

Editorial	Members facts and figures
Focus on events	Upcoming ECTRI events
ECTRI facts and figures	

Editorial



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One of the ECTRI missions is the training of young researchers to form a new generation of scientists who will help to strengthen the European Research Area. The current worldwide scenario in transport research is more and more challenging and Europe is increasingly becoming a "country" with a main role in the scientific research. The rapidly evolving context in which the researchers are working requests an increasing ability in managing complex systems and dealing with multidisciplinary background.

This aim could be obtained if the knowledge inside each researcher will grow through ad hoc programmes. In this case, the exchange of points of view and the sharing of the learned topics to enlarge their vision and increase their capacity in doing research and solving the problems will be assured. Thus, the sharing of the knowledge, in our vision, should be an objective strongly pursued in the training programme and the transfer of knowledge should also be conceived as transfer from a young researcher to another. The increased efficiency of knowledge transfer will have the effect of creating better information and data sharing as well creating a synergy at play.

Another important point related to the young scientists' training is the transfer of knowledge from experienced to early stage researchers. Thus, the transfer of knowledge involves the experienced researchers and has a precise and unique aim: to transfer the tacit knowledge. Knowledge exists on a continuum from explicit to tacit. At one end of the continuum is knowledge that can be laid out in procedures, steps, and checklists - explicit knowledge. At the other end of the continuum is knowledge that is primarily in the heads of people - tacit knowledge. The explicit knowledge is relatively easy to capture and store in

databases and documents. It is shared with a high degree of accuracy and can be either structured or unstructured. The tacit knowledge is knowledge that people carry in their minds and is, therefore, difficult to access. Often, people are not aware of the knowledge they possess or how it can be valuable to others. Tacit knowledge is considered more valuable because it provides context for people, places, ideas, and experiences. Effective transfer of tacit knowledge generally requires extensive personal contact and trust.

ECTRI so profoundly believes in the importance of the above concepts that it has conceived a biannual event focused on the young scientists training: the Young Researcher Seminar. The aim of the seminar is to network transport young researchers working on different transport matters and to train them, by tutorial means and through a retroactive manner to elaborate, prepare and present written and oral scientific communications.

In this framework, according to the importance of the transfer of tacit knowledge, the role of tutors is central as each of them will be in charge of a small number of young researchers who will present a paper in the conference session they will moderate. The young scientists will prepare a paper that will be read and revised by the tutors who, at the end of the session, will chair a "cross cutting session" where they will have to moderate a sort of lesson-learned debriefings. These debriefings are a way to identify, analyse, and capture experiences, what worked well and what needs improvement, so that the young researchers can learn from those experiences. The analysis of the presentations will be done in order to make comments, not only on the scientific perspective but also on the form of the presentation. The aim is to advise the young researchers on the way to improve their written and oral presentations. For maximum impact, lesson-

learned debriefings will be done immediately after the session, with results quickly shared among those who would benefit from the gained knowledge.

The above approach has become a consolidated tradition in the life of ECTRI. YRSs are jointly organised by ECTRI together with the Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories (FEHRL) and the Forum of European Road Safety Research Institutes (FERSI). The past four editions have been held in Denmark (Copenhagen, 2001), France (Lyon, 2003), Netherlands (The Hague, 2005) and Czech Republic (Brno, 2007).

The next edition, in June 2009, will be organised in Italy, at Politecnico di Torino, and for the first time it will host also young researchers and tutors from the United States, thanks to a bilateral agreement between ECTRI and the U.S. Transportation Research Board (TRB). The aim will be to continue and strengthen the concept of training and transfer of knowledge in a pleasant and friendly context. The event will be hosted in the XVIII century "Valentino Castle" where the faculties of Architecture of Politecnico are located [see page 2].

The Castle is an astonishing protected place in a park near the city centre, along the Po river, and will assure to the young researchers to be fed by culture, history and beauty of the location. While the science feeds the mind, the beauty feeds the soul ... and inspires the mind.

We end this editorial by recalling your attention to another ECTRI initiative, described on this page. The launch of an ECTRI-sponsored scholarly journal, the European Transport Research Review, represents another milestone along the same path of growth of a new generation of European transport researchers, that will have in the future a new communication channel to express and disseminate their ideas.

Young Researchers Seminar 2009 Torino, Italy 3-5 June 2009

James Hillman wrote in "A Blue Fire":

[when Petrarca, the 6th of April 1327, being 22 years old, discerned in the Santa Chiara church, in Avignon, a pretty girl, his heart began to strongly beat, it stopped beating, he was breathless. His soul was overwhelmed by the beauty. Was in this instant that the Renaissance began? Or it had already begun, this "new life", in 1274, when Dante, being nine years old, saw Beatrice (she who dispenses bliss) for the first time, a girl dressed by "blood-red colour", who woke up his heart to the aesthetic life?]



As Cristina Pronello presented in this editorial, the next ECTRI-FEHL - FERSI Young Researchers Seminar will take place in Torino, Italy, on 3-5 June 2009. Each research institute, which is a member of one of the three associations, can present a list of participants. That means firstly post-doctorate researchers with less than 5 years working experience, if possible the best young researchers of the institutes.

The institutes shall also propose a list of tutors, who shall be senior researchers.

The research domains are: Transport economics and transport behaviour, Transport sustainability and environment, Transport safety, Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) and Transport Road Engineering.

The format of the seminar will be content oriented through technical sessions with oral presentations of 20 minutes and cross-cutting sessions.

The outstanding papers will be awarded at the end of the seminar.

Linked to the Young Researchers issue, ECTRI is also involved in the proposal YEAR 2010 competition for young students to be organised in the frame of TRA 2010. If funded, the project will exploit the synergies between YRS09 and YEAR 2010.

More information on the Young Researchers Seminar 2009 on:

<http://www.ectri.org/YRS09>



Valentino Castle and Valentino park and the Po river
«a beautiful place to inspire the next generation of Researchers»

Launching the European Transport Research Review - ETRR

The European Transport Research Review – An Open Access Journal (ETRR) is an online scientific platform in order to disseminate research results in the field of transport which has been established by ECTRI in 2008. It is published by Springer-Verlag.

The main scope and mission of the Journal is to provide a forum for the publication of high quality scientific papers in the field of transport in general, and a dissemination medium for new ideas and developments that originate in, or are of interest to, the European transport research community. There are three aspects of the Journal's concept that mark a distinct difference

to the other journals in the field of transport; first, it is the open access configuration that makes it easily and widely available through the internet with a minimum of constraints and costs; second, it provides focus on issues of special interest to European transport research, its funding bodies and supervising organisations; third, it is clearly oriented towards researchers and practitioners as well.

The papers are published free of charge for authors and readers.

The Journal considers primarily research papers in English, on both theoretical as well as applied research, whose excellence and content re-

present an important contribution to transport research in Europe.

The call for papers is attached to this Newsletter. Proposals should be submitted before **19 September 2008**. Authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection by **31 October 2008**, and final versions of accepted papers should be submitted by **14 November 2008**.

For more information, please refer to the call for papers available at www.springer.com/12544 or contact the Editor-in-Chief, Evangelos Bekiaris, HIT-Greece, abek@certh.gr.

ECTRI Board meeting

Lyon, France - 25 June 2008

The last ECTRI Board meeting was held on 25 June 2008 in Bron (nearby Lyon), France, and was hosted by INRETS.

One of the main intentions of this meeting was to have an exchange and discussion between the Board and the 8 ECTRI Thematic Working Groups (TWG) moderators on best practices and how group processes and dynamics can be improved one year after their setting up. To this view and to support the groups, the Board provided a number of basic and common information, concerning in particular

the TWG's main objectives.

The moderators of the TWGs reported on their experience about the functioning and the main achievements of their respective groups during the first year; in this view, they also informed about the internal exchanges between the groups and the relationships/collaborations of the groups with external organisations or individual researchers. The presentations of the groups were rounded up by recommendations for improving the work of the groups. All TWGs will meet during the event organised by INRETS, in partnership

with ECTRI, FERSI and the four existing Networks of Excellence dealing with transport research (HUMANIST, APSN, EURNEX and NEARCTIS). This event will take place in Lyon from 8 to 12 December and is organised in the frame of the French Presidency of the European Union. It will deal with "European Research for Sustainable Mobility". On this occasion, the TWGs of ECTRI will present their work in a special dedicated session.

> The activities of the **ECTRI-TRB Working Group 10**, consisting in preparing a report on «Future Transport Research Needs» are progressing fast. This group is moderated by Prof G. Giannopoulos, Managing Director of the Hellenic Institute of Transports and Prof M. Meyer from the Georgia Institute of Technology and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies. It involves 20 people, half from US and half from Europe. The group scheduled another meeting on 9 October 2008, in conjunction with ETC Conference. They will then present the result of their work during a special session to be held during TRB Annual Session in Washington DC next January.

> Thanks to the activities of the **TWG Urban Mobility**, an article about Urban Mobility research has been published on Euractiv.com in June, mentioning ECTRI and its role in the elaboration of the Green Paper "Towards a new culture for urban mobility". On July 1st, Claire Plantié-Niclause, moderator of the Urban Mobility TWG, also participated, on behalf of the group, to the first meeting of the common task force on urban mobility,

ECTRI Facts and Figures

which is a follow-up of the EURFORUM project. This Task Force led by POLIS and endorsed by ERTRAC, involves the main stakeholders of EURFORUM. Based on current input on urban mobility research including the ERTRAC SRA and Research Framework, the input for RTD calls, the ERRAC SRA, input for RTD calls and the EURFORUM SRA, the group will work on scenarios and priorities for the future of research on urban mobility.

>The **ECTRI Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Transport Economics and Policy** will meet in Madrid, Spain on 25 and 26 September 2008. The agenda of this meeting will integrate presentations of the group members, discussions about the inputs to the European Framework programs, as well as about the group's website and participation in COST action.

> The 9th Congress of the International Commission on the Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN) took place in Mashantucket (USA) from 21 to 25 July 2008. Members (DLR, INRETS, TNO, VTI) of **ECTRI TWG on Transport, Urban Environment, and Health** presented 17 papers (11 oral and 6 posters) related to the perception and the effects of transportation noise (annoyance,

sleep disturbance, cardiovascular effects etc). During this Congress, the Board of ICBEN has named Mathias Basner (DLR) as new Secretary of ICBEN and also as co-chair of Team 5 (Effects of noise on sleep). Jacques Lambert (INRETS) remains co-chair of Team 9 (renamed: Noise policies and economics). The next ICBEN Congress will take place in London in 2011.

> Since 11 August, ECTRI welcomed Aurélie Fischer who joined the Secretariat team as Junior Project Officer. Moreover, ECTRI has opened new offices in Brussels from 1 July 2008 within the premises of POLIS, located 98 rue du Trône. The first event that took place in these offices was the kick off meeting of the **NEARCTIS project** (Network of Excellence: Advanced Road Cooperative Traffic management in the Information Society) held on 3 and 4 July 2008. ECTRI participated in this meeting by addressing the introduction speech to the participants and giving its views and reflections about the Networks of Excellence and ECTRI's support brought to them.

<http://www.nearctis.org>

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The French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research (INRETS) and the Technical University of Graz (TUG, Austria) organise the conference ETTAP 2009 from Tuesday 2 to Thursday 4, in June 2009.

The symposium includes the 17th Transport and Air Pollution symposium and the 3rd Environment and Transport Symposium.

The International Symposium "Transport and Air Pollution" has been held since 1986 in Avignon and Reims, France, Graz, Austria and Boulder, USA. The International Symposium "Environment and Transport" was held in 2003 in Avignon and in 2006 in Reims, France. The last Symposium "Transport and Air Pollution" was held in Graz, Austria (16-17 June 2008).

Symposium topics:

- All transport-related nuisance impact on populations and ecosystems,
- Exhaust and non-exhaust emissions,
- Primary emissions and secondary ga-

ETTAP 2009 - Toulouse, France, 2-4 June 2009

3rd Environment and Transport symposium

17th Transport and Air Pollution symposium

ses and aerosols, - People exposure to vehicle emissions and adverse effects,

- Transport, energy and greenhouse effect,

- Dynamometer studies, tunnel measurements, field measurements,
- Source apportionment, air quality modelling,
- Non-road emissions,
- Long-term evolution of the transportation system,
- Control and reduction technologies,
- Perception of the environment by the population, experts and decision-makers,
- The environment in the concept of sustainable development,
- Evaluation methods for environmental sustainability,
- Scenarios of transportation policies,
- Efficiency, equity, and acceptability of policies.

Call for Papers:

Papers will be presented orally or as posters. The official conference languages are English and French. Interpreting services will be provided systematically from French into English. High-quality papers are solic-

ited containing original contributions to conferences topics. Prospective authors should send their abstracts to the symposium organisers not later than the 1 October 2008. If the abstract is accepted, a full length manuscript should be submitted by 15 January 2009 for final evaluation.

Location:

The symposium will be held at the Paul Baudis Congress Centre located in the city centre of Toulouse, France. Toulouse can easily be accessed by airplane (International Toulouse Blagnac Airport) or by train.

For any trade exhibition at the conference, please contact:

ettap09@inrets.fr

Further details could be found on the conference web site:

<http://www.inrets.fr/services/manif/ettap09/index-EN.htm>

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Urban mobility has increased dramatically in the last decades, accompanying the economic growth of towns and cities. This has caused negative effects for citizens directly: increase of traffic congestion and energy consumption, noise, pollution, reduction of the urban environmental quality, etc. So, it is not surprising that the Green Paper on Urban mobility (September 2007) pledges to create a new urban mobility culture, stating that “the challenge facing urban areas in the context of sustainable development is immense: that of reconciling the economic development of towns and cities and accessibility with improving the quality of life and with environmental protection, on the other”. The increasing urban mobility demands the implementation of

a number of measures in order to put the citizen in the core of urban mobility. To this purpose it is necessary to encourage the use of public transport, to undertake actions to improve traffic in the city, to promote alternative modes of transport, to achieve a dynamic and organised system of distribution of goods and loading and unloading, etc. In other words, to achieve an accessible city for everyone, less polluted and more respectful with the environment.

The Green Paper on Urban Mobility puts forward a new culture for urban mobility. This objective demands integrated approaches combining transport, environment and land use planning. Furthermore, not only local authorities, but stakeholders affected by these policies should be fully engaged, sin-

ce, for instance, everybody should be aware of the importance of an energy-efficient consumption on the environment and quality of life in the city. To make people more aware of the effects caused not only by the increase of urban mobility, but their mobility behavior, and progress in the implementation of the European Green Paper on Urban Transport, the Mobility Foundation organises in Madrid (Spain), from 29 September to 1 October, the 2nd International Conference «Citizens and Mobility management». The Conference will be focused on finding international smart solutions, based on best practices dissemination and R&D activities.

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TRL has developed SensorLeg™ a new biofidelic leg impactor for use in testing and developing contact sensor technology employed in active safety pedestrian systems. SensorLeg™ is the most human-like leg available and is modelled on a 50th percentile male, simulating human muscle shape, flesh density and bone fracture. It will enable vehicle and component developers to accurately test and evaluate new

TRL's new leg impactor

active safety pedestrian systems (e.g. pop-up bonnets) which are designed to reduce head injury in the event of a pedestrian impact. In Europe alone, all new vehicles must comply with the EC Directive and future trends indicate pedestrian safety will continue to develop as a high priority worldwide.

There are already many manufacturers developing active safety pedestrian systems and to date there has been no test tool specifically designed to test them. SensorLeg™

will complement TRL's existing pedestrian legform (WG17) which was designed to evaluate the risk of lower leg injuries in a pedestrian impact, rather than test the sensor technology. SensorLeg™ is available world-wide and can be ordered direct from TRL.

For more information call +44 (0) 1344 770159 or visit www.trl.co.uk/sensorleg



HUMANIST Network of Excellence : A Fruitful Experience of Four Years



After four years of existence the HUMANIST Network of Excellence is terminating. The project coordinated jointly by INRETS and ERT, and gathering 24 research organizations, was designed to strengthen scientific and technological excellence on the topic of user/system interactions and their applications on IVIS and ADAS.

Throughout its existence, HUMANIST acquired a European visibility and created a suitable area for knowledge production, sharing and debates. The NoE developed various efficient means to interact with the industrial and institutional stakeholder of its domain, such as the

organisation of thematic forums or training activities for professionals. The network also initiated a European conference on Human Centred Design for Intelligent Transport Systems. Its first edition was organised by INRETS in Lyon last April.

Taking part in the building of the new generation of scientists was another key element of HUMANIST. For that, the NoE supported Early Stage Researchers works. ESR participated to all the activities of the NoE and to special training and mobility actions. The basis of a European Master on Human Factors and New Technologies for Transport was also set up.

During the four years of the project

the 125 researchers and 40 ESR involved worked on integrating their research capacities. The creation of a durable and sustainable structure, the HUMANIST Virtual Centre of Excellence was the achievement of this process of integration. As of today, 11 partners of the NoE willing to continue the experience have become members of the HUMANIST VCE: CDV, CUT, DTU-Transport, FACTUM, INRETS, ISEC, HIT, SVOW, TOI, VTI, and VTT. The membership to the VCE is left open for members and non members of the NoE.

Pour plus d'information :

<http://www.noehumanist.org/>

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Upcoming ECTRI events

- > Board meeting - 26 September - Brussels, Belgium
- > Board and Assembly meetings - 8 & 9 December 2008 - Lyon, France