



AWARD
Scaling autonomous logistics

Press Release

AWARD Final Conference - Revolutionizing Logistics: A European Conference on Automation in Logistics

Brussels, June 13, 2024 - The AWARD Final Conference, held in Brussels, concluded on a high note as industry professionals, researchers, and policymakers convened to chart the future course of autonomous vehicle technology in logistics. With over 100 attendees, the conference underscored pivotal advancements and set the stage for next-generation innovations in the field.

The conference began with an engaging introduction by Pablo Perez-Illana from CINEA, who highlighted the European Union's commitment to Cooperative, Connected, and Automated Mobility (CCAM) and logistics through various funded projects. This was followed by a detailed presentation on the AWARD project's contributions, challenges, and forward-looking recommendations for 2025-2030 by Arwed Schmidt from EasyMile.

Key Conference Sessions and Takeaways:

- **Innovative Use Cases in Road Transport Automation and Scalability:** Exploring groundbreaking demonstrations and discussing scalability and adoption hurdles, this session highlighted the significant strides in integrating automated road transport into logistics nodes and multimodal operations, addressing efficiency improvements and supply chain bottlenecks.
- **Integration of Automation in Logistics Nodes and Multimodal Operations:** The seamless integration of automated transport within logistics frameworks was discussed, with emphasis on the potential of automation to solve existing logistics challenges.
- **Emerging Business Models from Automated Vehicle Deployment:** Discussions focused on the challenges businesses face in adopting new technologies. Comprehensive strategies were debated that address both technological capabilities and adoption barriers to fully leverage the benefits of automation.
- **Practical Applications of Automation in Logistics:** This panel shared insights on real-world applications and significant benefits of autonomous vehicles, emphasizing economic viability and safety concerns. The need for cost-effective sensor systems and robust technologies to ensure safety standards was also highlighted.
- **Regulation and Future Research:** An open conversation about the regulatory environment, with a call for supportive regulatory frameworks and continued research to adapt to technological advances and create an environment conducive to innovation.
- **Importance of Collaboration and Future Directions in Automation:** The session showcased the importance of collaboration between different stakeholders and outlined strategic directions for research and deployment. The scalability of automation technologies,

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replication of successful use cases, and their integration into existing logistics infrastructure were discussed.

- **Impact on Capacity and Efficiency:** Automation's critical role in addressing capacity and efficiency issues was highlighted, particularly in the context of growing demand and the global need for resilient supply chains.

Furthermore, the **roll-up exhibition** provided a dynamic space for interacting with other researchers and EU-funded projects, exploring synergies, and discussing future collaboration opportunities.

The conference concluded with powerful closing remarks from Project Officer Sergio Escriba: "This is not a finale conference, this is a kick-off meeting." His statement underscored the AWARD project's ongoing commitment to driving innovation and cooperation within the autonomous logistics sector.

About AWARD:

AWARD project, is an H2020-funded project by the European Commission, aiming to enable a safe and efficient connected and autonomous logistic chain through heavy-duty vehicles in real logistics operations. The project is developing and operating safe autonomous transportation systems (ATS) in a wide range of real-life logistic use cases, in a variety of different scenarios. With a strong focus on innovation, EasyMile is committed to revolutionizing transportation in diverse industries, including airports, campuses, and urban environments. By combining cutting-edge technology and deep industry expertise, EasyMile plays a key role in shaping the future of mobility. The AWARD consortium members, from 12 different countries, are leading companies and innovative, growing ones recognized for their real-world applications and expertise, as well as research organisations. This maturity and mix pave the way for the replicability and sustainability of project results.

You can follow AWARD on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) to keep updated with its next developments.

Project Factsheet

Duration:	1 January 2021 - 25 June 2024 (*end date - prolonged from 31st December)
Total cost:	€ 26 398 799,01
EC contribution:	€ 19 892 905,63
Coordinator:	EASYMILE
Partners:	CONTINENTAL TEVES AG & CO. OHG, KAMAG TRANSPORTTECHNIK GMBH & CO.KG, TERBERG BENSCHOP BV, SMART AIRPORT SYSTEMS, DEMATIC, DFDS AS, CENTRE D ETUDES ET D EXPERTISE SUR LES RISQUES L ENVIRONNEMENT LA MOBILITE ET L AMENAGEMENT, TEKNOLOGIAN TUTKIMUSKESKUS VTT OY, AIT AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GMBH, APPLIED AUTONOMY AS, DIGITRANS GMBH, ENIDE SOLUTIONS .S.L, IRU PROJECTS ASBL, ASSOCIATION CARA, NAVTECH RADAR LIMITED, BUSINESS UPPER AUSTRIA - OO WIRTSCHAFTSAGENTUR GMBH, ITS NORGE-NORSK FORENING FOR MULTIMODALE



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INTELLIGENTE TRANSPORT SYSTEMER OG TJENESTER - ITS NORWAY, LINZ CENTER OF MECHATRONICS GMBH, FH OO FORSCHUNGS & ENTWICKLUNGS GMBH, AVINOR AS, ADASKY LTD, FORESIGHT AUTOMOTIVE LTD, BRP-ROTAX GMBH & CO KG, CERTX AG, OTTOPIA TECHNOLOGIES LTD, AUSTRIATECH - GESELLSCHAFT DES BUNDES FÜR TECHNOLOGIEPOLITISCHE MASSNAHMEN GMBH, SCHENKER & CO AG, FRANCE AVIATION CIVILE SERVICES.

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