

Market-X 2023 Vienna: Gaia-X momentum in automobility – GX Digital Clearing House goes live

By Chris Schlueter Langdon, 2023-03-02

Dataspace Expo: A United Nations of the Auto World

It felt like a UN meeting crossed with an auto show, but focused on dataspace. Market-X participants from around the world met on “neutral” ground in Austria for a series of talks, demonstrations and social events. Market-X, organized by Gaia-X, brought together influential policymakers, dataspace pioneers including the International Data Spaces Association (IDSA), leading projects such as the Gaia-X 4 Future Mobility (GX4FM) family, first dataspace operators like the Mobility Data Space, consultants like Detecon, and important vendors like Google.

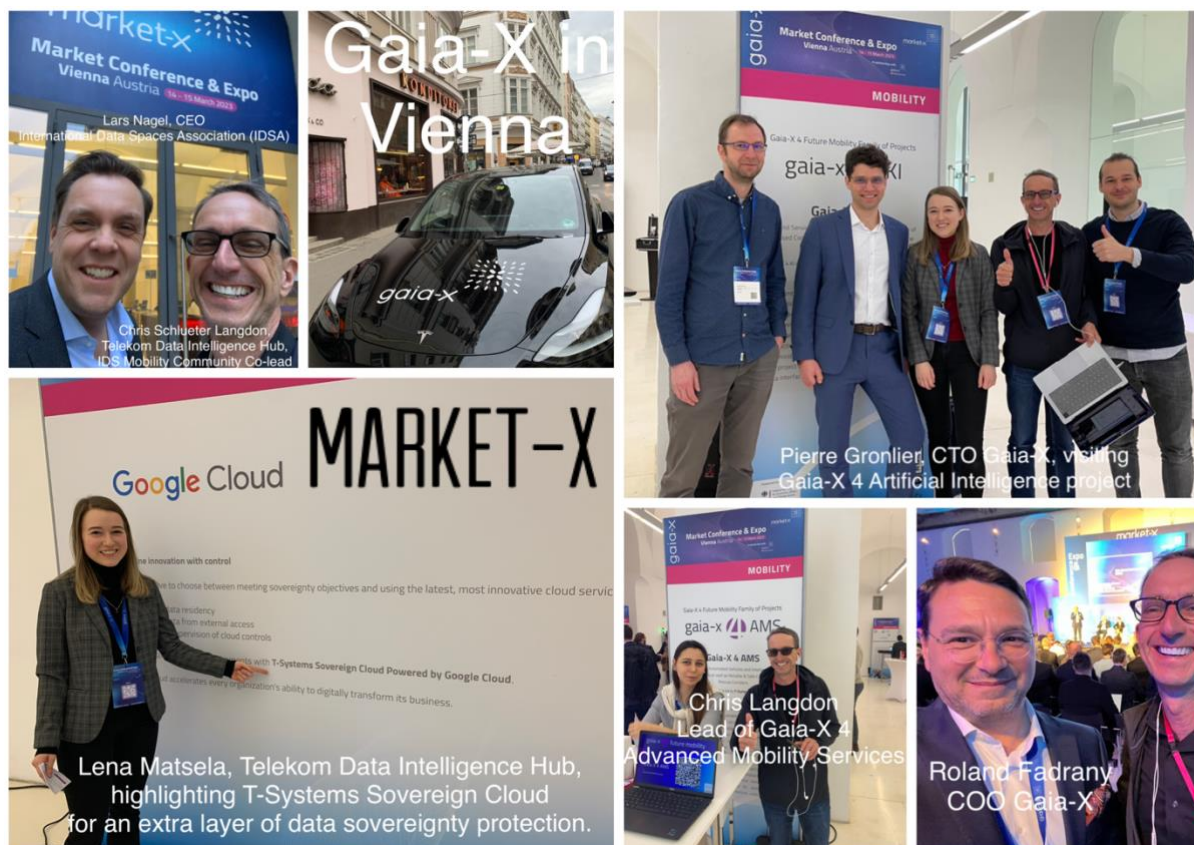


Figure 1: Impressions from conference venue and showroom floor

Historic venue

The Market-X Conference & Expo was organized by Gaia-X and its Austrian Hub, and held in Vienna in March 2023. Vienna, with its rich history of being a crossroads of culture and

commerce for centuries, was an excellent location for this pan-European event with many different stakeholders, including policymakers, entrepreneurs and innovators, such as hyperscaler Google. Held in the “Aula der Wissenschaften” (“Auditorium of Sciences”), a modern facility and one of Vienna’s top event locations blending state-of-the-art with historic features, such as the ceiling fresco in the Jesuit Hall and large glass surfaces on the ground floor. The conference itself stretched across three floors:

- A project exhibition floor with stations for GX4FM family offspring projects, including the lead GX4 Artificial Intelligence project (GX4AI; see Figure 1 for Gaia-X CTO Pierre Gronlier visiting the stand of GX4AI), and GX 4 Advanced Mobility Services (GX4AMS; see Figure 1 with GX4AMS information stand).
- A trade show floor with vendor booths and snack buffet, refreshments and espresso machines.
- The auditorium floor with a wide center stage for big talks and powerful panels (see Figure 2 with a panel for the unveiling of the Gaia-X clearing house, GXDCH).



Figure 2: Sven Loeffler of Telekom DIH with the world premiere of a commercial GXDCH service

A Dataspace Who’s Who

There were frequent sighting of dataspace stars. A few recognizable names:

- Gaia-X C-level leadership was available around the clock, allowing participants to network, ask questions, and engage in discussions. This included Francesco Bonfiglio (CEO), Roland Fadrany (COO), and Pierre Gronlier (CTO).
- Dataspace experts and policymakers up close and personal, including Ernst Stoeckl-Pukall (Head of Division Digitization, Industrie 4.0, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, BMWK), Maximilian Ahrens (Deutsche Telekom

and Chairman BoD Gaia-X), IDSA's Lars Nagel (CEO), Ulrich Ahle (CEO Fiware), Klaus Ottradovetz (Atos), professors like Frank Köster, Founding Director of the AI Institute of the German Aerospace Center, and Sven Loeffler from T-Systems.

Market-X milestone: Introducing clearing house services

If there is one primary objective required of a dataspace, it is the ability to exchange data while maintaining data sovereignty (Otto et al. 2019). Data sovereignty is the power to control one's rights to data (Lauf et al. 2022). It refers to the concept that data is subject to the laws and governance of the jurisdiction where it was created or resides. Data sovereignty is important for at least two reasons: For one, it protects the privacy and security of a person's (individual as well as legal) data and ensures that their data is being used in accordance with the laws and regulations of the relevant jurisdiction. It also helps to prevent unauthorized access, use, and transfer of data by governments, companies, and other entities. Secondly, providing data sovereignty protection permits data to flow; it removes barriers to data sharing and allows for better data for analytics and artificial intelligence applications. Part and parcel to data sovereignty is compliance with Gaia-X rules. And this is where the Gaia-X Digital Clearing House or GXDCH comes in: The GXDCH is a node of verification of the Gaia-X rules; it is the go-to solution to obtain Gaia-X compliance and become part of the Gaia-X ecosystem. "The GXDCH offers a one-stop solution for verifying compliance with the Gaia-X rules in an automated way. The event featured the announcement of the first two GXDCH nodes: Aruba and T-Systems. "T-Systems has become one of Europe's first Gaia-X Digital Clearing House node providers. By providing this infrastructure, T-Systems aims to support the development of innovative digital solutions that can drive economic growth and competitiveness in Europe while maintaining strong data protection standards and transparency on sovereignty standards," declared Maximilian Ahrens, Chairman BoD Gaia-X and SVP T-Digital, Telekom Deutschland" (Gantner 2023).

Learn more about our pioneering dataspace projects

- **What** is it: For a C-level 1-pager, [link](#), and a Dataspace Top 10 overview, [link](#)
- **How** to get started: Check out our Digital.ID and dataspace connectivity solutions, [link](#)
- First **use cases** such as Umati ([link](#)) and intermodal mobility ([link](#))

References

Otto, B., S. Steinbuss, A. Teuscher, and S. Lohmann. 2019. Reference Architecture Model Version 3.0 (April). International Data Spaces Association, Berlin, [link](#)

Gantner, C. 2023. Market-X Conference & Expo: Gaia-X Digital Clearing House (GXDC) a success for the industry. Press release (2023-03-20), Gaia-X European Association for Data and Cloud AISBL, Bruxelles, [link](#)

Lauf, F., S. Scheider, J. Bartsch, P. Herrmann, M. Radic, M. Rebbert, A. T. Nemat, C. Schlueter Langdon, R. Konrad, A. Sunyaev, and S. Meister. 2022. Linking Data Sovereignty and Data Economy: Arising Areas of Tension. Best Paper Award at the 17th International Conference on Wirtschaftsinformatik (WI22), [link](#)