

Traffic management collaborations in the Netherlands

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The Netherlands as a country is characterized by the river deltas of the Rhine, Meuse and Schelde, by a high population density and corresponding density in socio-economic regions. No surprise that the Netherlands struggles with an infrastructure that time by time cannot cope with the traffic streams and is in a serious need for traffic management.

After some decades on implementing traffic management instruments in the Netherlands new approaches are needed in both public-public collaboration and public-private collaboration. A new approach in public-public collaboration is necessary to overcome the hurdle of administrative borders in coordinated network wide traffic management. For this "sustainable traffic management" is an approach adopted over the last decade.

One step further a new approach in public-private collaboration is necessary for three reasons. First and short term reason is to overcome the hurdle of the many separate contracts that together cover the complex traffic management chain (from sensor up to the operator and back to the actuators) that operationalizes the services. Second reason is to get in pace with the development and introduction of new technologies that run fast and will change the ways road operators can manage traffic and public authorities can deal with the land use for road infrastructure. Strategic alliances and Servitisation are the new key words here.

Both the public-public and public-private cooperation models will be discussed.