32.1 Introduction

ERTRAC\textsuperscript{1} acts as European technology platform for road transport. The members of ERTRAC are representatives from all the stakeholders of the road transport sector, including private and public organizations involved in research, and gathering also administrations from both European and national levels. The main tasks of ERTRAC are to:

- Provide a strategic vision for road transport research and innovation in Europe.
- Define strategies and roadmaps to achieve this vision through the definition and update of a strategic research agenda (SRA) and implementation of research roadmaps.
- Stimulate effective public and private investment in road transport research and innovation.
- Contribute to improving coordination between the European, national, regional, public, and private R&D activities on road transport.
- Enhance the networking and clustering of Europe’s research and innovation capacities.
- Promote European commitment to research and technological development, ensuring that Europe remains an attractive region for researchers and enhancing the global competitiveness of the transport industries.

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• Support the implementation of Horizon 2020, the European framework program for research and innovation

ERTRAC has established several working groups which consist of recognized experts coming from the ERTRAC members. The ERTRAC documents prepared within these working groups include scenarios, the SRA, and the research roadmaps. The working groups organize workshops on a regular basis, with the possibility to invite external experts. Currently, there are five working groups:

• Urban mobility
• Long distance freight transport
• Energy and environment
• Road transport safety and security
• Global competitiveness
• Connectivity and Automated Driving

The Working group on Connectivity and Automated Driving was established 2016 based on the importance of this topic for the automotive industry.

ERTRAC is supported by FOSTER-Road, a coordinated support action (CSA) financed by the European Commission as well as by an industry-led association (supporting institutions group) called ERTRAC SIG. By bringing together relevant stakeholders, ERTRAC supports the establishment of consensus-based plans and roadmaps addressing the key societal, environmental, economic, and technological challenges in the areas covered by the ERTRAC working groups. CSA activities also include project monitoring, strategic research agendas, business case models, innovation plans, and coordination of research on European and national levels. They include multimodal issues as well as comprehensive dissemination activities. ERTRAC SIG finances the office, dissemination activities, events, as well as publication of promotional materials.

32.2 Mission of ERTRAC

Road transport plays a vital role in the European economy and society. The road transport sector involves a wide range of industries and services from vehicle manufacturers and suppliers to infrastructure providers, mobility management, communication technologies, energy companies, and many others. Road transport, integrated with the other modes of transport, enables mobility for people and goods across Europe.

• Overall, road transport related industries provide employment to more than 14 million people in Europe and directly contribute 11% to the European gross national product.
• Road transport has a major impact on our daily lives, as it is one of the primary means of access to employment, services, and social activities.
Road transport creates links, and these links are a key factor in developing social, regional, and economic cohesion within the European Union.

Road transport contributes to the quality of life of every European citizen.

Because of the importance of the role of road transport in Europe, an accelerated development of sustainable, integrated transport solutions is necessary. The mission of ERTRAC is to provide a framework to focus the coordinated efforts of public and private resources on the necessary research activities.

32.3 Structure of ERTRAC

ERTRAC members represent all the actors of the road transport system as illustrated in Fig. 32.1. ERTRAC consists of five bodies: the ERTRAC plenary, the executive group, the working groups, the ERTRAC office, and supporting institutions group (SIG). ERTRAC SIG is a nonprofit association, legally established in Belgium.
32.4 Automated Driving Roadmap of ERTRAC

Automated driving is seen as one of the key technologies and major technological advancements influencing and shaping our future mobility and quality of life. ERTRAC is fully aware of this emerging technology, and its task force “connectivity and automated driving” has recently released a technology roadmap providing the current status of automated driving with regard to the implementation in Europe [1]. The ERTRAC roadmap is based on available documents for automated driving. The overall objective is to identify challenges for implementation of higher levels of automated driving functions. A lot of work has been done on this topic by various stakeholders and multi-stakeholder platforms (e.g., iMobility Forum, EUCAR, CLEPA, ERTICO, EPoSS) and in European research projects. Therefore, it is essential to avoid any duplication of activities and concentrate on the missing items, concerns, and topics for future implementation.

Reference

1. Automated Driving Roadmap, European Road Transport Research Advisory Council (ERTRAC) (2015)

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3European council for automotive R&D (EUCAR), http://www.eucar.be, accessed: August 31, 2015.
4The European association of automotive suppliers, http://www.clepa.eu, accessed: August 31, 2015.
5Europe’s intelligent transportation system organization, http://ertico.com, accessed: August 31, 2015.
6European technology platform on smart systems integration (EPoSS), http://www.smart-systems-integration.org, accessed: August 31, 2015.