Press release

Solita and Mobility Data Space:
Partnership for data-driven Smart City solutions

Munich, 26.09.2024. Which car parks in the city have free spaces? What are the weather and air quality like in the city centre? And how busy are the main shopping areas and visitor attractions? Mobility Data Space member Solita (www.solita.fi) can provide the answers with its 'Intelligent Urban Innovation' approach. Solita is an international consulting and IT firm with German offices in Berlin and Munich. The relevant data is collected from different sources, edited and displayed on a map. Cities and municipalities can easily include the map on their website, adding value for local residents and tourists alike. The data is also valuable for urban and traffic planning and traffic control.

An interface for different data sources

The projects implemented in Estonia and Belgium use the Solita solution to show current footfall, car park occupancy data and weather and air quality information. Obtaining data from different sources often means using multiple interfaces, resulting in complex IT requirements. But the process can be simplified if all the data can be obtained via a single interface like the Mobility Data Space (MDS, https://mobility-dataspace.eu). Funded by the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport, the MDS is a data marketplace for the secure and sovereign trading of mobility-related data. In addition to providing the technical platform, the MDS also hosts a community where members can share ideas, find partners, and develop innovative solutions. The MDS now has almost 200 participating organisations, including Solita.

Data space offers members multiple benefits

"The MDS offers us multiple benefits," says Solita's Sales Director Martin Zanker, who supports the DACH region out of the Munich office. "One advantage is that, with several data providers active in the marketplace, if we wish to obtain data sets from different MDS members, we and/or our customers can do so through a single interface, the EDC Connector. That saves us time and money." Since the MDS is a marketplace for mobility-*related* data, data providers are not restricted to offering pure mobility data. They can also provide data on the number of people in the vicinity of mobile phone masts, local weather, various measurements, local public transport timetables or car park occupancy (see https://mobility-dataspace.eu/data-catalogue#c4689). While there is a charge for certain data, some data is free – for example, the car park occupancy data that Solita obtains via the MDS from MobiData BW®. MobiData BW® is the cross-modal open data platform of the state of Baden-Württemberg that uses the MDS as an additional service platform to provide data.

Direct data exchange and trading between MDS members

The MDS member decide among themselves who can use their data and what the terms and conditions are, while the data flow between the members is also peer-to-peer (see illustration). Furthermore, the MDS incorporates the 'Mobilithek', a mobility library where mobility providers, infrastructure operators and transport authorities can upload timetable and traffic information. MDS members can use the same interface to access data from the Mobility Data Space and the Mobilithek.

### Mobility Data Space community drives innovation

Another benefit of the MDS is its community, which offers access to a wide range of events and consulting activities. It allows interested parties to come together in working groups and engage in networking and helps to match up data providers and data users. "Because the MDS is also of interest to local authorities, it is both

a showcase for our solution and a means of finding new data sources to expand our offer," says Martin Zanker. For example, real-time local public transport data such as the movements of buses or trams could be added to the interface, or it could display real-time information about congestion in the vicinity of roadworks.

Heidelberg illustrates benefits of Solita solution

Zanker urges local authorities to find out more about how Solita's solution can help them provide dynamic public information. "We use the example of Heidelberg to illustrate how local authorities can add value for the public without going to a lot of effort."

https://mobility-dataspace.eu
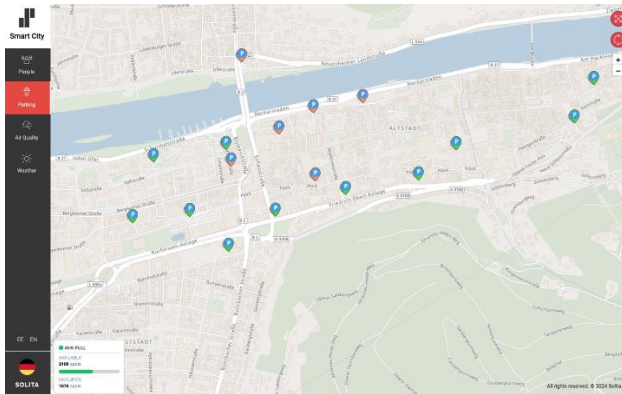
Solita's Intelligent Urban Innovation approach brings together different data in a user-friendly, web-enabled interface. Because the information it provides is dynamic, local authorities can add value for the public compared to conventional city information.

(Image: Solita)
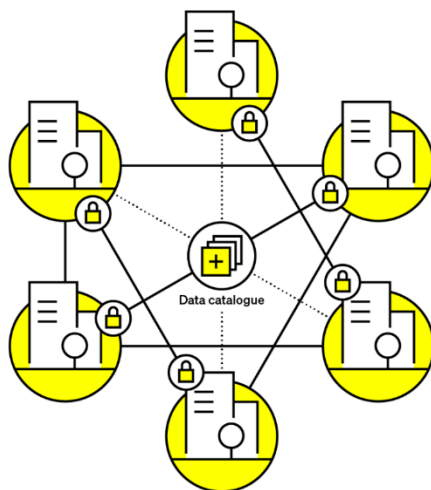
The Mobility Data Space provides a data catalogue with descriptions but does not store the data. In this secure, decentralised model, data is exchanged directly between the data space members.
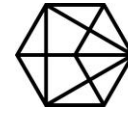
(Image: Mobility Data Space)

"The Mobility Data Space offers us multiple benefits," says Martin Zanker, Sales Director DACH at Solita Germany. Solita is a consulting and IT firm that employs around 2,000 people in Europe.

(Image: Solita)

To download the images please click here.

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About the Mobility Data Space:

The Mobility Data Space (MDS) is a data marketplace where partners in the mobility sector can exchange data on their own terms in order to enable and develop innovative, environmentally and user-friendly mobility concepts. The technical design of the MDS is being implemented in close coordination with European and national initiatives to ensure compatibility with the projects of Gaia-X and other European data spaces. The Mobility Data Space's operating company DRM Datenraum Mobilität GmbH – a limited company (German GmbH) without the intention of making a profit – grew out of a project initiated by acatech – National Academy of Science and Engineering. The MDS is funded by the Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport.

The operating company´s partners are the acatech Foundation, BMW INTEC Beteiligungs GmbH, Caruso GmbH, Deutsche Bahn AG, Deutsche Post AG, HERE Europe B.V., HUK-COBURG Haftpflicht-Unterstützungs-Kasse kraftfahrender Beamter Deutschlands a.G. in Coburg, Mercedes-Benz AG, VDV eTicket Verwaltungsgesellschaft mbH, Volkswagen Group Info Services AG and the states of Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria and North Rhine-Westphalia.

https://mobility-dataspace.eu

About Solita

Established in 1996, Solita is a technology, data, and design company dedicated to digital transformation. Empowering businesses and societies to reinvent themselves, the company focuses on advanced technology, data innovation, and human insight by offering strategic consulting, service design, software development, AI & analytics, and managed cloud services. A vibrant community of over 2,000 forward-thinkers, Solita operates in nine countries: Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Estonia, Belgium, Poland, Switzerland, and Germany.

www.solita.fi