



## **BUSINESS CASE**

**ACUNIA joins with the Flemish Government and major auto distributor D'leteren to build and test a telematics infrastructure to improve traffic management.**

Telematics technology provider ACUNIA, along with the Flemish government and D'leteren, Belgium's largest automobile distributor and importer of VW, Audi, Seat, Skoda, Bentley, Rolls-Royce, Lamborghini and Porsche ([www.dieteren.be](http://www.dieteren.be)), launched a major on-road pilot project involving a 100-vehicle fleet to research the potential of in-vehicle telematics services to improve traffic flow and driver safety and comfort.

The project will also examine the public policy, infrastructure and financial issues involved in broad-based, real-world telematics applications.

The three partners are investing in a common telematics infrastructure and are equipping the fleet's 100 vehicles with a built-in OSGi-based telematics platform. The vehicles will be operated over a period of six months in all traffic and weather conditions to determine real-world suitability and potential to improve traffic management.

### **Dynamic in traffic**

The pilot project will involve development of a series of services to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion, while improving the safety and comfort of drivers. The services will include:

- Off-board navigation;
- Real-time traffic information;
- Points of interest (POI's) with proximity search;
- Traffic advisories of problems ahead;
- Breakdown Assistance/emergency call;
- Dynamic Control of Vehicle Speed;
- E-mail service;
- Personalized news and weather reports.

The services are developed in cooperation with 3<sup>rd</sup> party content and service providers. A Belgian network provider delivers the airtime for the project.

To ensure user safety, these services make the maximum possible use of text-to-speech technology. Furthermore, the activation of certain services will only be possible when the engine is not running.

### **Next-generation telematics**

The built-in telematics platform will enable the wireless connection of the test cars to the telematics service center at ACUNIA's Belgium headquarters in Leuven. The service center will also allow the other partners -- the Flemish government and D'leteren -- to modify and control their services from their own application centers in Antwerp and Brussels.

Over the past few years, ACUNIA has developed extensive expertise in the field of telematics and will provide the technology for the telematics platforms and the service centre, which is the heart of this project.

## Dynamic ISA

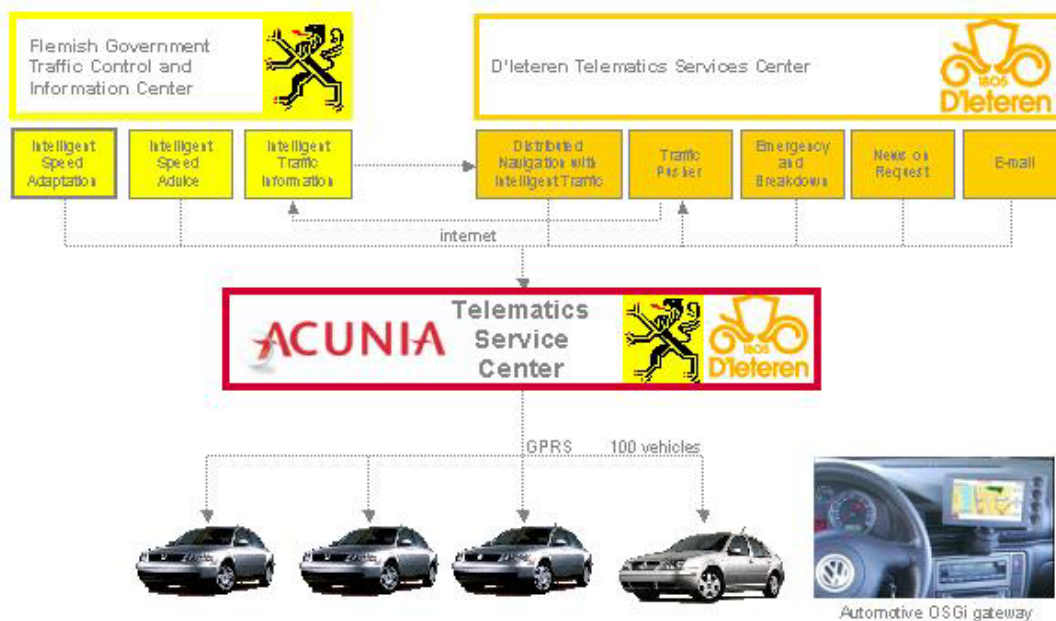
In addition, the Flemish government will examine the potential of dynamic Intelligent Speed Adaptation (ISA). Dynamic ISA allows the remote control of a vehicle's speed, and the Flemish Traffic Centre will test this capability to optimize traffic speed given actual traffic conditions.

The research into dynamic ISA is to learn more about the technical aspects of remote speed control, as well as public support for using this technology, and is being undertaken exclusively by the Flemish government.

*"Focusing particularly on the opportunities offered by wireless communication between vehicles and infrastructure, the Flemish government seeks ways to render its traffic management and safety strategies more effectively. It strongly believes that on the longer term the implementation of telematics applications will contribute to reduced congestion, incident and environmental costs in daily traffic. Its current partnership with ACUNIA and D'leteren constitutes a logical and very important step on the way to meet these targets."* said Eric Kenis, Project Officer Telematics with the Ministry of the Flemish Government.

## Assessment

The pilot project and the research into dynamic ISA not only offer the opportunity to explore the application of this technology in greater depth, but also provide an understanding of its implications on a broader scale. The pilot will also explore possibilities for greater future cooperation between government and the private sector.



## About ACUNIA

ACUNIA is a leading provider of software and hardware solutions for next-generation telematics infrastructure and services. ACUNIA developed the ACUNIA Open Telematics Framework® (OTF), the first fully functional, end-to-end, Java-based open software design for the entire telematics pipeline. ACUNIA is an active OSGi member and chairs the OSGi Vehicle Expert Group. Founded in 1996 by co-CEOs Mr. Steven Buytaert and Mr. Marc Maes, ACUNIA is principally located in Leuven, Belgium with regional offices in Frankfurt, Germany, Boston, Massachusetts and Detroit, Michigan. Visit the ACUNIA website at <http://www.acunia.com/>.