

Belgian Presidency to focus on Transport White Paper and TEN-T

On 1 July, Belgium succeeded Spain at the Presidency of the Council for a six-month period. During an exchange of views with the European Parliament, outgoing Belgian Prime Minister Yves Leterme stressed that the economy, fighting unemployment, "green jobs" as well as immigration, asylum and the recognition of Court decisions would be among his priorities. Supporting industry and research and innovation would also be central. More information is available from the [Belgian Presidency's website](#).

Environmental Ship Index gets Ready for Implementation

The ESI project forms part of the World Port Climate Initiative and identifies seagoing ships that go beyond the current standards in reducing air emissions. Up to now, it was not possible to identify these ships in a general way. The index is intended to be used by ports to promote clean ships, but can also be used by shippers and shipowners as a promotional instrument. Finally all stakeholders in maritime transport can use the ESI as a means to improve their environmental performance and as an instrument to reach their sustainability goals. More information on ESI and other projects can be found on the [WPCI website](#).

Will all lorry drivers have to follow same working time rules?

Should independent lorry drivers follow the same rules as those employed by companies and should the EU set limits on their working time, or does being independent imply self-regulation? Parliament is divided along political lines: generally the centre-right opposes regulation and the centre-left backs it. Over a year of talks could come to a head with a key vote in the Employment Committee Wednesday. Read more on www.europarl.europa.eu/news

Competitiveness in EU road freight transport

European road freight's decline is levelling off. However, in the fourth quarter of 2009, it remained 3% below its level in the corresponding quarter in 2008 for national transport and 2% down for international transport. Road freight prices have been under pressure since peaking in the third quarter of 2008. In the fourth quarter of 2009, they were 2% below their level in the corresponding quarter of 2008. A number of new Member States invested heavily in road freight transport in 2005-2007. Turnover and employment continued their growth in 2008. New Member States tightened their grip on the European cross-trade market in 2008. Poland accounted for 23% of the EU total cross-trade, followed by the Czech Republic and Slovakia with 9% each. Hauliers in Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands were the cabotage leaders. However, hauliers in the new Member States increased their share of the cabotage market. Cabotage also began to creep into the transport markets of some of the new Member States. More on Eurostat website.

Special Interest Articles:

- *Belgian presidency to focus on Transport White Paper and TEN-T.*

- *Events*



Events of interest

- **III annual international conference «TRILOGY» (Transport. Investments. Logistics) - 21-22 September 2010, St. Petersburg**
- **Marco Polo Conference – 5-6 October 2010, Vienna**
- **International Workshop on Efficient Classification: A win-win-win situation for the Maritime Industry - The Way Forward - 21 October 2010, Brussels**

It was founded in December 2006, upon the initiative of a number of Romanian public authorities and private companies acting in the field of transport.

The center is a professional non-profit entity addressing to all interested parties in promoting and developing the field of intermodal transports, logistics and the auxiliary activities.

R.I.A. is acting, also, as the Romanian National Promotion Center in the Field of Short Sea Shipping, Inland Waterway Navigation and Intermodal transport.



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