service providers from offering competing services to consumers.

A coalition has therefore launched a [Manifesto urging EU decision-makers to 'act now'](#) by introducing requirements aiming to establish an "interoperable, standardised, secure and open access telematics platform" set out in the 2015 EU eCall Regulation in order to ensure a level playing field. This solution would safeguard consumer choice, independent entrepreneurship, competition and innovation, whilst ensuring the same high level of safety, security, liability and data protection as the VMs use themselves. According to the Commission's Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) Study Report, it is the only solution that would allow equal opportunities for independent service providers and true competitive choice for consumers. However, it requires legislative intervention.

This 'Call for Action' is also in line with the European Parliament's TRAN Committee Report on C-ITS which calls upon the Commission to publish a legislative proposal on access to in-vehicle data and resources by the end of this year.

Bernard Lycke, Director General, states: "CECRA strongly supports the coalition's claim. It is unacceptable that the current telematics data access model - controlled and operated by car manufacturers - prevents independent businesses from embracing digital opportunities, jeopardises consumer choice, innovation and a prosperous EU digital economy. The EU should act without any delay and this for the sake of the EU consumers".

For more information:

Bernard Lycke
Director General
Mobile: +32 475 932 693



CECRA, established in 1983, is the European federation bringing together national professional associations, which represent the interests of motor trade and repair businesses and European Dealer Councils. CECRA represents on a European scale 336,720 motor trade and repair businesses. Together they employ 2.9 million people.