EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 8 May 2014

Vice-President Kallas presents road safety award to Czech transport research centre

Commission Vice-President Siim Kallas has today presented the "Excellence in Road Safety Award" to the Transport Research Centre of the Czech Republic, for their commitment to *safe and smart roads*. This yearly award, created by the European Road Safety Charter, rewards organisations that have made a good, sustainable and realistic commitment to road safety. This year's award was handed over at the informal ministerial meeting on transport in Athens.

Vice-President Siim Kallas, Commissioner for transport, said, "*Safe and smart road infrastructure will not be enough to stop all road deaths – but it can contribute to saving lives. Making roads safer is a shared responsibility. From individual citizens to the European Commission, we each have a role to play. The Transport Research Centre is one organisation that has taken concrete action, contributing to safer roads in their community. This merits a reward.*"

The European Road Safety Charter brings together some 2500 signatories who pledge to fulfil individual road safety commitments. The signatories include public authorities, private companies and local civil society organisations. Every year, an award is presented to one or several signatories of the Charter.

This year, a special focus was on commitments related to safe infrastructure. The award winner, the Czech Transport Research Centre, made a commitment to produce guidelines on infrastructure safety management, in addition to road safety outreach to road safety experts as well as to road users. The Transport Research Centre also conducts road safety analysis, offers training to road safety professionals and runs information campaigns for increased road safety awareness among the general public.

The "Excellence in Road Safety Award" is presented in connection with the informal ministerial meeting on transport, held today in Athens. Transport ministers will discuss safe and smart infrastructure, focusing on how EU Member States can find solutions together to better address the road safety issues linked to unsafe road sections, and the benefits of new technology.

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/roadsafety

http://erscharter.eu

http://www.cdv.cz/en/

Contacts :
Helen Kearns (+32 2 298 76 38)
Dale Kidd (+32 2 295 74 61)