

No. 24 - July 2008

BESTUFS II Final Conference

The BESTUFS II final conference with the theme 'Cities of Tomorrow' was held in Athens, Greece on 11-13th June 2008 with over 50 participants from across the EU and some from as far away as South Africa. The conference started with a technical visit to ELTA – Hellenic Post on 11th June just beside the Athens Olympic 2004 arena. Then the participants visited the sorting centre in Athens.

A brief summary of BESTUFS II was given. The project has organised four annual workshops and four annual conferences. It has produced a Best Practice Handbook and updates to earlier editions; a Good Practice Guide in 17 languages; several bibliographic CD Roms; policy and research recommendations; data and modelling roundtables; reports on data collections, modelling and applications; quantification of urban freight transport effects; and national seminars in the local language.

Today some European cities are growing and some are in decline or change. Big and progressive cities like London and Paris have departments manned with experts to deal with freight transport related issues. On the other hand, most small and medium size cities do not have such experts or units. It is not easy to measure the success (or failure) of BESTUFS (I and II). Nevertheless, it is clear that there are now many more people who know of or wish to understand urban freight logistics issues. The wider network feels that something must be done to face the challenges of urban freight in order to live and work in a sustainable way.

The following presentations were given:

- *Urban logistics of the cities of tomorrow*, by Prof. Mike Browne, University of Westminster
- *Urban freight transport – future policy from the EU*, by John Berry, DG TREN
- *Recent trends and challenges for the European metropolises in a globalised competitive economy*, by Prof. Christian Vandermotten, Dept. of Human Geography, University of Brussels
- *Large scale RFID in cities*, by Antti Permala, VTT, Finland

- *How does and will GNSS (Galileo) aid more efficient freight?* by Dr. Klaus Richter of the Fraunhofer Institute, Germany

- *What are Advanced Driver Assistance Systems?* by Agneta Sjögren, Volvo

- *The PIEK Project*, by Dr. Robert Goevaers, SenterNovem, The Netherlands

- *An overview of eight years of BESTUFS and how urban freight will develop in the future*, by Dieter Wild, PTV, Germany

- *Best practices in urban goods movement data collection, modelling and application fields*, by Jean-Louis Routhier, University of Lyon, France

- *Urban freight data and quantified impacts of projects in Europe*, by Jarl Schoemaker, NEA, The Netherlands

- *Scenario planning for logistics: an experts view for 2025*, by Dr. Heiko von der Gracht of the European Business School, Germany

Full conference minutes can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/5d7vgz>



Marco Monticelli, IVECO, chairing a session at the BESTUFS 2008 conference in Athens.

WP3 - Best Practice in Urban Goods Movement data collection, modelling approaches and application fields

The central aims of this WP were to collect, compare and describe different data collection approaches, transport models (and use cases) with respect to urban commercial activities. In addition, the WP sought to provide a platform for urban freight transport modelling experts to exchange

their expertise and practical experiences and to contribute to a harmonisation and standardisation of data collection methods in Europe.

The work was built around four round-tables held during the project - Lyon, LET (France), 2005, Berlin, TFH (Germany), 2006, Brussels, BRRC (Belgium), 2007 and Rome, Università della Sapienza (Italy), 2008. The four round-tables involved 77 experts from 14 countries.

As input to the round-table discussions questionnaires were organised concerning data collection and urban freight modelling. A web-platform (Docapolis.com) made possible on-line questionnaire completion and exchanges between experts. In total 43 experts from 11 European countries provided input to the detailed web-based questionnaires.

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 (bestuufs@nea.nl).



This work package has contributed to an improved understanding of Urban Goods Movement data collection for modelling and the coherence between methods and policy objectives. Using the same terminology for understanding results of studies about UGM has improved data exchange and testing and made possible recommendations for capturing future data for policy oriented modelling.

A report on the output of the work will be prepared and will then be made available on the BESTUFS website. In the meantime those who are interested in the topic can see the latest presentations from the Athens conference on the website.

Polish Logistics Congress

The BESTUFS II project was represented at the Polish Logistics Congress in Poznan, May 7-9th 2008. NewRail of Newcastle University manned a stand with the BESTUFS Good Practice Guide, CD Rom, newsletters, brochure and distributed conference invitations. The Congress is the major Polish logistics event organised by ILIM and was attended by over 700 delegates.



Maciej Tumasz from ILIM and Peter Sonnabend from DHL at the Polish Logistics Congress, Poznan, May 2008

Freight Best Practice Lectures

Tom Zunder and Dewan Islam of the Rail Freight and Logistics Group at NewRail, Newcastle University have developed a Masters' level module for use in postgraduate teaching as part of the UK Freight Best Practice Programme. This material, a four lecture set with lecturers' notes and student feedback forms, has been downloaded from the Freight Best Practice website more than 1250 times since the end of May 2008 and is considered a great success. Discussions are ongoing to develop further educational material as part of the DfT funded programme. Further details and downloads at: <http://www.freightbestpractice.org.uk>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Japan – 8th January 2008

The seminar introduced the progressive examples implemented by local government. The participants mainly discussed the factors and the processes of measures, and how to overcome the difficulties in implementing them. There were intensive discussions.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/5kqzmv>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Lithuania – 22nd February 2008

The BESTUFS II national seminar in Lithuania was a discussion-filled event with dialogue between researchers and representatives of public authorities. The BESTUFS II project objectives were presented to representatives of large Lithuanian cities. The Best Practice Guide was overviewed and distributed. The seminar was a good place to collect all urban transport stakeholders together for discussion. The need for much deeper bridging between research and public authorities was highlighted. A representative of the Ministry of Transport and Communication presented the effort made by the government to establish public, open access logistics centres, which actually will be a good tool for urban heavy traffic reduction. A very interesting presentation was made by a representative of Vilnius municipal enterprises about the public transport and parking system in Vilnius. Experience shows that the implementation of smart IT solutions and new management systems helped to increase the number of passengers in public transport. However, the non-effective use of private cars and congestion during the peak hours still remains the main problem in Vilnius. Transprto Pasaulis Journal and Kelias Journal will disseminate the main outcomes of the seminar.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/58jhub>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Austria – 6th March 2008

The national BESTUFS workshop in Austria was held in cooperation with the Vienna Chamber of Commerce. The title was "Delivery transport Quo Vadis?" and 52 participants were attracted to the event focusing on detailed issues concerning urban freight transport in Vienna. A variety of presentations provided information from the companies' level, as well as the political and administrative point of view. With examples from Europe, detailed facts and data and methodical approaches, a wide field of discussion between the participants was opened. The workshop was a great success and further activities to strengthen, disseminate and promote the topic of urban freight transport are planned.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/6mzktr>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in South Africa – 6th March 2008

The FIFA World Cup 2010 is bound to be a very exciting time for all South Africans. However, over and above all the euphoria, the planning behind an event of this magnitude should never be underestimated, none more so than the planning of urban freight. The CSIR International Convention Centre, in collaboration with Arivia.com's Transport forum, hosted a BESTUFS seminar on 6 March 2008, specifically to address issues that might arise both leading up and during the event. The message was clear: South Africa should plan rather than be caught out.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/6fbldo>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Australia – 11th March 2008

A major theme of the seminar was the application of new technologies, both for vehicles (eg. performance based systems) and for network management (eg. information and communication technologies). There is growing interest in the federal government with the National Transport Commission (NTC) and Transport Certification Australia becoming more actively involved in urban freight issues.

An overview of the BESTUFS and BESTUFS II projects as well as a summary of the Good Practice Guide was presented. The Good Practice Guide was distributed and was well received.

The recently produced National Transport plan was presented including a description of the desired outcomes in areas relevant to urban freight. The Intelligent Access Program (IAP), a compliance-monitoring scheme that allows improved access to the road network using telematics was introduced. A description of how Performance Based Standards (PBS) can increase productivity in urban areas and reduce the community exposure to freight vehicles was given.

An overview of the development and application of the Melbourne urban freight model that is being used to assist in planning new infrastructure projects such as intermodal terminals was also presented. A summary of initiatives being undertaken in New South Wales, including a number of intermodal and container movement studies was also presented.

There was strong interest in the BESTUFS project as well as establishing a national "best practice" network in Australia. The need for national leadership on urban freight was highlighted.

It was acknowledged that there is growing community concern over emissions, noise and congestion caused by trucks. Issues such as: how to integrate government planning and policy making were raised.

Concerns were expressed about the predicted growth in the Port of Melbourne and the associated increase in freight vehicles operating in inner Melbourne. There is an increasing interest in how urban rail may be able to reduce the impact of freight in major urban areas such as Sydney and Melbourne.

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/69nlyu>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Greece – 14th March 2008

There were seven very interesting presentations made in this seminar. Since the topics referred to the presentation of the content of BESTUFS and of the relevant case studies, but also of case studies and experiences from Greece, all discussion evolved around the situation in Greece and its comparison with the situation in European cities.

The results of the round table discussion are as follows:

- It is necessary to disseminate good European practices, not only to Greek cities but to European cities overall.
- Municipal authorities should find ways to make competitors act jointly for the advantage of them all and of the wider public
- Private public partnerships (PPP) may be a way forward for the resolution of the problems
- Financing initiatives can take the form of voluntary or long term agreements

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/6d6hd3>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Switzerland – 4th April 2008

The Swiss National BESTUFS seminar in Zurich was a well-adopted opportunity for the different parties involved in urban freight transport to discuss, contact and exchange knowledge and experiences. There was a range of presentations from the scientific point of view and the planners approach to the problems and challenges of the transport operators. Further presentations gave an overview of the BESTUFS project and some experiences from the Good Practice Guide and the Best

Practice Handbooks. The breaks were used for dialogue, discussion and networking. The final statement of all participants of the seminar answers the question "Freight transport in cities - a repressed problem?" with a clear YES. There exists a kind of laissez-faire policy in most of the cities, which implements many selected measures with only little effects. The City of Zurich is an exception. It is very active in the field of urban freight transport and acts as a positive example. A stronger view from the beginning to the end, from the loading of the freight vehicle to the unpacking at the consumer's home is needed. The importance of dialogue between the different parties involved in urban distribution was highlighted. All actors are requested to contribute to the stronger public perception of the challenges and problems of urban freight transport. The improvement of the environmental and living conditions and the economic competitiveness in an urban region should be of vital interest for all involved actors. The Swiss national seminar was a successful day and thought-provoking event.

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/5t26jt>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in France – 10th April 2008

In Europe, the transport sector is responsible for more than 26% of CO₂ emissions and urban freight for more than 20% of CO emissions in a city. This last is essentially managed by the private sector but an interest from local authorities emerged because loading and unloading activities are essential to the local economy. Within that context, businesses and public authorities need to work together in order to find solutions. The French National BESTUFS seminar in Clermont-Ferrand was a good opportunity to present successful co-operations and current thought regarding this issue in France and abroad. An interactive workshop with all delegates was part of the seminar activities.

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/6z6b5c>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in the UK – 21st April 2008

The BESTUFS UK Seminar was held at the University of Westminster in London. It was attended by 45 participants. The day included presentations on The Transport Green Paper - the Challenges for Freight (Duncan Buchanan, Department for Transport), the London Construction Consolidation Centre, Servicing (Gary Sullivan, Wilson James Ltd), Out-of-Hours Deliveries (Chris Douglas, TTR), the UK Freight Best Practice Programme and its relationship to urban freight (Jonathan James, Faber Maunsell), the Freight Operator Recognition Scheme in London (Glen Davies, Transport for London Freight Unit), Solving Urban Freight Issues in West London (Kevin Ratnasingam, MVA) and The Role of Rail in Urban Freight Transport (Phil Mortimer, NewRail, Newcastle University). Michael Browne (University of Westminster) also presented the work and outputs of the BESTUFS project. There was much discussion and networking between participants during the seminar.

Complete text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/5sexxb>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Slovakia 23rd April

The aim of the seminar was to provide the participants - representatives of regions, towns and municipalities, as well as others interested in the sphere of urban freight transport and logistics - with the possibility to gain actual information on trends in scope. All the participants agreed that it is the best

time to start a public discussion on this issue to gain interest of relevant subjects.

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/6ehw9c>

BESTUFS II National Seminar in Ireland – 6th May 2008

The workshop was opened by the Lord Mayor of Dublin and hosted by the Dublin Institute of Technology, Department of Transport Engineering. Developments reported included research into noise abatement for night deliveries, bio-fuels in fleet operation in Cork and freight planning in London. A vision of sustainable cities of the future was illustrated. Issues raised included more effective integration between spatial and transport planning, data for decision support systems, underpinning the investments in infrastructure with a dedicated research budget.

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/5bf4ov>

Other seminars

Other seminars were held in Slovenia, 12th October 2007, Czech Republic, 20th May 2008 and Belgium, 23rd May 2008. See <http://tinyurl.com/5rqfuj> for more information.

Report on WP5

Quantitative information on urban freight transport is not widely available. The BESTUFS team has developed two reports aiming to provide useful, inspiring information for anyone interested in urban freight transport data and quantified impacts of urban freight projects in Europe.

The first report, "Quantification of Urban Freight Transport Effects I" was published in 2006 and provides information from local surveys on:

- Freight volumes and commodities in urban areas
- Urban freight transport fleet
- Urban deliveries
- Economy
- Environment
- Safety

The second report, "Quantification of Urban Freight Transport Effects II" will be published in the summer of 2008 and will contain information on the impacts on the economy, environment and social conditions of urban freight measures and projects in different categories:

- Infrastructure and technology
- Restrictions and incentives
- Logistics and transport organization
- Accompanying measures
- Integrative transport planning

Both reports are available via the BESTUFS website at: <http://tinyurl.com/5rqfuj>

Position Paper

The BESTUFS project has published a position paper on urban mobility. The BESTUFS Position Paper is willing to contribute to the further development of the new European Commission's Green Paper "Towards a new culture for urban mobility". In this context the Position Paper tries to complement and extend the freight related dimension of urban mobility. Furthermore it attempts to provide answers to the questions posed such as those concerning congestions, air emissions and noise.

Full text available at: <http://tinyurl.com/5dbv4q>

Project End

The BESTUFS II project is now ending. It has run for 4 years (following the 4 years of BESTUFS I) and expanded and strengthened the network of urban freight experts, policy makers, academics, technologists, traffic planners and other interested parties in addressing both the opportunities and barriers to goods deliveries in cities, the benefits and disbenefits of that freight transport and the various strengths and weaknesses of a multitude of possible solutions. It has delivered a massive body of surveys, reports, conferences and workshops, best practice handbooks and a Good Practice Guide in almost all European languages. This network will now continue to thrive and grow, we have already seen the issues taken up by both large and medium cities across the EU and smaller cities have a watching eye on the situation. We hope that the 24 newsletters issued by the BESTUFS project in the 8 years since BESTUFS I started have informed and helped you learn of new initiatives and issues and that it has helped in your work and knowledge. This crucial and once neglected area now has a presence and all the partners in the BESTUFS consortium are proud to have played a part in achieving that.

BESTUFS CONTACT DETAILS

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