



First in Safety, Security and Services

PRESS RELEASE

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ROAD SAFETY: eCALL IS NOW MANDATORY FOR ALL NEWLY TYPE-APPROVED CARS. FOR ALL THE REST, LEAVE IT TO VIASAT!

The categorical imperative is to cut the number of road victims by half. This is why, **after years of postponement, starting from March 31 in all of Europe, newly type-approved vehicles will have to be equipped with eCall**, an abbreviation of "emergency call". It is an electronic device that activates in case of emergency or accident, and automatically sends a georeferenced call to an Operations Center that is reachable from all of Europe by calling the number 112. The logic is very simple: **eCall is a system response to what motorists cannot or are unable to do by themselves, that is, make an immediate emergency call**. Intervening in a matter of minutes can often make the difference between life and death. It is estimated that the speed of rescue interventions can be improved by up to 40% in cities and 50% outside cities.

All well and good, were it not for the fact that **the measure specifically speaks of "newly type-approved vehicles" which does not include the vast majority of the vehicles already circulating on Italian and European roads**, which are equally deserving of a Safety, Protection and Assistance response.

In this sense, the Italian leadership in vehicle telematics is undisputed, having pioneered both the production of technological equipment and the relevant management infrastructure.

"Such a device for cars, in fact, is not really a novelty - explains Domenico Petrone, President of Viasat Group - also because it is connected to the widespread use of satellite anti-theft services, which have been developed by Viasat since the second half of the eighties. These telematics devices are performing better and better, offering features like automatic alarm in case of crash and hands-free assistance calls from the Viasat Operations Center (24/7). This solution is available both bundled with insurance policies and as an after-market personal assistance device.


And let's not forget the famous "Black Box", **sosCall 2.0 and sosCall 2.2**. The latter can provide drivers with preventive information on the potential risks of different routes depending on a series of monitored factors such as traffic, speed limits, weather conditions, dangerous roads (*Red Points*) and accident-prone road sections (*ANIA/Viasat BlackPoints*). The latest frontier of this type of device is **sosCall 3.1**, created specifically for Generali Italia in its commercial version, known as Generali Live".

Today, Viasat is pioneering the use of infotelematics technology with a support service based on the georeferenced locating of vehicles through 2 operations centers with over 120 employees operating 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, which manage almost 2 million calls and over 500,000 customers in Italy alone.

In short, if the safety of all newly type-approved cars is now a standard, **let Viasat take care of the others!**

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