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## Editorial



By Guy Bourgeois  
ECTRI President  
INRETS General Director

The French Presidency of the European Union started on 1st July 2008. During this period, a major and unique Transport Research event will be organised from 8 to 12 December 2008, under the supervision of the European Union French Presidency, the Ministry for Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Spatial planning, the Ministry for Higher Education and Research and the French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research (INRETS). This research event on Surface Transport is named 'Sustainable Transport & Mobility research and Climate Change Challenge' and will take place at INRETS's new headquarters in Lyon.

The idea of this unique "transnational networks event" is firstly to gather:

- the governance bodies of ECTRI and the four European Networks of Excellence involved in the transport area (three of these networks have their headquarters at INRETS-Lyon),

- scientists participating in the ECTRI Thematic Working Groups and in the Networks of Excellence scientific activities (more particularly the EURNEX poles) with an objective to take common positions on the European Research Area Green Paper and the FP7 updating.

ECTRI strongly supports this event and is taking this opportunity by

organising several ECTRI meetings: the General Assembly Meeting, the Board Meeting and the meetings of ECTRI's 8 Thematic Working Groups. Our participation in this event clearly shows that ECTRI is taking into account the frame of the so-called Ljubljana Process and one of our main challenges for the future.

Moreover, as this event is taking place after the European Research Area Vision 2020 statement made by the Council of Ministers of Sciences, the closing session shall be around a so-called "Lyon Declaration" prepared by the partners during which representatives of the current "European Union Troika" are also invited to deliver their message.

This dynamic context has led to widen the scope of this event:

- FERHL, FERSI and EARPA have decided to join,

- Our Czech, Swedish and Spanish colleagues are trying to convince their government to organise the same types of events during their respective EU Presidencies,

- The FP7 Transport Programme Committee, gathering representatives of Member States associated to the FP, will meet during the event.

Today, we are taking part in an important event for Surface Transport Research, and we hope that this will be the beginning of a long series of events.

I am delighted to invite you to the 'Sustainable Transport & Mobility research and Climate Change Challenge' event, initiating a European version of the TRB-Summer schools. This event will gather significant actors of the European Transport Research. Everyone is invited to hear and react to the proposals of scientists and administrators of the European surface transport research community as well as participating in the main programme.

During a whole week, Lyon will be the capital of European Transport Research. On this occasion the participants are invited to visit the Lyon lights festival on 8 December evening, a well-known and highly popular festival presenting a wide range of lights projection all over the city.

I am looking forward to meeting you during this event.

## Sustainable transport & Mobility Research and Climate Change Challenge

Lyon-Bron, France, 8-12 December 2008



Facing up to the climate change challenge, the scientific community is mobilising in order to tackle the critical points such as sustainable mobility and transport. This European Union French Presidency Event is organised by INRETS (the French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research) from 8 to 12 December 2008, in partnership with scientific transnational and institutional networks - ECTRI, FERSI, ETRR, EURNEX, HUMANIST, NEARCTIS, APSN/ISN, EARPA and FEHRL. This event is organised under the supervision of the European Union French Presidency, the Ministry for Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Spatial planning, the Ministry for Higher Education and Research. It intends to show how the scientific community, working in ground transport research, is doing and implementing the ERA 2020 vision, and, at the same time, is answering the new climate change challenges which is of interest to citizens, business world

and public authorities.

The format of this event is built around a main programme, and a joint programme of integrated partners activities.

It takes into account both aspects of ERA 2020 vision :

- inputs in order to update the FP7 and what is following
- its governance, including the question of a new researchers generation, its gender equality, and the need of research infrastructures.

Relating to this last topic, ECTRI will officially launch its new scientific "open access" journal, the European Transport Research Review (ETRR), which is the result of an international competition for an academic partnership, of which winner is Springer Verlag.

Feedback, summary and conclusion plenary sessions (on Thursday the 11) are opened to all stakeholders belonging to the sustainable mobility and transport research community.

At the end of this event, three deliverables will be produced:

- a "Lyon declaration" on ground transport research and the European

Research Area 2020 Vision detailed in the two other deliverables.

- one about the follow up of the Green Paper about European Research Area.

- one containing proposals for the FP7 workprogrammes updating (2010-2013) and answering challenges faced by citizens, economy and governance of transport and interesting all transport research stakeholders.

For ECTRI, this event is also the opportunity to meet for strategic issues. The General Assembly will be held, during which the new ECTRI Board will be elected. The 8 Thematic Working Groups will also meet in order to contribute to the documents to be produced in the frame of this event.

More information on :

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### ECTRI facts and figures

> ECTRI has released a **new strategic paper**. This document clarifies and updates the first strategic paper which was written after ECTRI's creation in 2003. This new strategic paper, which is a crucial document for ECTRI, keeps the continuity of ECTRI's core business but also reflects the last developments in Europe. It is available on ECTRI's website: [www.ectri.org](http://www.ectri.org) in the publication section. This core part of the document will be completed by a second part about «Subject matter focus areas and activities», that will be proposed to the Assembly approval in December.

> Since September, ECTRI is **observer at the Waterborne Technology Platform**, like it was already in ERTRAC and ERRAC. In this frame, ECTRI had been invited to express its interest in Waterborne to the Support Group of the Waterborne Technology Platform. The ECTRI Secretary, Dietmar Wurzel, made a presentation, showing the relationships between

ECTRI and the other Transport Technology Platforms. The Support Group unanimously agreed to grant observer status to ECTRI. The multimodality character of ECTRI and its relationships with the other platforms and associations seems to have been of special interest to Waterborne. Uwe Clausen, from Fraunhofer, was nominated as ECTRI observer. More information about Waterborne: <http://www.waterborne-tp.org>  
ECTRI's presentation to Waterborne: <http://www.ectri.org/Publications/Presentations.htm>

> ECTRI held a **Board meeting** in October: the aim of this meeting was to talk about the new action plan of ECTRI's working group with TRB, the developments of the Thematic Working Groups, ECTRI's new memberships and ECTRI's participation at the INRETS event. Furthermore, the Board election process was launched, as a new Board is to be elected during the Assembly meeting.

This Board will enter into duty at end January 2009.

> **ICT event 2008**, Lyon, France, 25-27 November 2008. The ICT event, the biggest research event for information and communication technologies in Europe, will take place in Lyon 25-27 November. This event is organised by the European Commission's Directorate General for the Information Society and Media. ECTRI will take part in a **networking session** about "Networking and International transnational networks for boosting ITS scientific Knowledge and Innovation". In addition to ECTRI, this session will gather two Networks of Excellence: HUMANIST and NEARCTIS, the LUTB cluster, and SAFER projects. It is coordinated by Erik Bessmann from INRETS. We look forward to meeting you there. More information at: [http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/events/cf/item-display.cfm?id=495](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/item-display.cfm?id=495)



CAPOEIRA (Coordination Action of Ports for integration Of Efficient Innovations and development of adequate Research, development and innovation Activities) concentrates on Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) in the field of freight transport activi-

## CAPOEIRA final conference Brussels, Belgium, 29 October 2008

ties in ports (handling, communication, transport modes' accesses...). Its final conference, entitled «Public research activities and freight transport in port areas: how can future research projects be a success?» was held on 29 October and focus on port actors' needs, industrial offer and its evolution, research activities

and the European port policy and the implementation of the CAPOEIRA recommendations. On this occasion, ECTRI presented a paper on the role of European transport research institutes in the port research activities.

More information:

<http://www.capoeiraproject.eu>



Four Dynamic Route Information Panels (DRIPs) have been positioned on A1 and A12 motorway access roads to the A30 (at the Barneveld junction) to provide information about the length of the traffic jams on the various route options. In 2003 TNO developed an algorithm to estimate traffic jam lengths on non-motorway roads containing clear bottlenecks, like controlled intersections. This algorithm is called the FLIP algorithm. It was originally designed and calibrated by TNO for the Pleijroute in Arnhem. The total length of the traffic jams shown by the DRIPs

### Dynamic Route Information Panels - DRIPs

at the Barneveld junction is a combination of the jams caused by the traffic signals (estimated by the FLIP algorithm) and the jam on the A30 (determined by an alternative algorithm). TNO was commissioned by Vialis (in their turn commissioned by Rijkswaterstaat Regional Directorate East-Netherlands) to initially determine optimal locations for measurement loops, and then to calibrate the parameters of the algorithm using queue measurements from field observers.

#### More accuracy

At the end of 2007, TNO also recalibrated the parameters of the FLIP algorithm for the Pleijroute, again

for Vialis. The number of measurement loops was expanded enabling the length of the traffic jam to be estimated more accurately. The new parameter settings have since been implemented in the Central Drip Management System at both sites and inform drivers of the lengths of the traffic jams.



## Regional Conference - TES VIII - Traffic Engineering 2008 Sombor, Serbia, 8-10 October 2008



This conference was organised by the University of Belgrade - Faculty for Transport and Traffic Engineering (TTEF) – Division of Traffic Engineering, and Air Travel, Sombor. The general topic of the TES Conference was new tools in traffic engineering to disseminate results, experiences, advancements and latest developments in applying new methodologies, methods, software programs, as well as technologic innovations related to new materials, new technologies and the European standards in traffic engineering to all those working in the field. This Conference was intended to engineers involved in the issues of urban and intercity transport, manufacturers of traffic signalisation, city authorities, planners, town planning designers, scientists and researchers

at universities and other academic institutions as well as all those involved in the problems related to transport in cities, residential areas and on roads.

This Conference was also aimed at younger engineers who have not yet had chance to get acquainted with the new tools in traffic engineering. During the conference, 45 papers were presented in plenary sessions covering the following fields:

1. Traffic Engineering – traffic control and management, traffic signs, new standards,
2. Traffic Eng. - parking policy and solution, pedestrian flows, software tools,
3. Indicators in traffic engineering,
4. ITS and traffic engineering,
5. Young researchers – presentations of work.

A traffic equipment exhibition was organised in this period also.

Transport on the relation Belgrade – Sombor – Belgrade, accommodation at the Internacion Hotel and other hotels at Sombor were provided to the participants.

The programme Committee was composed of the following people: Dr Smiljan Vukanović, TTEF - President; Dr Branimir Stanić, TTEF; Dr Vladan Tubić, TTEF; Dr Nada Milosavljević, TTEF; Dr Ratomir Vračarević, FTN, Novi Sad; Dr Vladimir Depolo, DIG, Beograd; Mr Miroslav Vujatović, R Srpska; Dr Tomaž Maher, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia; Dr Mario Anžek, Univeristy of Zagreb, Croatia; Dr Branko Mazić, University of Sarajevo, BiH.

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## DHErgo kick-off meeting: laying the ground for a fine tuned collaboration Bron, France, 11-12 September 2008

On September 11 and 12, INRETS and ERT hosted the launch of the project DHErgo. The aim of this meeting was, for Mr. Wang (INRETS), the scientific leader and Fabienne Janin (ERT), the coordinator to make sure that everyone shared the same vision of the work to be accomplished. This ambitious Collaborative Project is funded by the DG-RTD for 36 months. The partnership on this project has been carefully designed to involve academic participants (INRETS,

CEIT, ULB, TUM), end users (Renault, PSA, BMW) and software providers (ESI group, Human Solutions). Together they will develop more advanced digital humans for ergonomic design of products. This should make possible the evaluation of the discomfort generated from a complex motion through dynamic simulation based on advanced musculoskeletal models of the human body, simulating a population behaviour, and the interaction of the human body

with the task-related environment, proposing design variants even for applications subjected to restricted resources (time, knowledge), demonstration of productive usage. The total budget for the project is 4,9 millions euros. The two days meeting was a success and the participants left INRETS with a detailed work programme for the months ahead.

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## Euro Access Final Workshop, Brussels, Belgium, 3 December 2008



Euro Access will hold its final workshop on the 3rd of December 2008 in Brussels. The partners will present their work and the conclusions of the project. It will be a good opportunity to discuss the Euro Access results with public transport autho-

rities, policy makers and persons with disabilities. The attendance to the workshop is free of charge and the place is suitable for persons with disabilities. The project team invites you to take this occasion to have a fruitful discussion and help us to provide EU services with good ideas for the improve-

ment of accessible transportation in Europe. Information on registration will soon be available on the project's website: [www.euro-access.org](http://www.euro-access.org)

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## ERTRAC National Platforms Workshop, Budapest, Hungary, 5 September 2008



The first Workshop of ERTRAC National Platforms was held in Budapest on the 5th of September 2008. It was organised by ERTRAC (European Road Transport Research Advisory Council) and KTI Non-profit Ltd. (Institute for Transport Sciences).

The workshop was chaired by Mr. Wolfgang Steiger, Chairman of ERTRAC. The participants were from nine European countries.

The objective of the workshop was to present and discuss the organisation of national Technology Platforms (national TPs : in this interpretation a platform brings together relevant sectors from industry, research and po-

licy makers), how they work, and what their role is in the European Research Area. This includes also collaboration and communication between Technology Platforms and benefits for European and national road transport research activities as well as how to establish such platform.

Mr. András Siegler, Director of the European Commission's DG RTD Transport, gave a presentation about the role of technology platforms in European Research Area and the expectations of EU from national TPs. He stressed that national TPs on Road Transport serve as platform for stakeholders and definition of national strategic agendas. National TPs are essential to deepening of ERA. He indicated that alignment of EU and national research programs

means synergies for implementing the Strategic Research Agenda and more effective investments. ERTRAC could rely on national TPs for setting up large initiatives at EU level.

The national platforms from different countries were introduced by their representatives.

The conclusion was that the coordination and the collaboration between national TPs and ERTRAC are necessary.

The presentations of the workshop can be downloaded from:

<http://www.kti.hu>, in the 'News, current affairs' section, or from:

<http://www.ertrac.org/events.htm>

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ERTRAC-Hungary secretary

## Upcoming ECTRI events

- > Board and Assembly meetings - 8 & 9 December 2008 - Lyon, France
- > Thematic Working Group Meetings - 9, 10 & 11 December 2008 - Lyon, France
- > Meeting of the Steering Committee of Young Researchers' Seminar 2009 - 10 December 2008 - Lyon, France