



THIRD BESTUFS WORKSHOP

This third BESTUFS workshop "Optimised city distribution vehicles as demanded by transport operators and cities" took place in Turin, Italy, the 17 January 2001 at the museo de'll automobile and the 18 January 2001 at the Centro Ricerche FIAT, all with the support of IVECO. A brief summary is given within this newsletter.

The first session "Transport operators and cities: Demanding the same vehicle type?" brought the following main highlights:

Mr. Ruesch from RAPP presented the situation in Switzerland regarding city distribution vehicles, the main reasons for their increment and the economical and environmental effects derived from that, stating that the increase in vehicles is a result of a growing number of consignments, the demand for shorter lead times and regulations on lorries.

Mr. Ton Vermie (City of Rotterdam) presented the new developments in electric and hybrid vehicles carried out in six different European cities under the EU project ELCIDIS. According to experts estimations the fuel cell needs for further research of about 5 to 10 years. At existing alternative drives the battery performance are a main bottleneck and needs further development. Furthermore, delivery problems by the vehicle manufacturers mainly for larger vehicles (12t) causes further problems. More information is available at www.elcidis.org

Mr. Huiberts from the Royal Dutch Transport Association introduced future trends in city distribution. In particular, he emphasized the trend of a "silent city truck" that will become concrete in the Netherlands. It is planned that during 19.00 and 23.00 hours 65dB and between 23.00 and 7.00 hours 60 dB are the allowed noise emissions of trucks operating within the cities during this times.

With reference on the alternative drives Mr. Sonnabend concluded within his presentation on the Deutsche Post transport operations in urban areas that although the performance and emissions are satisfactory, the costs for such vehicles are higher than for vehicles with conventional drives. If there are no direct economic advantages or incentives for transport operators to use

alternative drives no operator can afford to use such vehicles voluntarily.

The second session "Vehicle manufacturers: Prepared for the changing demands of the cities of tomorrow?" can be highlighted as follows:

Mr. Zaframundo presented the new light range vehicles from IVECO as well as the result of a European urban distribution survey, showing that the trends point at a continuous concentration of vehicles on the 3.5 t range. It also shows that there is an important growth in the traffic in the periphery area of the cities, where a shift from the city centres and the rural areas will keep growing in the future. Vehicles with more loading space will be required by the customers in the future to meet this demand. Mr. Salvati introduced the new developments of IVECO in the medium range category, 6 to 16t, specially the optimised distribution vehicle, the Eurotran. The driver issue is highlighted as a very important one in terms of labour and cost. Also the extension of the environmental concept not only to vehicle emissions but also to noise and visual impact was outlined.



Finally, Mrs. Sage presented the new developments at PSA Peugeot Citroen for light commercial vehicles up to 3.5t. Also it is remarked that the vehicles issues are a consequence of the logistics organisation and not the opposite. It is concluded that transport of goods is vital for maintaining the



dynamism of the cities. It is necessary to reduce its environmental impact without damaging its added value to urban life. BESTUFS helps to address these issues with its activities.

The second day consisted of a guided technical visit to FIAT'S Research Centre (CRF). Mr. Pera and Mr. Carrera from the CRF gave a short presentation on the activities taking place at the Centre. Special focus was given to the commercial vehicle development trends for road safety improvements. Afterwards, some of the IVECO and FIAT prototypes were shown to the participants, such as the IVECO INFODAILY, equipped with IT applications for route navigation, mobile communication, emergency assistance, tracking and tracing facilities.



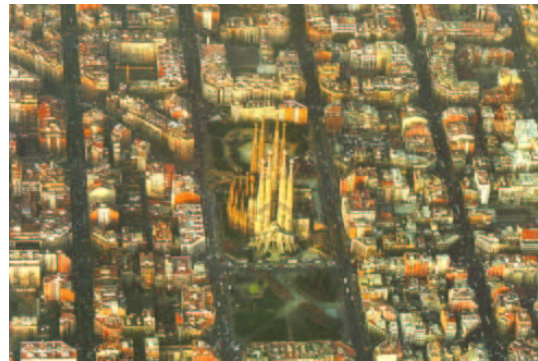
NEXT ACTIVITIES

4th BESTUFS Workshop

The 4th BESTUFS workshop is planned to take place on 10 & 11 May 2001 with the topic "E-logistics". More information about it will be available on the BESTUFS website www.bestufs.net

BESTUFS Conference

The BESTUFS conference "BEST URBAN FREIGHT SOLUTIONS I" will take place on 29 & 30 March 2001 in Barcelona, Spain. To receive a copy of the invitation, please e-mail Ms. Siân Evans. freightview@railview.demon.co.uk



EC funding opportunities

The CIVITAS initiative was launched on 24 October 2000 with a deadline of March 2001 for submission of proposals. It has a budget of up to EUR 50 million. For more information, please e-mail tren-civitas@cec.eu.int

The 4th call for proposals under the Growth programme as part of the Fifth Framework programme was launched on 15 December 2000, having 15 March 2001 as deadline. For more information visit the programme website at <http://www.cordis.lu/growth/home.html>

BESTUFS CONTACT DETAILS

For further information on the Thematic Network, please visit our website at www.bestufs.net or contact the BESTUFS administration centre:

Post address: BESTUFS
Administration Centre
P.O. Box 1969
2280 DZ Rijswijk
The Netherlands
E-mail: bestufs@nea.nl
Telephone No. +31 70 3988 393
Fax No. +31 70 3988 426

