EDITORIAL

Welcome to the new edition of this well-accepted information tool of the World Road Association and its National Committees.

Starting my work as a Representative of National Committees after Luzern World Road Association meetings in October 2012, I find that one of the necessary activities to be continued after the successful work of Friedrich Zotter and Florian Matiasek is publishing the Newsletter. And here is the 32nd edition. With your contributions you continue showing that communication and cooperation of NC’s is one of the basic objectives in our everyday work.

The Newsletter is about making our World Road Association society aware of various activities that most of the World Road Association National Committees perform. It is important that all these events are well-known well within the World Road Association Community and outside of the association. Due to the fact that some expectations were not fulfilled, I think that further discussions need to show us the right direction to improve our common effectiveness:

• Positioning of NCs in the new Marketing Strategy;
• Evaluating the actual status of the NCs;
• Participating in several major World Road Association related events, related to promotion of the World Road Association;
• Strategic prospective thinking about new ideas on the forms of cooperation and activities of the NCs;
• Joint activities or events undertaken between two NCs;
• Special attention to non-active NCs;
• Implementing National Committees Award;
• Defining elements for Supporting new marketing strategy;
• Supporting representation of small National Committees;
• Upgrading the guide "Why and how to create a NC".

The Newsletter will continue providing you with additional information on the activities of NCs, reminding you of interesting events and showing you examples of good practice. I am glad that the newsletter is again presented in all three languages for what I need to thank all those who continue making it possible to have all news presented multilingual. I would like all of you to participate actively in this communication tool which has proved its efficiency in providing us with information and resources to promote your activities.

Bojan Leben, Representative of the World Road Association National Committees
**AUSTRIA**

9th ASTRAD-Symposium and “Austrokommunual 2013” Trade Fair on Road Management and Winter Maintenance  
17-18 April 2013, Wels, Austria

For the 9th time the ASTRAD-Symposium on Road Management and Winter Maintenance will be held on 17-18 April 2013 in Wels, province of Upper Austria. More than 150 exhibitors are expected to welcome 2500 professionals from the road management and winter maintenance sector at this biennial “Austrian Winter Road Congress”. The newest developments in equipment and technology for road operation and winter service will be presented in several technical sessions and in an exhibition area of 20,000 sqm indoor and outdoor at free admission for registered visitors. The new concept since 2011 does foresee an enhanced approach on urban and community issues by merging the Symposium with the “Austrokommunual Trade Fair”. Information is provided via the Austrian National Committee at [www.fsv.at/piarc/index.html](http://www.fsv.at/piarc/index.html) or visit directly [www.astrad.org](http://www.astrad.org) for further information.

**BELGIUM**

22nd Belgian Road Congress  
11-13 September, 2013, Liège, Belgium

Held every four years for more than 80 years and organized by the Belgian Road Association (Belgian National Committee), the Belgian Road Congress is the meeting place for all professionals who are involved in the construction, maintenance, operation and use of the road.

The Congress program is organized around 18 themes that will provide a comprehensive overview of road mobility today: construction, maintenance, operation as well as road safety, financing, environmental impact and customer service. The approach is resolutely pragmatic highlighting innovations, focusing on best practices and promoting the expertise of companies and administrations from all regions, provinces and municipalities of Belgium active in the road sector.

In addition to the sessions, the exhibition organized in the frame of the Congress offers to public and private actors a unique opportunity to present their products and achievements and to establish contacts for future collaborations. In the same way, the cultural evening and the closing banquet will be an opportunity for all participants to develop professional relationships and friendships.

For more information please visit: [http://www.congresdelaroute.be/](http://www.congresdelaroute.be/)

**BOTSWANA**

6th Africa Transportation Technology Transfer (T2) Conference Africa 2013  
4-8 March 2013, Gaborone, Botswana

At the beginning of March The Ministry of Transport and Communications, Botswana in collaboration with the Association of Southern African National Road Agencies (ASANRA) and other stakeholders in the transport sector worldwide organized the 6th Africa International Transportation Technology Transfer Conference. The Conference Theme was “Effective Management of Transport Infrastructure for Economic Recovery in Africa”.

The conference is a forum intended to share, exchange and debate experiences, best practices, and new technologies in the provision, maintenance and management of all modes of transport. It is also a forum for sharing and exchange existing and new approaches in technology transfer that enables countries to develop effective management of transport infrastructures, which are safe, efficient, reliable and affordable. The main objectives of the 6th edition of the conference were:

- promoting technology transfer for developing sustainable transportation systems in Africa,
- promoting establishment and operations of technology transfer centres as a means to facilitate effective technology transfer in the transport sector,
- providing a forum for discussion and exchange of views as well as learning from experiences, best practices and innovative solutions in the transportation industry.
ECUADOR

XVII CLATPU Congreso Latinoamericano de Transporte Público y Urbano
8-12 April 2013, Guayaquil, Ecuador

This year’s congress is organized under the theme “Mobility, growth, equity and social inclusion: transport challenges in the knowledge society”. Topics, debated at the congress will be as follows:

• planning and transport economics,
• transportation funding,
• political, regulatory and institutional (new fields, new authorities),
• new systems, the tricycle to BRT,
• managing the operation of public transport (technology to regulation),
• transit and urban transport,
• road Safety,
• mobility and equity,
• environment, energy alternatives and technological developments,
• urban transport cargo.

For more information please visit http://www.clatpu.org (in Spanish).

GERMANY

Conference on Asphalt Pavements 2013
14–15 May 2013, Düsseldorf, Germany

The Road and Transportation Research Association (FGSV) cordially invites professionals working in this sector to attend the Conference on Asphalt Pavements 2013 in Düsseldorf, where the latest developments in the field of asphalt pavement construction will be examined from a variety of angles.

The first series of papers will be entitled From research to technical standards and specifications. The focus here will be on the way that binder and asphalt properties, which are determined in the laboratory, can be implemented in standards and specifications in the form of requirements.

The second series of papers will focus on new standards and specifications and on how durable and silent asphalt pavements have found—or will in the future find—their way into standards and specifications. We also look forward with great anticipation to a paper on the research project on controlled, automated road construction.

Future technical standards and specifications for asphalt pavements will be presented in the third and final series of papers. Here, performance asphalt is the key word for a paradigm shift in terms of the description of requirements relating to asphalt construction material and asphalt roads. We also look forward to papers on new approaches to quality assurance in asphalt pavement construction and on carbon footprint in the push to make road construction more environmentally friendly.

The historical Museum Kunstpalast building complex is beautifully situated. Our conference will take place in the fascinating, unmistakeable surroundings of the Robert-Schumann-Saal and the foyer. The Robert-Schumann-Saal is situated in the new wing of the Museum Kunstpalast. It was designed by the famous architect Prof. O. M. Unger and is used for temporary exhibitions.

We look forward to seeing you in Düsseldorf!

GREECE

According to the ELSTAT final data for 2011 road fatalities in Greece in 2011 have decreased by 9% in relation to 2010, with the deep economic crisis having an impact on this decrease. During the last decade, road fatalities in Greece have decreased by 39% whereas serious injuries decreased by 50%. The rate of fatalities per number of vehicles has decreased over the same period by 61%.
In the second half of 2012 and at the beginning of 2013 Italy had the privilege to host several meetings of World Road Association Technical Committees, namely:

- Committee TC 3.3 Road Tunnel Operations, October 2, 2012, Rome
- Committee TC 1.2 Financing, October 8-9, 2012, Rome
- Committee TC 2.2 Improving urban mobility, November 8-9, 2012, Bologna

As in the past, the Italian National Committee attended the annual meeting of AGRISTRADE on winter, held in Vienna from 30 November to 2 December 2012. Our Vice President, Maria Pia Cerciello took advantage of this opportunity to promote the XIVth International World Road Association Winter Road Congress to be held in Andorra in February 2014. Again, with respect to the said, Italian experts submitted abstracts on various topics planned for winter maintenance.

Finally, we are organizing a World Road Association Technical Committee TC 2.5 Rural Road Systems and Accessibility to Rural Areas meeting that will be held from 16-17 May, 2013 in Rome, Italy.

On 7th December 2012, the Japanese National Committee held the OECD-ITF International Joint Seminar with the OECD Joint Transport Research Centre (JTRC), and the National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management (NILIM) of Japan. JTRC members presented the results of Roundtable on road funding and Working Groups on bicycle safety and evaluation of effectiveness by road safety measures, followed by active discussions with participants.

The 3rd TC Meeting of TC 1.5 Risk Management will be held on 28-29 May 2013 in Osaka. In conjunction with the meeting, the Japanese NC will hold the International Workshop on Risk Management of Road on 29-30 May, 2013 in the Osaka International House Foundation. Road-related professionals from Japan and abroad will be invited to the Workshop.

The 30th Japan Road Conference will be held on 30-31 October, 2013 in Tokyo and its International Session will be on Technical Standards of Road. The session will be reserved for road-related professionals from Japan and Asian countries.

The Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia (REAAA) promotes the science and practice of road engineering and related professions in the Asia Pacific region. The conference theme, The Road Factor in Economic Transformation will allow highway and road authorities, experts and practitioners from around the globe to deliberate upon and exchange ideas on the topics of road and transportation infrastructure development as a stimulus for socio-economic advancement of a country.

For more information contact: http://14reaaconf2013.com

Bringing together the African transport sector from governments to major end users; from investors to transport operators! It is Africa's only railway and transport conference and exhibition with attendees from all over Africa. It is supported by government and industry alike.

Read more about the event at: http://www.terrapiin.com/exhibition/transportandinfrastructureshow/index.stm.
**SPAIN**

**Conference on Improvement of Containment Systems for Existing Bridges**

21st February 2013, Madrid, Spain

This conference was aimed at professionals specialized in bridges, containment systems, maintenance and management of linear infrastructure. Its goal was to share knowledge and views among experts manufacturing sector containment elements and design, construction and maintenance of bridges, as well as administrations or concessionaires. The new National and European regulatory developments compel us to employ safer and more specific elements and systems containment, offering the major guarantees. Attendees also received a book entitled: *Improvement of Containment Systems for Existing Bridges*.

More information is available at: [http://www.intertraffic.com](http://www.intertraffic.com)

**TURKEY**

**Intertraffic Istanbul 2013**

29-30 May 2013, Istanbul, Turkey

Intertraffic is the number one trade fair in traffic and transport industry. Since its launch in 1972, Intertraffic Amsterdam has become the platform of choice for professionals from around the world to meet. It is a biennial event and helps professionals to stay up to date on the developments in the fields of infrastructure, traffic management, safety and parking. The world’s leading companies premier their latest products and techniques during a 4-day revelry of business gatherings and learning opportunities.

Other NC activities and examples of good practice

**GREECE**

The Road Observatory of the National Technical University of Athens has made an announcement that the Greek "εΚΛΗΣΗ" project is in the final stages of creating an automatic warning system in case of a traffic accident. The first tests of the automatic emergency call system (eCall) within the frame of the pilot national research project eΚΑΛΗΣΗ ([http://www.ecall-hellas.eu](http://www.ecall-hellas.eu)) have been successfully concluded.

The national project eΚΑΛΗΣΗ prepares Greece for the implementation of the eCall service which will be compulsory for all EU member-states at the end 2014.

**JAPAN**

**Japan’s World Road Association seminars**

Every year, the Japanese National Committee (NC) holds a World Road Association Report Seminar for World Road Association members and road-related experts in Japan with the purpose of sharing the knowledge and activities of each Technical Committee (TC). The current TCs started in 2012 and the first Report Seminar of the term was held on 4th March 2013 in Tokyo. Japanese members from the fifteen TCs reported their activities.
Concrete pavements have always been identified with the concept of durability, low maintenance and a longer life. Apart from these features there are other characteristics that are worth mentioning: it is a technique linked to sustainability, resulting from the use of local natural resources and its ability to be a recyclable material. Concrete pavement helps to achieve a high level of comfort and safety on the road, lower lighting costs or a reduction in CO₂ emissions (even capturing and improving the balance of emissions). Its lighter surface reduces the greenhouse effect, contributing to global cooling (Albedo effect). Although the construction costs may result in certain cases slightly higher than those of other solutions, a complete analysis shows that, by their reduced maintenance costs, concrete pavements are the best solution in the medium and long term.

NC Publications and software

AUSTRALIA

Impact of Roadside Advertising on Road Safety
The report on Impact of Roadside Advertising on Road Safety provides guidance principles designed to mitigate the potential for roadside advertising to capture attention, reduce the cognitive capacity available for driving and have a negative impact on driving performance.

Development of Long-term Ageing Test Method for Sprayed Sealing Binders
The study aimed to develop a more robust long-term ageing test method for sprayed seal binders and resolve the issues of equipment sustainability and testing time duration associated with the current Australian test method.

Stone Mastic Asphalt Technical Reports
In January 2013 the long-term Austroads research project TT1353 Asphalt Properties and Mix Design published four technical reports on stone mastic asphalt (SMA). SMA is a coarse gap-graded hot mix asphalt with a binder rich mastic, it is considered a superior asphalt mix with proven performance. The reports were as follows:

- A Study of Stone Mastic Asphalt Bulk Density Measurement;
- Compaction and Permeability of Stone Mastic Asphalt in the Laboratory;
- Mastic Performance Assessment in Stone Mastic Asphalt;

SPAIN

Course on Road Surfaces, Materials, Design and Rehabilitation
The Spanish National Committee has launched an online edition of the Course on Road Surfaces, Materials, Design and Rehabilitation for Latin America with great success. With 12 European Credit Transfer System Credits (ECTS credits) duration, students who finished the course, will receive a certificate of achievement awarded by the World Road Association Spanish National Committee.

Click on this link for information on the course on our website: [http://www.atc-piarc.com/jornadas.php](http://www.atc-piarc.com/jornadas.php).

Preparation of World Road Association Winter Road Congress is going well and according to plan. Organizers from Andorra are informing us that the deadline for submission of abstracts for papers has expired. Those of you that submitted an abstract will be notified about the result of the call by 1st April 2013. Topics of the congress are:

- winter service and climate change;
- costs and benefits of winter service in a constraint budgetary context;
- extreme events in winter time;
- winter service management;
- operational approaches, equipment and products for winter conditions;
- the road user in winter conditions;
- road tunnels in winter conditions;
- road bridges in winter conditions.

Visit the website http://aipcrandorra2014.desenvolupament.ad for more information:

www.aipcrandorra2014.org

25th World Road Congress Seoul 2015
2 – 6 November 2015, Seoul (South Korea)

Our World Road Association colleagues from South Corea have informed us about the ongoing preparations for the 2015 World Road Association World Road Congress which will take place at Coex Convention & Exhibition Center in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The Organizing Committee is in preparation and will be established by July 2013.

Official website of the congress has been launched recently but of course with the majority of topics still under construction. So, from now on further information will be available at the official website of the congress http://www.piarcseoul2015.org or on the website of the Korean National Committee:

www.piarc.or.kr/eng/

Your opinions and comments to
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