



European Rail
Infrastructure Managers



10th June 2008



EIM POSITION PAPER

COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN STATIONS

EIM Position Paper on Communication Devices in Stations

Introduction:

EIM has always maintained that the Technical Specifications for Interoperability should provide the minimum requirements necessary to achieve interoperability.

EIM believes that the TSI TAP (Telematic Applications for Passengers Subsystem) exists to enhance the information available to users of the European passenger rail system and to standardise the type of information given.

EIM further believes that the TSI should not determine the methods by which passenger information is given in stations.

Prescription of Passenger Information Systems

EIM believes that the TSI TAP (draft 0.3) has become too descriptive in nature with regards to the provision of information by Infrastructure Managers and 'Station Managers' to the Passenger.

In basic parameter 4.2.13 (formerly 20024) the TSI (0.3) describes information to be given via "board device display" and "automated voice announcement" systems. We strongly disagree with describing the methods of delivering the information and do not believe it is of benefit to passengers or helps to achieve the wider goal of railway interoperability.

The Station Manager, or entity responsible for delivering information to passengers in the station area, should solely decide how this information is delivered to the passengers. The only requirement being that the content provided is consistent with the requirements of this TSI as laid down in the remainder of basic parameter 4.2.13 and elsewhere. Further to this point, whilst the content may be specified, the layout of this information should also not be specified.

Location of Information

EIM also disagrees with specifying the location within the stations where information delivery must take place. Smaller stations and those with complex layouts may find it difficult to meet such a requirement and the cost implications at small stations would render the requirements far too costly and entirely unmanageable. Reference to the station's "Main Hall" and information to optionally be provided on platforms should be removed and the TSI should require only that information will be provided within the station complex.

Conclusion:

EIM does not accept that the method for delivering information to passengers in stations should be prescribed by law. We believe that the TSI should clearly state what information must be given to passengers, as a minimum requirement, and that the station manager should then decide the most appropriate means of delivering the necessary information.