Call for Presentations

49th ASECAP

STUDY & INFORMATION DAYS

Marriott Hotel Grand Place

DECARBONIZING ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE: CHALLENGES, PERSPECTIVES AND VISION IN TOUGH ECONOMY

Climate change, carbon neutrality issues are priority emergencies worldwide. Wildfires, cyclones, floods, and droughts are now the new normal. "These shocks not only damage the environment, the biodiversity on which safeguarding the planet depends, they also weaken our political, economic and social systems," as reminded by EU elected officials. Resilience of the infrastructure, recovering from pandemic will also be on top of priorities as COVID-19 has impacted and still impacting the economy. Additional to this critical situation, the conflict between Ukraine and Russia will unfortunately have also hard consequences: increase of energy cost, slower economic growth, and turbulence in global financial markets, these are some examples.

The 49th ASECAP Study & information days will focus on how to decarbonize the road infrastructure to reach the objectives set up by Elected officials to have Europe first zero carbon continent and to ensure a resilient, robust, and safe road infrastructure network but also how to face this unprecedented situation combining COVID-19 and war between Ukraine and Russia. High level personalities from the EU institutions, will provide their thoughts on actions, to prepare credible decarbonization plans as well as realistic financing schemes to reach the challenges set by the EU Green Deal, reinforced by the EU Climate Law and Fit for 55 in 2030 and to face economy challenging.

Presentation submission

Abstract not exceeding **400 words** should be submitted using online facility from dedicated congress website: www.asecapdays.com

Timeline

Deadline extended for submission	*Notification of acceptance of abstract*
30th of June 2022	**15th of July 2022**

A – ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING

Accelerating carbon free mobility project deliverythat meet the climate change challenges

Besides, demographic growth, economic globalisation and other social trends mean we need to modernise our infrastructure in compliance with EU objectives to make them greener, to enhance people's quality of life, to provide equal access to all citizen whether they are living in remote territories or in urban area, to improve resilience of road mobility and to support the smooth functioning of our economies.

Transport infrastructure is changing in depth and there is an urgent need to reflect on how it will look like from now and in the next two decades. The main priority is to reach the policy goals of Zero emission which means that we have to implement solutions aiming at decarbonising the road infrastructure. This is a major concern for all the stakeholders to have a sustainable approach that engages/involves public and private partnerships: What will road infrastructure look like in 15- or 30-years? How will mobility evolve over that period? How can infrastructure be adapted to climate change compliance? What measures could increase the resilience of road mobility during in times of crises? The changes are so important that these simple questions are critical for private investors. The session will explore how to find self-sustainable financing schemes to build, deploy maintain mobility infrastructure and what conditions are needed to attract investors to implement sustainable financing schemes.

Topics

- ***Existing European frameworks for road infrastructure financing***
- ***New perspectives for mature concessions***
- ***Financing solutions for green mobility solutions***
- ***Recovery financing***
- ***Investments on the resilience of the road mobility***
- ***Threats and opportunities of the concession model***
- ***Congestion charging schemes***
- ***New tolling systems***
- ***Requirements and conditions from private investors and financial institutions***
- ***Financing alternatives for low-traffic road section***
- ***Financing the Digital Transformation and connectivity of the road network***
- ***…***

B – SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS

Toward low carbon motorway aligned with the green deal and fit 55

Motorway operators are more and more environmentally conscious players and put a high priority on considerations involved with climate change and the environment. In addition, road infrastructure played a key role during the pandemic, increasing the resilience of the EU mobility and logistic chain. During the recovery period, road operators are ready to present and develop innovative solutions to reduce the carbon footprint. The speakers will highlight concrete examples of initiatives that have been implemented or are still being implemented by toll road operators to improve their environmental performances, but also offer new sustainable and resilient mobility solutions.

Topics:

- ***How to encourage the development of new greener mobility options?***
- ***Fostering commuting mobility solutions: carpooling, bus transit system….***
- ***Policy to promote multimodality***
- ***Electrification of motorways***
- ***Environmental programs and best practices undertaken by toll road operators***
- ***Investment in environmental actions and return of the investment in terms of environmental benefits (CO2 reduction, reduction water consumption, recycling of waste materials…)***
- ***Application of the DNSH (Do no significant harm) criteria when planning new investments***
- ***ESG/Sustainability reporting, new climate disclosure standards***
- ***Sustainability KPIs collected***
- ***Taxonomy***

C – ROAD SAFETY

Vision Zero: Short or long term objective

Road infrastructure plays a key role in moving people and goods, but it is also responsible for the highest fatalities numbers compared to other modes of transport, even though there are fewer fatalities on motorways, which are considered at least 4/5 times safer than other road infrastructure. Nevertheless, it is unacceptable for anyone to die or be seriously injured in a road accident. The challenges for road operators are to improve road safety and performance and to reduce the time to manage an accident or incident and strive towards the goal of vision ZERO. Solutions for automatic incident detection and first response can provide a real added value to our daily business; also, Artificial Intelligence is a powerful tool to analyze huge amounts of available data, and innovative video analytics and advanced decision support system can analyze real-time and historical traffic data to predict and detect incidents and provide most suitable incident management strategies. The session will also explore and identify policies, practices, issues, challenges, and innovative procedures to both monitor the infrastructure and be compliant with EU regulation.

Topics:

- ***Road safety policies***
- ***Road infrastructure safety management***
- ***Safe system approach***
- ***Accidents data analysis,***
- ***Road safety KPIs***
- ***Road safety and Asset management***
- ***Maintenance tools and methodologies***
- ***Road Safety Campaigns***
- ***New challenges of road safety: driver distraction, auto-pilots, car guidance***

D – COOPERATIVE, CONNECTED AND AUTOMATED MOBILITY (CCAM)

Digital transformation on road infrastructure

Digitalization, as well as automation (CCAM) are part of the EU priority plan. It will transform most industries, including the toll road industry. Whether you are a network manager, a toll service provider, or a revenue assurance and business analyst, you know the impact and benefits of this amazing digital transformation in your mission and expect the same capacity with customers and stakeholders.

Beyond personal experiences, digital transformation promotes efficiency, performance, and adaptation/customization of toll roads services, which is crucial to the business dimension. It also leverages the opportunities and capabilities of a mix of digital technologies and their accelerated market trends in a strategic and prioritized way. The vision zero fatalities, the decarbonization agenda, and the emergence of cooperative, connected and automated mobility (CCAM), among others, are additional driving forces to accompany this transformation process.

The session will show how digital transformation is already changing Europe's roads and what challenges must be addressed within the next decade.

Topics:

- ***Preparing the introduction of automated vehicles***
- ***C-ITS deployment for vehicles and road infrastructure***
- ***C-ITS services today and tomorrow: What does the ecosystem of vehicle and road need in future?***
- ***Evolution of road infrastructure and the importance of digitalisation***
- ***Digitalisation of the infrastructure to foster greener, smarter, and automated mobility needs***
- ***Co-existence of electronic road charging systems with C-ITS, radio local area networks, IoT, …***
- ***Digitalisation of traffic management***
- ***Digital transformation, range from political, legal, financial, technical to societal dimensions***

E- RESILIENCE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE / ASSETS MANAGEMENT

With climate change, the impacts of natural hazards (such as floods, snow events, …) is becoming critical. It is therefore become a priority to be ready to face this unexpected event and to prepare the infrastructure to face them. Hence, strengthening the resilience of road infrastructures to natural hazards is more critical than ever before. To reach this objective, the design, operation, asset management should take into consideration climate change aspects.

Topics:

- ***Maintenance of road infrastructure assets***
- ***Preventive and predictive maintenance of road infrastructure (including tunnels and bridges)***
- ***Incorporating resilience into the Asset Management business processes***
- ***Resilience is becoming a key consideration in Asset Management as agencies strive to***
- ***Risk identification associated with extreme events with robust data***
- ***Plan to establish a modern, effective, and sustainable road Asset Management framework***
- ***Innovative ITS tool for asset managements***
- ***Challenges of Cybersecurity namely for Traffic Control Centers***

F - INNOVATION IN TOLL COLLECTION

As electronic tolling technologies have developed over the past decade, motorway operators are seeing a shift from manual toll collection to all-electronic toll collections. Free flow tolling, cashless tolling, contactless tolling, license plate tolling—all-electronic tolling (AET) is a big part of the tolling industry today that's poised to get even bigger. In addition, variable pricing encourages more efficient use of transportation infrastructure by shifting demand to alternate modes and routing trips to less congested times of the day: Car-sharing/pooling services, managed lanes with bus lanes or HOV lanes, and the new user paradigm are evolving to meet the new mobility needs. What is the future of emerging technologies for toll collection, such as mobile phone tolling and license plate recognition? What about vehicle classification and car occupancy detection? What are the prospects for truck tolling or road charging for light vehicles? How can an efficient toll collection enforcement scheme be created? The session will explore all the innovative payment means/methods and their management in the evolving reality of toll road including experiences to share related to conversions from traditional cash tolling to AET.

Topics:

- ***Fostering free flow tolling on EU roads***
- ***Interoperability,***
- ***Price management: Optimizing facilities capacities / solution to reduce C02 emission***
- ***Emerging payment systems (mobile phone, ANPR, AI….),***
- ***managed lanes, HOV lanes, (car sharing, carpooling, dedicated bus lane…)***
- ***Enforcement,***
- ***Violation,***
- ***Blockchain***
- ***…***

R&D Road Infrastructure Projects

Improving European Cooperation and R&D Road Infrastructure

R&D projects are supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. R&D and technological innovation have a significant impact on socio-economic growth. During this period, the research and development (R&D) programmes could test and provide innovative solutions that could play a key role in EU companies' recovery from the pandemic, as well as contribute towards the EC targets for reducing CO2 emissions and the digitalization of the transport and transport management system.

The session will allow bringing together the road operators and the road stakeholders with R&D projects, that apply innovative solutions to road mobility and infrastructure.

Topics:

- ***Innovative Traffic Management***
- ***Alternative fuels deployment***
- ***Large scale Demonstration***
- ***Large scale deployment***
- ***Solar flagship projects***
- ***Electrification***
- ***Greening of road mobility***
- ***New mobility needs***
- ***…***

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