



WHAT IS BESTUFS?

BESTUFS (BEST Urban Freight Solutions) is a Thematic Network (TN) addressing all aspects of urban freight transport. The aim of BESTUFS is establishing and maintaining an open European network between urban freight transport experts, user groups/associations, ongoing projects, interested cities, the relevant EC DGs and representatives of national transport administrations in order to identify, describe and disseminate best practices, success criteria and bottlenecks with respect to the movement of goods in urban areas. This Thematic Network is operated with and funded by the EC in the Fifth Framework Programme under the Key Action "Competitive and Sustainable Growth". The BESTUFS project started in 2000 with a duration of 4 years. Anyone who wishes to participate in BESTUFS events or to receive information should contact the administration centre (bestufts@nea.nl).

NIGHT DELIVERY IN BUDAPEST

The 9th BESTUFS workshop was held on the question of "Night Distribution: a further option in urban distribution" in Budapest from the 23rd to 24th of January 2003. Hosted by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the workshop explored the topic of night delivery. Drawing out questions of noise, hostility from residents, and innovations to overcome these hurdles.



Operators and receivers were well represented with Marks and Spencers, TNT Innight, and the UK Freight Transport Association speaking. It was also the first workshop held in the Newly Associated States and a warm welcome was extended to all delegates by our Hungarian hosts, Transman.

BESTUFS CONFERENCE III

Following on from the two successful events held in Barcelona and Paris, the third BESTUFS conference is to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Municipality of Copenhagen are keen to be the host City and support the focus of the event which will be Urban Freight and the Environment. The event will take place on the 22nd and 23rd May 2003. It will provide insight into this area and be a useful networking opportunity. For further details please contact the event organiser Ms Siân Evans at s.e.evans@sheffield.ac.uk



THE 6TH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME (FP6)

December 2002 saw the formal launch of the 6th Framework Programme for Research, Technology and Development of the Directorate - General Energy and Transport (DGTREN) with the publication of the first Call for Proposals. The programme lasts from 2002 to 2006. The specific programme "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area" includes a number of activities aimed at more sustainable energy and transport systems in Europe, supporting EU policies in these areas and exploitation in the short to medium term. The programme is open to all public and private entities, large or small. Call information and the Work Programme is available at www.cordis.lu/fp6



CIVITAS II - COMING SOON!

CIVITAS II is part of the 6th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. The topics related to transport are covered in two calls. CIVITAS II is part of the second call, which will open on 17th June 2003 and close on 17th December 2003. The European Commission statement about the objectives of CIVITAS II are that it will "address ambitious cities which should test implementation strategies for innovative and bold integrated strategy packages of transport policy and fuel/vehicle technology measures that are able to maintain or improve the existing modal split in favour of alternative modes". All relevant information is available on CORDIS at www.civitas-initiative.org

TRANSPORT RESEARCH KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

The web site on transport research dissemination managed by the European Commission is entering a new phase. The EXTR@Web project (Exploitation of Transport Research via the Web) was launched in September 2002 as an accompanying measure under the 5th Framework Programme to collect, structure, analyse and disseminate transport research results, covering not only EU supported but also nationally financed research in the European Research Area (ERA). The key objective is to establish a comprehensive web-based *Knowledge Centre*, providing structured and timely access to both detailed and user-orientated summary information on transport research programmes and their results across Europe. If you would like to receive e-bulletins providing news on transport research programmes and results in Europe, you can register by sending an email to the enquiry service at helpdesk@transport-research.info with "Registration" in the subject area.

NEW INTERMODAL RESOURCE

The European Reference Center for Intermodal Freight Transport is a one-stop-shop for information on intermodal freight transport including commented links about companies and organisations involved. The current portal covers information relating to transport routes from Scandinavia and Finland to Italy. The information base is being extended to cover the whole of Europe. The portal may be used free of charge. Currently this site is a prototype version for early feedback, view it at www.eurift.net

BESTUFS DELIVERABLES

The Best Practice Handbook and Clustering Report is available (late-February 2003) and the Recommendations will follow in March 2003. The handbooks and recommendations are on the themes of "Road Pricing and Urban Freight" and "Urban Distribution Platforms". Both will be available at www.bestufts.net

BESTUFS REPRESENTATION AT CONFERENCES

BESTUFS was presented at the 17th annual POLIS conference held on 21st and 22nd November 2002 in Brussels. BESTUFS partners Marcel Huschebeck of PTV and Martin Ruesch of RAPP Trans presented the network. More than 250 local transport decision-makers took part in this Annual Conference. Urban freight transport was given its own session chaired by Dr. van Vliet from the Rotterdam City Development. Conference proceedings will be published soon on www.polis-online.org

Professor Michael Browne of the University of Westminster presented an



overview of BESTUFS at a conference on Urban Logistics held in Toulouse on 21st and 22nd January 2003, organised by Toulouse University of Social Sciences and the French national program on urban freight. www.transports-marchandises-en-ville.org

NEWLY ASSOCIATED STATES JOIN BESTUFS

Two new Partners from Hungary and the Czech Republic have joined the BESTUFS Consortium along with five members from Estonia, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and the Czech Republic. BESTUFS looks forward to working a successful working relationship.

INTEGRATED FREIGHT TRAFFIC WORKSHOP

On 18th December 2002 an informative workshop was held in Cologne, Germany concerning the findings of a national research project. The workshop was titled "Integrated freight traffic in metropolitan areas - status of theory and of practical implementations". Heike Flamig and Christof Hertel from the Technical University Hamburg-Harburg are responsible for the work involved in the project which described current practices and ongoing developments mainly in Germany but also with examples of European cities. The participating experts representing cities, transport operators and scientists complemented the collected material and gave feedback on the research conclusions. BESTUFS was represented by Dieter Wild of PTV. The final report has been produced for the German Ministry of Transport in German language only. It is not currently available, we will publish its availability in a future newsletter.

INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICE

The BESTUFS Thematic Network focuses on European best practices in urban freight transport; it also pays attention to interesting examples of international best practice. The BESTUFS coordinator Dieter Wild, travelled in summer 2002 to Japan and met with local experts to learn more about innovative Japanese urban freight activities. His report will soon be made available at www.bestuufs.net.

BESTUFS partner RAPP Trans sent a delegation to the US Transport Research Board (TRB) Conference in Washington in January 2003. Dieter Egger presented "The BESTUFS project: Innovative European practices in urban freight".

CLEAR ZONES CONFERENCE

The overall aim of the Clear Zones initiative is to promote the implementation of Clear Zone concepts and technologies in order to reduce pollution and traffic in towns. Their 4th Annual Conference is being held on 5th March 2003 in Bristol, United Kingdom. The title of the Conference is "*Innovation in Urban Goods Delivery*" and focuses on topics including City Vitality; European Commission Initiatives on Urban Freight; Innovation in Practice and E-Commerce and Home Delivery. The Conference will include an exhibition of new products and services for the logistics and freight industry including an exhibition of low emission vehicles. Mark Major of DGTREN will present on BESTUFS and ARRC will exhibit the project results. For further information about attending or exhibiting at the Conference please contact the Administrator Valerie Styles at clearzones@ttr.globalnet.co.uk Further information about the Clear Zones project can be accessed at www.clearzones.org.uk

ClearZones
technology for liveable cities

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

20 -21 February 2003
Moving in the City: two legs, two wheels
IMPACTS, European Conference
Tel: +33 1 4414 3000
Email: jl.graindorge@wanadoo.be
URL: www.impacts.org

18 -19th March 2003
Asset Management for Urban Transport Conference
IQPC Ltd, London, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 20 7368 9300
Email: enquire@iqpc.co.uk

12 - 13th March 2003
BEST - Final Conference
Benchmarking European Sustainable Transport
Brussels, Belgium
URL: www.besttransport.org

11 - 12th March 2003
ITS '03 - Cooperation in the field of intelligent transport systems (ITS) in Central Europe
Prague, Czech Republic
Tel: +420 261 343 738
Email: kyselkova@sdt.cz
URL: www.sdt.cz

23 - 25th March 2003
International Conference on Environmentally Sustainable Transport in the Asian region
Nagoya, Japan
URL: www.oecd.org

25 - 28th March 2003
International Transport & Logistics Exhibition & Conference
Sean Deane, ITE Exhibitions, London, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 20 7596 5245
Email: transport@ite-exhibitions.com

25-27th June 2003
Third International Conference on City Logistics
Madeira Island, Portugal
URL: www.citylogistics.org

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