



IRF ON THE ROAD

IRF speaks at a range of conferences and seminars around the world.

Pakistan launches national road safety campaign



Supporting an initiative of new member the National Highways Authority of Pakistan, the IRF attended a

one-day national road safety seminar which marked the launch of Pakistan's national road safety campaign. During the seminar, supported by IRF members 3M and the World Bank, IRF Geneva/Brussels Director General, Tony Pearce, presented EU policies in the field of road safety and lessons Pakistan could learn.

The Government committed itself to creating a National Road Safety Secretariat and re-vitalising the National Road Safety Council, with immediate effect. Muhammad Shamim Siddiqui, Federal Minister of Communication, announced that priority would be given to changing road users' behaviour by engineering, persuasion and enforcement.

ITS in Ireland

Implementing ITS on the Trans-European Road Network was the theme of the 2005 Euro-regional project conference, held in Dublin on 21 September.

Speaking during the conference, supported by IRF member AECOM-FaberMaunsell, Tony Pearce, IRF Geneva/Brussels Director General, addressed the subject of cross-border safety on the EU's roads, focusing on cross-border harmonization and enforcement and the IRF's efforts to promote the

harmonisation of road signs.

In Ireland itself, a national development plan for the country's road network is currently underway, although behind schedule. Estimates suggest there is potential for increasing the toll revenues on Ireland's roads as current rates are relatively low in comparison to other European countries. This could ease the burden on government funds.

Opportunities in Brazil



The IRF was invited to speak at the Annual Meeting of the Associação Brasileira de Pavimentação, in Curitiba. A presentation by the IRF introduced the organisation and its activities and possible areas of cooperation

between the IRF and the Brazilian road sector.

During various meetings, whilst in Brazil, IRF's Tony Pearce and Nahila Justo learnt about current developments in the country. Brazil has significant needs in terms of improved road infrastructure, with 1.5 million km of unpaved roads. Having recently passed legislation relating to PPPs, a number of concession projects are being prepared and expected to be tendered by January 2006.

For further information regarding the visit or developments in Brazil, contact njusto@irfnet.org.

For details of IRF events see www.irfnet.org

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

IRF Geneva autumn board meeting

IRF Geneva will hold its Autumn Board meeting in Istanbul, Turkey on 30 November.

In conjunction with the board meeting, the IRF will organise a specialist seminar with senior country officials from the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC). The seminar will discuss the development of road infrastructure in the Black Sea region, notably the use of PPPs, road safety issues and road maintenance.

The seminar will provide an opportunity for

officials to discuss specific issues and problems in their countries with experts from the IRF board.

The seminar will be the first IRF activity in the Black Sea region. Future events will include the 1st Black Sea Ring Conference, to be held in May 2006.

Further information regarding the board meeting and seminar will be sent to board members shortly.

IRF Bratislava conference approaching

Pioneering PPPs & Electronic Tolling – Slovakia & CEE

**10-11 October 2005
Bratislava, Slovakia**

The conference will cover two key issues for the region's road sector and has attracted wide attention from both the public and private sector.

Overviews of successful PPP and electronic tolling operations will be presented, including experience of Germany's Toll

Collect system, from the perspectives of both the operating consortium and the German government.

Slovak hosts, the National Motorways Company will also provide briefings on the forthcoming tenders being prepared in Slovakia, highlighting major forthcoming business opportunities in the country.

For the latest programme updates and registration information, please see the IRF website.

IRF releases new World Road Statistics 2005

The IRF has released the latest edition of its landmark statistical publication, World Road Statistics.

Members can expect to see a new format for the 2005 edition, following a process of remodeling. The new format is designed to facilitate analysis and interpretation of the data and in general make the publication more user friendly. New features include an extended use of data tables and graphic representations and a new interactive CD-ROM format.

In parallel to these new features, with the support of the World Bank, the IRF has also

sought to improve the quality and coverage of data.

Measures taken include a more focused questionnaire for data collection, a diversification of data sources, and enhance cross-checking and data cleaning.

The latest improvements to WRS are part of an ongoing process to develop the quality of the publication and strive to provide the most complete and accurate set of road statistics.

IRF members will receive the new edition in the coming weeks.

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IRF to support AVTODOREXPO 2005

AVTODOREXPO 2005 -
International Exhibition of
Projection, Construction and
Maintenance of Motor Roads
22-24 November 2005
ACCO Exhibition Centre, Kiev



As the Ukraine seeks to speed up the integration of its roads into the European transport network, the IRF is supporting the country's major road construction exhibition, AVTODOREXPO.

The exhibition, organized by ACCO International, with the support of UCRAUTODOR (State Service of Automobile Roads), will include new technologies and materials in road building, road equipment and maintenance techniques. A wide range of local and international exhibitors are expected for this major event.

Given the important geopolitical role of Ukraine as a transit state and the considerable influence of motor roads on social, economic and cultural development of the country, the newly elected Government is giving top priority to speeding-up the integration of motor roads of Ukraine into the European transport net, as well as to the introduction of progressive designing solutions and the newest materials and technologies of native and foreign companies.

Nowadays Ukraine is on a powerful economic upsurge, characterized by high rates of growth, increasing purchasing materials and increasing volumes of foreign trade. Due to the low costs and qualified staff the country is very attractive for investments and launching products with maximum impact.

For further information about AVTODOREXPO, consult the events page of the IRF website.

FORTHCOMING IRF EVENTS

Pioneering PPPs and Electronic Tolling: Slovakia and CEE Bratislava, Slovak Republic – 10-11 October 2005

IRF conference focusing on major forthcoming business opportunities in the Slovak Republic and other CEE states. This event will be particularly attractive in view of the planned tenders for electronic toll collection and PPP type concessions in autumn 2005.

- Contact: Ansgar Kauf akauf@irfnet.org or Maria Galewska mgalewska@irfnet.org

IRF Executive Seminar on Contract Maintenance Orlando, Florida, USA – 16-24 October 2005

The ten-day program offers transportation officials, managers, and highway engineers the opportunity to come together and discuss issues dealing with maintenance programming, finance, and maintenance contracting operations.

- Contact: Barbara Samsell Barbara.Samsell@royjorgensen.com

Afghanistan Roads Symposium Tashkent, Uzbekistan – new date tbc

High level symposium focusing on the rehabilitation of roads in Afghanistan and connecting the Afghan network to neighbouring countries.

- Contact: Ansgar Kauf akauf@irfnet.org

This meeting has been postponed due to logistical reasons.

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