

Press information



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E.ON, Vattenfall, T-Systems and Mitsubishi to join e-clearing.net

E.ON, Vattenfall, T-Systems and Mitsubishi issue a declaration of intent to the effect that they will join the open roaming platform for electromobility, e-clearing.net, as soon as it enters the market this summer. VERBUND AG from Austria is also looking into a cooperation agreement with the roaming platform. The initiators of the data hub are the Dutch foundation E-laad.nl, the Smartlab Innovationsgesellschaft and Blue Corner from Belgium. E-clearing.net has emerged from the flagship project Econnect Germany, which is co-financed by the German Ministry for the Economy and Energy (BMWi) in the context of the funding priority ICT for Electromobility II. The Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland (Government Service for Entrepreneurship - RVO, previously Agentschap NL) from The Netherlands is contributes to the implementation of this roaming platform for electric transport.

Aachen/Duiven. The charging infrastructure has to be simple and accessible as an open system across Europe.

This has been the case in the Netherlands since 2011. Using a single card that you can recharge your car at all publicly accessible charging stations, irrespective of whose charge station it is or who controls it. eViolin, which manages a Central Interoperability Register, is responsible for this. In other European countries interoperability is much less readily available. Motoring does not stop at the border. It should also be a matter of course that you should be able to use and charge your electric car in all countries. In certain locations you can now charge your car across the border, but this is based

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on bilateral agreements, with electric motorists often having to look for the charging stations designated for them.

This is to become easier with e-clearing.net

e-clearing.net – the open European platform

E-Clearing.net is a flexible platform where charging station operators, charging service providers and navigation service providers are linked to each other. By this means all the EV motorists of charging service providers are able to make use of all linked charging networks. Whether charging stations are occupied can also be seen in real time. E-Clearing.net offers extensive functionalities and a range of invoicing methods for flexible pricing of the charging process. There are no extra costs to the end-user. Invoicing is arranged mutually between the parties. With e-clearing.net it is also simple to cooperate with selected partners and not with others. This freedom of choice (for service providers and infrastructure managers) is included within E-clearing.net. The market partners conclude direct business relationships bilaterally with each other. Therefore, there are no other intervening partners in the value creation chain. In addition each participant decides independently on the choice of his business partner. There is no legal obligation.

E.ON, Vattenfall, T-Systems and Mitsubishi

Once the research funding comes to an end in the middle of the year and the results can be evaluated, the open roaming platform should be ready for the market. The energy companies E.ON SE, Vattenfall and VERBUND AG, the ICT service provider T-Systems and car manufacturer Mitsubishi Motors Automobile GmbH today issued a declaration of intent to the effect that they would like to join e-clearing.net as soon as the platform goes onto the market.

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E.ON provides recharging solutions for electromobility in 10 European markets and sees open-system roaming as an important service to its customers. “By this means E.ON will in future offer its customers an inexpensive charging card for Europe,” says Stephan Ramesohl, head of Innovation Portfolio Management at E.ON. “In exchange outside customers will have access to E.ON charging stations, independently of business hours.” In Denmark and Germany alone, E.ON operates almost 800 charging stations accessible to the public, along with several fast charging stations. Membership in e-clearing.net would offer E.ON many advantages. Through participation in a non-profit and open platform, inexpensive roaming can be achieved and jointly developed further for the end user. This is key for E.ON, as the market is currently still seeing high product and service costs. In addition competition is boosted by roaming solutions as the market gears up.

Vattenfall and ladenetz.de have cooperated for more than a year, with both partners allowing their customers to use each other’s public charging stations for electric cars. “The link to e-clearing.net opens up the opportunity for us to link our business activities in Germany and in The Netherlands through a single platform with our roaming partners,” says Joris Hupperets, head of E-Mobility business at Vattenfall. “We operate more than 350 public charging stations in the Amsterdam metropolitan region and more than 200 publicly accessible charging stations in Berlin and Hamburg. We would be pleased, if our customers were able to recharge cross-border in the future as a result.”

The hydro-power company VERBUND is constructing a country-wide network of publicly accessible charging stations in Austria under the brand name SMATRICS and with the emphasis on accelerated and fast charging. “Accessibility to charging stations for all electric vehicle drivers is extremely important for accepting the new technology,” says Wolfgang Pell, head of

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Innovation at VERBUND. “For this reason we are working with various partners and in research projects towards opening up our charging infrastructure and on cross-border linkage with other providers.” VERBUND is already cooperating with E.ON in research and demonstration projects with a view to creating a single accessible service for customers in Central Europe between Bratislava, Vienna, Salzburg and Munich. “We support all European initiatives that create added value for customers and at the same time make room for the providers to develop their respective business models” Pell says. VERBUND is also an active partner in the EU project Green eMotion for the development of Europe-wide roaming systems and is in consultation with other platforms.

T-Systems also wishes to further develop the platform along with partners and customers and take it ahead. “For years we have been involved in various projects around electromobility and combine all the telecom competences for vehicle networking in our field of business. Alongside connectivity and the corresponding E-Mobility services and apps, this includes an open and standardised operating platform. To that extent it makes sense to extend further our joint cooperation with smartlab in the field of e-clearing.net,” says Dr. Johannes Springer, head of technology in the company division Vernetztes Fahrzeug (networked vehicle).

The importer for Mitsubishi Motors in Germany, MMD Automobile GmbH, also intends to join the strong industrial association of partners in the fields of energy and IT. “We very much welcome the extension of a single recharging system to across the German borders,” says Dennis Lindroth, head of Fleet & Green Mobility. “With the Plug-in Hybrid Outlander we are currently introducing the next electric vehicle into Germany with the aim of linking up with this vehicle’s great success in our neighbouring country, The Netherlands. A single European recharging platform can make a considerable contribution to this effect. The drivers of electric vehicles will

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be able to increase their driving share with electricity from renewable energy at any time and anywhere and thus make a considerable contribution to cutting CO₂ on the road.”

Initiators: Smartlab, E-laad.nl and Blue Corner

Since 2012 smartlab with its initiative Ladenetz.de, E-laad.nl as the largest Dutch recharging infrastructure provider to the public with more than 2,900 charging stations, The New Motion (TNM), Estonteco and Blue Corner have tested an advanced prototype of e-clearing.net under the auspices of the Econnect Germany research project.

“E-clearing.net with the back up of the IT-System is to be operated on a cost-neutral basis. In other words, no returns are to be made from the platform itself,” says Dr. Mark Steffen Walcher, CEO of smartlab Innovationsgesellschaft mbH. In addition, no user or transaction charges will be levied, leading to the avoidance of additional roaming costs. The platform is to finance itself through the membership contributions of the participating parties. The intention is to set the contributions annually, assessing them on the basis of the size of the company, e.g. in the categories “small”, “medium” and “large”. The more members there are, the lower the contributions. The platform is an open system and all market participants are invited to participate in E-clearing.net. There are also plans to link up with other platforms.

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