

Cooperation Agreement on the co-operation and dialogue between NAPCORE and EPA

The National Access Points (NAPs) are the central platforms for mobility data, facilitate access, easy exchange and reuse of transport related data in Europe. The NAPs help support the provision of EU-wide interoperable travel and traffic services to end users.

As such, the focus of NAPCORE is on cooperation and joint work on standards, formats and processes to significantly improve the discoverability and accessibility of data in Europe. In this regard, parking represents an important sector within Europe as it is linked to a wide range of ITS and transport domains. Major parking stakeholder bodies play a major role in the development of technical specifications towards the exchange of parking-centric data between operators, service providers, municipalities, and other stakeholder communities.

Agreement Objectives

Therefore, this Cooperation Agreement between NAPCORE and EPA should:

- Foster joint work on alignment and interoperability of standards (DATEX II, APDS, NeTEx).
- Encourage and ensure the provision of parking data on the NAPs by EPA's national member associations and commercial associate members.
- Identify challenges and issues regarding parking as well as identifying countermeasures to address them.
- Enable NAPCORE and EPA to join forces to have a stronger voice in the alignment of data, data quality, usability and standardisation to guarantee a functioning exchange of information.
- Create a win-win situation for NAPCORE and EPA and enable the pooling of knowledge.

Whereas:

NAPCORE

NAPCORE (National Access Point Coordination Organisation for Europe) is an organisation to coordinate and harmonise more than 30 mobility data platforms across Europe. It has become apparent, that the existing NAPs are quite different in their setup and data access interfaces. Also, the data formats and standards used differ throughout Europe. To work on a better alignment the National Access Point Coordination Organisation for Europe (NAPCORE) project was started.

NAPCORE is co-financed by a Programme Support Action under the European Commission's Connecting Europe Facility. NAPCORE has been launched as coordination mechanism to improve interoperability of the National Access Points as backbone of European mobility data exchange. NAPCORE improves the interoperability of mobility data in Europe with mobility data standard harmonisation and alignment. Also, NAPCORE increases access and expands availability to mobility related data by coordinated data access and better harmonisation of the European NAPs. Furthermore, NAPCORE empowers National Access Points and National Bodies by defining and implementing common procedures and strategy, strengthening the position and the role of NAPs, supporting steps towards the creation of European-wide solutions to better facilitate the use of EU-wide data.



EPA

The European Parking Association (EPA), founded in 1983, is the umbrella organisation for European parking associations. The 23 national member associations represent the parking sector which is consisting of private companies and public bodies that are operating and managing on and off-street parking structures and services.

The associate members represent the supply industry that offers all related products and services concerned with parking. EPA aims to facilitate cooperation between the professional parking organisations of different European countries, the exchange and mutual support of professional experience among members and to advise the European Commission and other relevant international bodies on matters relating to parking, kerbside management, and urban mobility.

NAPCORE and EPA agree:

- In the short-term: to work jointly on the interoperability and potential alignment of data standards related to parking and kerbside management by participation of EPA representatives in dedicated NAPCORE Working Group 4 (and sub-working groups) meetings and workshops.
- In the mid-term: to work jointly on understanding the role of parking in the changing world and addressing the societal benefits by participation of NAPCORE partners within EPA events and sessions, e.g. by a commonly organised yearly workshop.
- In the longer term: to work jointly on a step-wise approach towards automation, with AVP (Automated Valet Parking) as a first focus topic. NAPCORE related standards will be assessed, on how they can support these new functionalities (2023) and the way forward in case of observed gaps will be defined (2024), e.g. by one or two workshops per year to be organised by the NAPCORE ambassadors.

Collaboration Process

Both signatories collaborate for mutual benefit in a logical and structured way on the operational level. The joint work will be foreseen primarily regarding the NAPCORE Working Group 4 and in terms of the general harmonisation and interoperability of all standards in the scope of NAPCORE.

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Timo HOFFMANN
General Secretary of NAPCORE

Signed on behalf of NAPCORE
Lisbon, 23rd May 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nigel Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Nigel WILLIAMS
President of the European Parking Association

Signed on behalf of the European Parking Association
Lisbon, 23rd May 2023