



The Automotive Workshops are an opportunity for interactive discussion and to solve current implementation problems, and everyone is encouraged to participate. The nineteenth WorldDAB and RadioDNS Automotive Workshop was held online on 28th January 2025.

### **Update on Station logo and metadata accuracy**

There seems to be some misunderstanding on how to acquire logos and how often logos should be updated, and the question was asked if the group if they felt there was a clear and common understanding of the expected process.

It was suggested that there needs to be more specific co-ordination as well as creating a central resource to inform everyone. It was suggested that RadioDNS and WorldDAB create a website for broadcasters, manufacturers and drivers to report which station and in which vehicle they are seeing problems with station logos. This will allow for information to be relayed to broadcasters and manufacturers to help understand the extent (and improvements) in problems as well as giving drivers practical information on self-fixes.

Continuing with the failure points of getting the correct logos into cars, there was a discussion on the different screen real estate in the car requiring different sized logos and it was agreed that this could be a good starting point.

It was asked how the potential users would discover the website, and it was suggested that searches for 'wrong radio station logo in my car' should lead them to it.

The summary was that even though the intention is to do the right thing, there are problems and this might help identify where those problems lie within the supply chain and it was agreed this should move forward.

## **Very long lists of radio services**

It was identified that full scans of DAB radios in some locations can bring up a list of hundreds of stations and there was a discussion on how these could be limited - ie by specifying stations from a particular country or category (although it was highlighted that many stations do not categorise themselves).

One way of helping could be that duplicate services could be removed and it was mentioned that the way stations are listed on multiplexes is also not helpful for a listener.

UX Guidelines were mentioned on how station lists should be sorted according to the Unicode UAC guidelines. There should be an approach that disincentivises stations using inappropriate punctuation and non-alphabetical characters to try and gain prominence in the list.

The problem of inconsistent signalling of traffic announcements was discussed. There are two interlocking problems; some broadcasters do not send traffic announcements on DAB when they do on FM, but some vehicles respond inappropriately to **any** traffic announcement which creates unhelpful and frequent interruptions to listening for the driver.

## **Mandating the provision of DAB+ in the Gulf States**

There has been information from the Gulf Corporation Council that they are harmonising how they do radio, including DAB+ across the Gulf state. There was further discussion on using arabic characters and which alphabet should be first in the list.

## **Broadcast Radio app development**

There was a discussion about the most appropriate way to integrate broadcast radio and broadcasters apps. One approach would be to try and integrate broadcast radio control into broadcasters apps, but it was clear that the broadcaster app developers don't have experience of working in radio to make it work properly, and don't want to build up these skills and experience. There was a discussion on innovation versus knowledge and also on how people listen to the radio as well as who is responsible for the product, feature owner and owner of outcomes.

There is work continuing so apps work together properly, specifically on demand and podcasts in broadcasters own app, which hopefully reduced the risk that people stop caring about broadcast radio apps. It was asked if there was merit in ranking interfaces and how well they comply with usability guidelines and it was also stated that consistency is important as well as radio experiences that drivers like and find easy to use, and work the way broadcasters expect them to work and functionality needs to be looked at first.

## **User experience guidelines**

Discussion from participants who have looked at these guidelines, and the group was encouraged to look at them.