Q-Free showcases standards-compliant solution for C-ITS communications

2 September 2016, Oslo Norway - New Universal ITS Station offers common solution for roadside and in-vehicle solutions; interfaces readily with other manufacturers' products

At this year's World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems, Q-Free's Universal ITS (U-ITS) Station will be helping to achieve two significant firsts. The outdoor demonstration area will host the first Cooperative ITS (C-ITS) showcase of its type in the southern hemisphere. It will also be the first implementation anywhere in the world on live intersections of C-ITS technology and applications using open, agreed standards.

The 2016 ITS World Congress takes place at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia over 10-14 October. The U-ITS Station will form the heart of the C-ITS display.

The U-ITS Station is a compact, comprehensive C-ITS solution providing full hybrid, ETSI/ISO-standard communications. It is available in roadside and in-vehicle versions that use many of the same components.

Its conformity with internationally agreed C-ITS standards enables ready interfacing with other manufacturers' technologies. This is significant — previous ITS World Congress outdoor demonstrations have featured proprietary standards or effectively represented a single supplier's product set.

During the ITS World Congress, U-ITS Station-equipped coaches travelling to and from the outdoor demonstration area will pass through a series of intersections. The roadside U-ITS Stations will broadcast standard messages including intersection map and traffic signal status (SPaT/MAP) roadside awareness messages (CAM) and roadside service announcements. A central ITS station will provide open web access, enabling smartphone, tablet or PC users to follow the demonstration live.

"The Universal ITS Station is the most technically advanced ITS product we have ever created," says Knut Evensen, Q-Free's Chief Technologist. "This is the third generation unit and it is now a very highly capable and — crucially — robust solution for the C-ITS environment. Interoperability testing with other manufacturers went entirely according to plan. Everything worked just fine, first time.

"What we now have is an effective, accessible, totally standards-compliant solution that is fully capable of supporting C-ITS pilots around the world. We've already achieved our first sales in this respect."

Q-Free will also be exhibiting within the main exhibition, on Stand 2117, and key members of staff will be on hand to talk about the U-ITS Station as well as the company's other solutions that support smarter mobility in both urban and inter-urban environments.