

DFRS and Euro NCAP join forces for safer roads in Europe

Seville, 20 May 2025 - Data for Road Safety (DFRS) and Euro NCAP signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during the 16th ITS European Congress 2025 in Seville. The MoU formalises their collaboration to enhance vehicle safety assessments through the integration of real-time road hazard data.

Euro NCAP, the European vehicle safety performance assessment programme, has introduced Local Hazard warnings as part of its Speed Assistance Systems requirements for vehicle performance assessment. The new [Euro NCAP 2026 Protocol on Safe Driving Vehicle Assistance](#) introduces additional elements, this time now on data sharing. It requires vehicle manufacturers to share Local Hazard warnings information to be awarded points for this element. The 2026 Protocol acknowledges both cloud-based and direct communication technologies as valid channels for sharing safety-relevant data. The Protocol states: "Cloud communication is foreseen to happen via mobile network. The reference cloud for this communication channel is the DFRS ecosystem. Direct Communication is foreseen to happen via direct short range communication standards (e.g., Wi-Fi ITS-G5 or C-V2X). The Vehicle Manufacturer shall self-declare fulfilment of the direct short range communication standards and demonstrate interoperability with C-ROADS deployment (where applicable)." The Protocol further acknowledges that a combined cloud and direct communication approach maximises road safety.

For each Local Hazard covered by the vehicle, the vehicle manufacturer is encouraged to demonstrate, by means of fulfilling the self-declaration forms developed by DFRS and Euro NCAP, that vehicle data is received, used and processed within the DFRS ecosystem. Hence vehicles equipped to share and receive road safety data through the DFRS ecosystem will be eligible to score points in the Euro NCAP safety rating system.

"This exclusive collaboration between DFRS and Euro NCAP is a real first for the automotive industry and will lead to the sharing of the most up-to-date and trusted safety data from vehicle manufacturers. This information will be used to create Local Hazard warnings as well as playing a vital role in our new 2026 testing protocols leading to long-term benefits for the safety of all European road users" says Richard Schram, Technical Director for Euro NCAP.

"DFRS is built as a cooperative platform between vehicle manufacturers, service providers, suppliers and road authorities. By enabling the trusted exchange of safety-related data, DFRS delivery a tangible contribution to the European Vision Zero with an ambition level of close to zero fatalities by 2050. This MoU with Euro NCAP marks a significant milestone. For the first time, data sharing for safety is part of the vehicle assessment protocol of Euro NCAP" says Joost Vantomme, chair of the DFRS General Assembly ecosystem.

"This collaboration is the result of a year-long effort between DFRS & Euro NCAP with the goal of enhancing road safety. The remarkable progress achieved underscores the dedication of both public and private entities in addressing this critical issue. The unwavering efforts of DFRS members and Euro NCAP at both the technical and non-technical level gives me confidence that this partnership will have a profound and lasting impact on road safety." mentions Mohanad Ismail, DFRS Tech Group Chair

The mission of the DFRS ecosystem is to improve road safety by maximizing the reach of safety-related traffic information generated by vehicles, road infrastructure, service providers and suppliers. Using the latest technologies such as direct communication and cloud-based communication, vehicles can detect and warn road users about dangerous road conditions.

However, the true benefit of these warnings can only be fully realized when they are shared with others and ultimately the road users. In this way, DFRS is one of the enablers for the European Commission Delegated Regulation 886/2013 on safety related traffic information warnings.

DFRS is also a member of the European Road Safety Charter, the largest civil society platform on road safety led by the European Commission. This commitment to collective action and knowledge-sharing reinforces the significance of the partnership with Euro NCAP, aligning road safety efforts to accelerate progress toward Vision Zero.

About Data for Road Safety (DFRS)

The mission of the DFRS ecosystem is to improve road safety by maximising the reach of safety-related traffic information powered by safety data generated by vehicles and road infrastructure operators. Alerts generated by vehicles, along with infrastructure data, are shared using a decentralised data collaboration architecture. The ecosystem is the institutional follow-up from the Data Task Force established by European transport ministers. A multi-party contractual framework is in force for the exchange of safety-related traffic information (SRTI) among the participants, and to create the SRTI events mentioned in the delegated Regulation 886/2013.

More information can be found here: www.dataforroadsafety.eu

About Euro NCAP

Euro NCAP is the European consumer vehicle safety performance assessment programme, based in Belgium and supported by national governments, the insurance industry and motoring and consumer organizations. Since 1997, through its five-star rating, it remains one of the most important catalysts for innovation in vehicle safety design.

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