

No. 23 November 2007 - April 2008 - All links are clickable!

BESTUFS FINAL CONFERENCE

The last BESTUFS Conference concluding this eight year project will take place in Athens on 11, 12 and 13 June 2008. The theme is *Cities of the Future*. There will be a technical visit to ELTA, the Hellenic Post Office, conference dinner, interesting presentations and a final round-table discussion. To register go to <http://tinyurl.com/2zel8o>



Control point at Karlberg/Tomtebodavägen Interchange

Congestion tax introduced in Stockholm

Since August 2007 a congestion tax has been imposed on Swedish registered vehicles driving into and out of the Stockholm inner city zone on weekdays (Monday to Friday) between 6.30 a.m. and 6.29 p.m.

No tax is charged on Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, the day before a public holiday or during the month of July.

Vehicles are registered automatically at "control points" during the times when the tax is charged. Each passage into or out of the inner city zone costs SEK 10, 15 or 20, depending on the time of day. The accumulated passages made by any vehicle during a particular day are aggregated into what is called a "tax decision". The maximum amount charged per day and vehicle is SEK 60.

National Seminars

The BESTUFS national seminars have been taking place since August 2007, they are held in the local language. They:

- Actively present Best Urban Freight solutions;
- Help to get information about the national/local situation;

- Help to create a national/local network in parallel with the BESTUFS network;
- Pay special attention to small and medium sized cities.

The results and presentations in the national language as well as summaries in English are publicly available via on the BESTUFS web site and we summarise some of them in this newsletter.

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Finland – 22 August 2007

Presentations:

- Sustainable development and (freight) transport in Finland, by Dr. Veli Himanen, Pöyry Infra Oy
- Future of logistics in Finland, by Mr. Jari Gröhn, Ministry of Transport and Communications
- BESTUFS Good Practice Guide, by Dr. Veli Himanen, Pöyry Infra Oy
- Operating freight transport in Finnish Cities, by Mr. Jaakko Pajula, Finnish Transport and Logistics
- Express Services, by Mr. Juha Koskinen, ITELLA Oy
- Cross docking and terminals, by Mr. Pekka Ryttilä, Pöyry Infra Oy

After every presentation a discussion took place, and after all the presentations there was a concluding discussion. The following items were raised:

- There exists a worry and interest in the ecological consequences of transport as well as in the consequences of world general consumption levels;
- There exist great demands from the political sector and also from the industrial sector on the state administration to improve logistics services and infrastructure;

WHAT IS BESTUFS II?

BESTUFS II is a co-ordination action funded by the European Commission under the Framework 6 programme. It is a follow-up initiative of the thematic network BESTUFS and aims to maintain and expand an open European network in order to identify, describe and disseminate best practices, success criteria and bottlenecks with respect to City Logistics. The BESTUFS II project started in 2004 with a duration of 4 years. Anyone who wishes to participate in BESTUFS events or to receive information should contact the administration centre (bestufs@nea.nl).



- In general it was stated that logistics services are of a reasonably high quality in Finland;
- Freight transport has many problems in cities that even with good co-operation between interested parties will be difficult to solve;
- It is more and more difficult to obtain good staff for transport services, and at the same time more and more skills are needed particularly in express services.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/yp4llv>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in The Netherlands – 26 November 2007 **Making Cities Competitive, Attractive and Accessible**

On 26 November 2007, the conference “Competitive, accessible and attractive cities – urban distribution as aorta for the urban economy” took place in The Netherlands.

At this event, which was a joint venture between the Dutch Commission for Urban Distribution and the Bestufs consortium, the Dutch Commission presented “Increased supply efficiency. Benefits for people, economy and environment”. After two years of encouraging people to work together, the Commission looked back at the results of its work, and came to the conclusion that the local authorities and parties were on the right track, but that there was still much to be done.

We are becoming increasingly successful at organizing urban distribution more efficiently from a local perspective, making sure all plans are attuned to the region (to guarantee harmonization). An integrated vision and approach – traffic, transport, economy, environment and spatial planning – is essential to keep in line with the development of the cities, towns and villages.

A supply plan is crucial in order to achieve this. The commission calls up municipalities and architects to devise new and simple solutions enabling distribution to take place in a quick and efficient manner.



Speakers in The Netherlands engage with their audience

The national situation was discussed at the conference, as well as the international activities in the field of urban distribution within the framework of BESTUFS.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/36yufg>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Bulgaria – 10 January 2008

Presentations:

- Problems and Solutions of Logistics Activity in Company Transpress, by Sergei Panovsky, Dipl.Ing. Transpress sergeip@transpress.bg
- Transport & Distribution in Sofia of Milk Goods from Danone BG, by Ivan Ivanchev Dipl.Ing., Manager of Transport, Danone, Bulgaria ivan.ivanchev@danone.com



National Seminar in Bulgaria

- Presentation of Bulgarian National Forwarders Association – NSBS, by Ivan Petrov Ph.D., NSBS Vice President, petrov@transexpress.bg
- Harmonised Continuous Training in Road Transport Sector, by Ivan Kolarov Assoc. Prof. Higher School of Transport, ikolarov@vtu.bg
- Freight Logistics in the Big Cities, by Ivan Breshkov, Assoc. Prof., University of National and World Economy, breshkov@yahoo.com
- State and Perspectives of Industrial Logistics in Sofia (Material Handling & Warehousing Process in Urban Freight Transport), by Vikenti Spassov Assoc. Prof., Bulfralog & Higher School of Transport, vspassov@vtu.bg

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/yty7bm>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Denmark – 22 January 2008

Presentations:

- Results and solutions for improving city distribution in small and medium sized cities, by Mr. Michael Laugesen, NTU – Strategic Development and Consulting, Aalborg, (DK).



Danish delegates watch a presentation

- City logistics and environmental zones based on dialogue, by Mrs. Malene Kofod Nielsen, Aalborg Municipality, Aalborg, (DK).
- City distribution in practice, by Mr. Preben Greibe, Adm. Dir. Danish Freight Forwarders, Funen, Odense, (DK).
- Other Danish and international experiences with city distribution, Ms. Helen Carter, NTU – Strategic Development and consulting, Aalborg, (DK).

The BESTUFS II National Seminar in Denmark was a dialogue-filled and thought-provoking event. This could be said to be due to the interesting contrasts between the presentations, and the representation of both public and private actors.

Four presentations were given, which gave an overview of the BESTUFS project and some experiences from the Good Practice Guide, a presentation of one municipality's work with city logistics and environmental zones, and a view of city logistics from an experienced practitioner. These presentations were complementary to each other, providing some interesting talking points and some opposing views of the reality of city logistics, especially regarding the contemporary topic of environmental zones. The seminar ended with a tour of the Nordic Transport Centre, which provided an insight into the work of city logistics 'on the ground'.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/372lqc>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Poland – 5 February 2008

Presentations:

- Urban Freight Transport and its future escalation, by Mr. Iwo Nowak and Mr. Artur Olejniczak, "Logistyka Magazine"
- City Logistics, by Dr. Krzysztof Chwesiuk, Maritime University of Szczecin, Faculty of Transport Engineering and Economics
- Increasing problem of congestion in city centres, by Dr. Krzysztof Chwesiuk, Maritime University of Szczecin, Faculty of Transport Engineering and Economics
- Goods vehicle access and loading/unloading in urban areas, by Dr. Krzysztof Chwesiuk, Maritime

University of Szczecin, Faculty of Transport Engineering and Economics

- Last mile solutions, by Dr. Krzysztof Chwesiuk, Maritime University of Szczecin, Faculty of Transport Engineering and Economics
- Urban consolidation centres, by Dr. Krzysztof Chwesiuk, Maritime University of Szczecin, Faculty of Transport Engineering and Economics
- Case studies of city logistics – round-table discussion, led by Dr. Stanislaw Iwan, Maritime University of Szczecin, Faculty of Transport Engineering and Economics

Round-table discussion:

After the presentations a round-table discussion took place. The following items were raised:

- Virtual modelling of urban freight transport solutions
- Increasing demand for urban consolidation centres
- New solutions for city centre congestion e.g. freight tram
- Necessity of dialogue between government and professions
- Openness to implement good practices presented in the BESTUFS Guide
- Analyses of transport costs

Final statements:

All the participants were keenly interested in the subject of the workshop. Urban freight transport nowadays is a very crucial and important issue both for administration, transport companies as well as for all other road users. Road congestion, blocked city centres, difficulties with loading and reloading of goods are essential problems for cities and inhabitants.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/297kan>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Hungary – 11 February 2008

Presentations:

- Importance and actual questions of city-logistics, by Dr. Janos Monigl, Transman Ltd.
- Challenges of city-logistics, by Dr. Eniko Legeza, Budapest University of Technology and Economics
- Introduction of the BESTUFS project, by Mr. Balazs Horvath, Transman Ltd.
- ESRI GIS based logistics solutions, by Mr. Attila Olah, ESRI Hungary Ltd.
- The zone system that regulates the freight transport of Budapest, by Mr. Gabor Kelemen, Parking Ltd.
- City logistics relations of the revision of the truck access charges of Budapest, by Mr. Karoly KISS, Fömterv Co.



Participants at the Hungarian National Seminar

hard shoulders during busy times to ease congestion. This has been successfully tried out on the M42 motorway.

The Transport Secretary, Ruth Kelly, gave her reasons as: "People legitimately raised concerns about privacy, fairness and how any scheme would be enforced. We don't have all the answers to those questions yet."

Forthcoming National Seminars - see www.bestufs.net for details

- City-logistics questions of the city of Szekesfehervar, by Mr. Koppany Ajtony Biro, Logisztar Ltd.
- Introduction of the BESTUFS Good Practice Guide, by Mr. Balazs Horvath, Transman Ltd.

The presentations summarised the theoretical background of city logistics, introduced the BESTUFS project and the Good Practice Guide and presented some practical examples too. The participants were involved very actively in the round-table discussion after the presentations.

The main conclusions are the following: More projects and investigations would be useful regarding city-logistics to present the importance of these issues to the decision makers. Nowadays at city level generally the political aims override the experts' suggestions so it would be helpful if an organisation such as the Logistics Conciliatory Forum could help the harmonised communication of the different actors within this field against the decision makers.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/ywk2gx>

Britain Rejects Road Pricing

The British Government has capitulated to a petition signed by 1.8 million people and shelved its plans for national road pricing. Instead it has given funding to local road pricing pilot schemes to be tried out over the next four years. It has also backed the idea of using motorway

Country	Date	Title
Switzerland	4th April	Freight transport in cities - a repressed problem?
France	10th April	How to promote a better public-private partnership to improve urban freight?
UK	21st April	Urban freight transport: implementing good practice
Slovakia	23rd April	Urban Freight Transport - Logistics: The way to sustainability
Germany	26th and 27th May	New approaches and solutions for urban freight transport

BESTUFS CONTACT DETAILS

For further information, please visit our web site at www.bestufs.net or contact us: BESTUFS, Administration Centre, P O Box 1969, 2280 DZ Rijswijk, The Netherlands

Email: bestufs@nea.nl

Tel No: +31 70 3988 356

Fax No: +31 70 3988 426

URL: www.bestufs.net

