Status Report of the Informal Working Group on Validation Methods for Automated Driving (VMAD)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Working Party on Automated/Autonomous and Connected Vehicles (GRVA)
September 21-25, 2020
WebEx
Purpose

- To provide a status update on the work of the Validation Methods for Automated Driving (VMAD) Informal Working Group (IWG). Specifically the following:
  - Deliverables,
  - VMAD Sessions since January 2020,
  - New Assessment/Test Methods Master Document,
  - Next Steps
Based on the Framework document, VMAD has the following deliverables to GRVA/WP.29:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The test and assessment (including CEL) for Automated Lane Keeping Systems (ALKS) of SAE levels 3/4 compatible as a new UN Regulation for contracting parties to the 1958 agreement*</td>
<td>Completed – March 2020</td>
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<td>2. Review of the existing and upcoming methods and a proposed way forward for the assessment of automated driving (AD)</td>
<td>Completed – March 2020</td>
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<td>3. New assessment/test method (NATM) of AD</td>
<td>March 2021</td>
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Recent VMAD Sessions

- VMAD has held regular VMAD Teleconferences
  - Since May 2020, VMAD has held six VMAD teleconferences as well as multiple sub-groups meetings and VMAD leadership meetings
  - Approximately 80 individuals from contracting parties (CPs), NGOs and industry have attended each of these WebEx VMAD sessions
  - VMAD sessions have been focused on developing the NATM Master Document
Recent VMAD Sessions

• VMAD Agreed Approach
  o Agreement to develop the methodologies from high level description first then providing more details
    o description of the different pillars and elements
    o description of the relations - between these pillars and elements
    o description of the (dis)advantages of the different pillars and maturity
    o high level description of the content of the pillars
    o Integration between pillars and with the functional requirements developed by FRAV
  o Agreement on the structure of Master document
  o Start with validation of NATM for Highway systems

• VMAD issues for further (internal) discussion e.g.
  o How to develop in-use monitoring/evaluation
  o Description of Audit which meets both 58 and 98 agreements
Relationship between FRAV and VMAD

REQUIREMENT DEFINITION

FRAV

Pass/Fail Performance Requirement(s)

“High Level”

“Detailed”

ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

VMAD

Test/Assessment Procedure(s)
Continued collaboration between VMAD and FRAV

- More than 90% of the participants attended both FRAV & VMAD
- Discussions and work by FRAV continues to inform VMAD’s work and vice versa
- Agreement to establish regular check-ins (monthly at minimum)
- Agreement that both groups start with high level descriptions of functional requirements (FRAV) and assessments and test methods (VMAD)
- Agreement that elements of FRAV and VMAD should be similar and Annex 1 of the Framework document should be amended to reflect this in the future
- Agreement to address «system safety» first at FRAV then at VMAD
In May at VMAD-6, a draft NATM Master Document was tabled.

The NATM Master Document outlines the various sections of the NATM. When completed, the document will be structured as follows:

1. **The first portion of the document is a high level framework of the NATM, including:**
   - Scope and general overviews of each of the pillars (scenarios catalogue, audit, simulation/virtual testing, test-track, and real-world testing); and,
   - Overall process of the NATM (e.g., how the pillars of the NATM operate together, producing an efficient, comprehensive, and cohesive process).

2. **The second portion of the document will map out the process for how specific functional requirements are assessed by the NATM.**
   - As part of this work, VMAD, in consultation with FRAV, will outline how the pillars correspond with the functional requirements indicated in the FRAV-05 document.
• Since VMAD-6, VMAD and its sub-groups have held meetings to revise and further develop the NATM Master Document. A revised version of the NATM Master Document is currently under development.
  o The new version of the NATM Master Document will work from the pillar-specific concept papers which have been advanced by the sub-groups.

• To ensure the NATM Master Document is completed in a systematic and timely fashion, VMAD and its sub-groups have initiated the development of workplans.
  o Workplans include outstanding questions and action items for further development of various technical aspects of the NATM (e.g. scenarios catalogue).

• As work progresses, the NATM Master Document will continue to evolve to a level of maturity sufficient enough for VMAD to then begin more detailed deliberations, and edits to the NATM describing how the pillars will be integrated and applied to meet the specific needs of parties under both the 1958 and 1998 Agreements.
Considerations for GRVA

• Extension of ALKS
  VMAD agenda is already more than full, VMAD is committed to deliver the deliverable by March 2021. It is anticipated that VMAD work may overspill after March 2021.

• Framework Document
  Elements for VMAD and FRAV are different in Annex 1 of the Framework Document. Annex 1 of the Framework document should be amended to reflect that elements of FRAV and VMAD should be similar
Next Steps

• VMAD and its sub-groups will continue to work together to:
  o Integrate the work done by each sub-group to further revise the NATM Master Document for submission to GRVA in February 2021
  o Scope out and implement workplans to further develop the NATM Master Document.

• Recognizing the synergies between FRAV and VMAD, the two IWGs will continue to collaborate to advance our respective workplans

• VMAD deliverables for discussion at next GRVA
  o Draft NATM Master Document
  o List of open issues as appropriate including possible future work
Upcoming VMAD Sessions

VMAD will hold the following upcoming sessions

- 13th VMAD IWG Session – October 9, 2020 (virtual)
- 14th VMAD IWG Session – November 5-6, 2020 (virtual)
- Possible VMAD IWG Session – December, 2020 (TBC)
- VMAD IWG Session – January 15-16, 2021
Thank you!