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**EDITORIAL****FRIEDRICH ZOTTER**friedrich.zotter@bmvit.gv.at**KEEPING ROAD USERS ON THE MOVE IN WINTER**

is the theme of PIARC's XIIth International Winter Road Congress, 27-30 March in Turin (Italy). Winter Road Congresses have a long tradition within PIARC. They represent the second largest events in the professional life of the Association. More than 2000 participants are expected in Turin and the technical programme and the exhibition have been prepared carefully by PIARC TC 3.4 and the Italian Organising Committee. 124 speakers will give their presentations within the 6 congress themes. 7 technical visits have been scheduled in order to illustrate the organisation, systems, maintenance and management methods of roads in winter.

PIARC National Committees (NCs) will be present in Turin in a booth shared with with PIARC headquarters in the exhibition hall. Additionally the NCs of the major countries performing winter maintenance will also be represented in their country's National pavilions. At the joint booth you will receive information on the role of NCs within PIARC, the activities and events prepared by NCs and the performance and the contact partners in your NC. Information brochures will be available as well as audio-visual presentations guided by an experienced staff of NC representatives. Do not hesitate to join us at the Turin exhibition at booth 80/81 and be informed about the profits that you can gain from the work of the NC in your country.

**www.aipcr2006.it****Friedrich Zotter**

Representative of National Committees on the PIARC Executive Committee

Your opinions and comments to

Friedrich Zotter: friedrich.zotter@bmvit.gv.at



News

REPUBLIC OF CONGO

A new National Committee was founded in 2005: the Republic of Congo. As the representative of PIARC NCs it is a pleasure for me to welcome the new committee and its representatives:

President: **El Hadj Djibril Abdoulaye Bopaka**, unoc_patronat_congo@yahoo.fr

Secretary General: **Ngagnon Louis Patrice**, bcbtpcongo@yahoo.fr

Events & Conferences

AUSTRALIA AND NEW-ZEALAND (Austroads)

6th Austroads Bridge Conference
The University Club of Western Australia
12-15 September 2006, Perth

Main Roads Western Australia will host the 6th Austroads Bridge Conference. The theme of the conference focuses on 'Bridging the Gap' through knowledge, technology, research and development as well as needs

versus delivery across generations and communities. In keeping with one of the elements of the conference theme of 'Bridging the Gap' the organising committee has introduced a Young Authors Award with a first prize of \$1200 and a second prize of \$800. To be eligible authors must be 35 years old or less as at 31 March 2006. Further information and the terms and conditions are available from the conference website. #

For more information on all conference activities please visit the conference website.

www.impcom.com.au/austroadsbridgeconference

CANADA-QUEBEC

41st Annual Congress of the Quebec Transport and Road Association (AQTR)

9-12 April 2006, Quebec

From April 9 to 12, 2006, the Association québécoise du transport et des routes (AQTR) will hold its 41st Annual Congress at the Quebec Hilton Hotel with the theme "Transport infrastructures, an inheritance to be enriched". As a major annual mobilizing event in the Québec transportation field, this Congress will allow the leading players and stakeholders in the transportation industry not only to familiarise themselves with constantly evolving contemporary engineering but to perfect their knowledge of the new trends related to this field. The AQTR Annual Congress is a unique source of motivation and expertise. Moreover, on the morning of April 11th the AIPCR-QUEBEC session will take place

which will review the participation of the Quebec delegation in Turin and will include various presentations regarding PIARC seminars organised by TCs. #



www.aqtr.qc.ca

FRANCE

Innovations in road infrastructure management

The French National PIARC Committee organised in Paris, on February 28th, 2006, a study day on current innovations for road infrastructure management. Aimed at all road stakeholders, this day was devoted to new devices, new tools and new expectations from road infrastructure managers and society, with regards to road management. #

Information (in French only) at: <http://www.cf-aipcr.org/journeeinnovation2006.php>

MEXICO

PIARC Seminar in Monterrey

8-12 May 2006

The Mexican National Committee is hosting a joint seminar of PIARC TC 2.1 "Sustainable Development and Road Transport" and TC 2.2 "Interurban Roads and Integrated Interurban Transport" from the 8th to 12th

of May 2006. The intention of the seminar is to facilitate the exchange of information regarding the meaning of sustainable highways, corporate social responsibility, financing environmental mitigation measures to fulfill environmental objectives, management of access to interurban highways, management of highway operations and intermodal and trans-border transport. #

Information: www.amivtac.org

SPAIN

6th Road Security National Conference

9-12 May 2006, Seville

Information: www.atc-piarc.com

The Road Technical Association, PIARC's Spanish National Committee, will hold the 6th Vial Security National Conference, in Seville.

This new event will be a meeting and debate forum for analysing the causes of high sinistrality on Spanish roads and for the exchange of national and international knowledge and experiences allowing the improvement of safety levels on Spanish roads. The conference will include technical sessions and round table discussions of different road safety topics focussing particularly on infrastructure, as well as open discussion sessions.

An exposition will be organised at the same time as the conference. #



6-8 June 2006, Cáceres

10th Road Maintenance Conferences

From 6th to 8th June 2006, the Road Technical Association will organize the 10th Road Maintenance Conference, in Cáceres. Following the tradition of previous conferences, the Maintenance Conference will tackle national maintenance experiences as well as works developed by international expert engineers, in order to highlight the progress of road management. #

HUNGARY

9th International Road Conference Budapest Roads for Sustainable Development

23-25 April 2006, Budapest

Topics of the conference:

- Road Issues of the Enlarged European Union network planning ; traffic engineering ; traffic safety ; transport economics ; construction ; maintenance and operation of roads ; environmental protection ; standardisation.
- Road Management

financing ; condition evaluation ; life-cycle forecast ; pavement management ; bridge management ; integrated management ; asset management ; new contract forms.

- Engineering Structures design ; construction ; maintenance and operation of bridges ; quality assurance ; value of bridges ; deterioration process of bridges ; the role of bridges in transport ; networks, tunnels.

A technical exhibition is connected to the conference. #

Information: meeting@euroweb.hu
www.kte.mtesz.hu

**ESTONIA
BALTIC ROAD ASSOCIATION****XXVIth International Baltic Road Conference**

Kuressaare (Estonia)

28-30 August 2006

The XXVIth International Baltic Road Conference will cover the themes:

- transport strategies (including financing and economy),
- road and bridge management (including design and technology),
- traffic management (including safety and monitoring),
- tool management (materials and equipment),



- co-operation management (including training and technology transfer).

An exhibition with the topics:

- Road construction and maintenance machinery,
- Designing of roads and bridges,
- Road facilities,
- Road and bridge construction and maintenance,
- Road and bridge construction materials and substances,
- Laboratories and their equipment,
- Information, technical literature, and training,

is connected to the conference. #

Contacts: estroad@mnt.ee
www.balticroads.org

AUSTRIA

Report of the 5th ASTRAD
**Symposium 2005, Road Management
 and Winter Maintenance**
 a story of success

For the 5th time, the Austrian National Committee of PIARC organised the ASTRAD – Symposium on Road Management and Winter Maintenance on 14th and 15th of September 2005, in Wels, Austria.

Over 90 exhibitors from Austria and neighbouring countries welcomed more than 1000 professionals from the road management and road maintenance sectors. The latest developments in equipment and technology for road operation and winter maintenance were presented at several technical



sessions and in an exhibition area of 3000 sqm indoor and 5000 sqm outdoor with free admission for registered visitors. Starting with 300 participants in 1998, the symposium has grown considerably. The 6th ASTRAD – Symposium will be held again in Wels, on the 17th and 18th of April 2007.#

Information: peter.mader@astrad.org / www.astrad.org

ITALY

Report of the 3rd International SIIV Congress
**People, Land, Environment and Transport
 Infrastructures: Reliability and Development**, Bari
 (Italy)

The 3rd SIIV 2005 Congress "People, Land, Environment and Transport Infrastructures: Reliability and Development" was held in the Polytechnic of Bari (Italy) from Sept. 22 to 24, 2005. The Congress was sponsored by the President of the Minister's Council, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, the Province and the University of Bari. It was co-sponsored by national and international bodies such as PIARC-INC, TRB, ACI, CIFI, CNR, and SITEB.

This congress gathered experts from all over the world who debated over specific themes:

theme A: mobility, infrastructure and development,

theme B: impact of new technologies,

theme C: network and infrastructure reliability.

A poster session and two round tables "Roads, Networks and

Corridors" and "Roads and Cities" were also organised.

131 papers selected by 116 Italian and foreign experts were published in the congress proceedings. During the closing ceremony three prizes were awarded:

Prize "Prof. Giuseppe Abbrescia"

to Mauro Coni, Nicholas H. Thom, Riccardo Isola and J.P. Edwards for the best poster «*An Evaluation of the Springbox Test for Unbound Materials*»,

Prize "Prof. Luciano Castellano"

to the young researcher Gilda Ferrotti for the paper «*Repeatability of Interlayer Shear Resistance Determined with Two Test Procedures*» written with Francesco Canestrari, Manfred N. Partl and Felice A. Santagata,

Prize "Prof. Luigi Tocchetti"

to Francesco Bella for the best paper «*Driver Perception of Crest and Sag Combinations at the Driving Simulator: Effects on Driver's Behaviour*».#

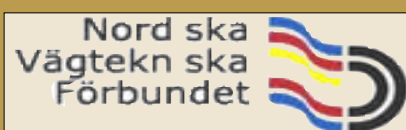
Information and proceedings:

aiprcni@tin.it

www.siiiv2005.com

NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

Report of the Nordic-Baltic Timber Bridge Conference in Hamar, Norway



More than 80 professionals participated in the Nordic-Baltic Timber Bridge Conference in Hamar, Norway, in September. The seminar was arranged in cooperation between NRA TC 32 Bridges and Tunnels and the Baltic Road Association. The seminar program offered the participants a broad range of perspectives, including environment factors, durability, costs and glimpses of the future.#

Program and presentations (**WinZip-file**, 7.4 Mb) at www.nvfnorden.org

WORKSHOP OF PIARC NATIONAL COMMITTEES

On the occasion of the PIARC Annual Meetings in Beijing, a workshop of National Committees was launched with 4 questions prepared by the NC-Working-Group. The major outcome of the workshop is summarised as follows:

1. What should be communicated by the PIARC-NC Newsletter?

- examples of good practice,
- development of new services,
- ideas to increase the number of members within a NC,
- fundraising ideas (for example, alliances with the private sector),
- summarised conclusions of NC's regular meetings,
- NC's links to other (national or international) organisations,
- information that does not fit in to Routes/Roads magazine,
- the newsletter should not limit the scope of subjects,
- information should be given on what is going on in the area (regional context).

2. How to inform regional or local authorities about the benefits of NC membership?

- a concept is needed to convince these authorities that, in times of the decentralisation of road administrations, they play an increasing role in constructing, maintaining and financing road networks: international research, examples of good practice and developments in standards and guidelines should be of greater interest in order to perform their future tasks,
- as a first step, a questionnaire was developed by the members of the ComCom to obtain ideas regarding the opinion of NCs concerning this purpose and will be sent out to all NCs,
- but further incentives are needed (what are NCs able to offer?),
- and the service for members must be extended.

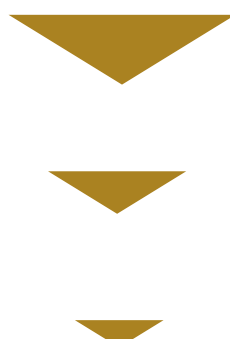
3. What are the consequences of a membership fee increase for NCs?

- a slight increase will not lead to a major impact, but if there are exceptional increases, new services must be offered (for example, the frequency level of the output from TCs could be increased or the access to those outputs (should be facilitated),
- a larger increase in fees could reduce the number of paying members and the problem could occur, that members will be kept in the records of the NC to gain technical benefit from the association for them.

4. What should NCs expect from the General Secretariat in Paris?

- understanding at the differences in NCs (smaller countries, regional context),
- more information about NCs should be available in the public area of the website,
- progress of Technical Committees should be more open to the public, thus NCs could promote this progress to their members,
- TC chairmen should report on the progress of their committee to the public.

Following the results of the workshop, a series of good practice examples will be provided in PIARC-NCs-Newsletter starting from the next edition. In this field the contacts to the Commission on Communication will be intensified. #



AUSTRALIA

Recent releases of **AUSTROADS PUBLICATIONS** include:

- Austroads Design Vehicles and Turning Path Templates,
- The prospects for integrated road safety management in Australia: A national overview,
- Further aspects of the relationship between geometric features and crashes,
- Binder Production and Specification Information from a South African Workshop,
- Proceedings: Austroads National Sprayed Sealing Workshop,
- Audit and Surveillance of Sprayed Sealing Contract Works,
- Fibre-Reinforced Seals,
- Geotextile Reinforced Seals,
- Guide to Bridge Technology Part 1: Overview,
- Technical Basis of Austroads Pavement Design Charts for Light Traffic,
- Evaluation of Speed Limiting Locally Operating Warning Signs,
- Modelling, Measuring and Mitigating Road Traffic Noise,
- Guide to Pavement Technology Part 1: Introduction to Pavement Technology,
- Consistency in Approaches to Road Network Segmentation and Data Aggregation: Review of Current Practice,
- The Australian National Cycling Strategy 2005-2010.

www.austroads.com.au

CANADA-QUEBEC

Published quarterly, "Routes & Transports" (Roads and Transport) magazine is aimed at all those interested in the various stakes within the transport field. Also, AQTR biannually publishes the magazine "Neige" (Snow), a unique publication entirely dedicated to winter maintenance.

2006 issues of the Roads and Transport Revue will focus on "Sustainable mobility" in March, "Quebec construction sites" in June and "Traffic circulation" in September.

A special issue of the "Snow"-Revue has been prepared for the XIIth PIARC Winter Road Congress in Turin and will be disseminated to the congress participants. www.aqtr.qc.ca



FRANCE

The December 2005 issue n° 13 of the French National Committees' Newsletter is available online at www.cf-aipcr.org



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FRANCE

PIARC Congresses and Seminars

The first announcement has been posted. You can download it at www.paris2007-route.fr



THE CHOICE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



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Preview of next issue

Prepared for June 2006

- Presentation of National Committees good practices (start of a serie)
- Intentions of the Strategic Planning Commission
- Status report on PIARC Prize Competition
- Review of the XIIth PIARC International Winter Road Congress in Turin
- National Committees activity reports 2006.#

Your opinions and comments to

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