Catherine Birkner

From: FEHRL communications <catherine.birkner@fehrl.org>
Sent: 18 May 2015 10:25
To: Catherine Birkner
Subject: FEHRL second newsletter 2015

Issue 2 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

May
13th: REFINET project kick-off meeting
21st-22nd: FEHRL General Assembly

June
2nd-3rd: SENSKIN project kick-off meeting
4th-5th: ECOROADS project kick-off meeting
10th-11th: FLOW project kick-off meeting
16th-17th: LCE4ROADS Project Management Group meeting
19th: SETRIS project kick-off meting
24th-25th: SAFELIFE-x project final conference
25th: Infravation Management Group meeting

More events at
http://www.fehrl.org/calendar

USEFUL LINKS

Please log in to
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FIRM15 focuses on innovative maintenance...

Dear Reader,

On 22nd-23rd April, some 110 transport infrastructure research experts, including two MEPs, European and national policy makers and associations, leading industry and SMEs, standardisation agencies and the media, met for the **2015 FEHRL Infrastructure Research Meeting (FIRM15)** at the Diamant Centre in Brussels, Belgium. Throughout the two-day conference, several debates were held and solutions presented for R&D&I on the theme of "*Innovative maintenance of transport infrastructure: Faster, cheaper, more reliable, safer, greener*".

The first plenary session featured a rich blend of high-level cross-modal speakers who all discussed "*How we can foster the Innovative maintenance of Transport Infrastructure*". The first speaker, MEP Gesine Meißner (Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe), outlined that while more money is needed in Europe to pay for transport infrastructure, there is never enough, and welcomed industries, road users and entrepreneurs to make proposals to politicians to carry out better policy making. This was picked up by the other speakers from the European Commission and European Technology Platforms and associations, who also included innovative ways to achieve more collaboration between the transport modes, including through the **cross-modal**

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FEHRL recent news

One day workshop on Transport and Climate Change

9th EAPA Symposium on 4th June 2015

Dynamic mini-expo at FEHRL Infrastructure Research Meeting 2015

FEHRL has temporarily moved offices

Call for papers for Case Studies in Transportation Policy (CSTP) special issue

Abstract deadline for 8th RILEM International Conference extended to 30th April 2015

Call for abstracts for Road Safety on Five Continents (RS5C) conference

LCE4ROADS (formerly ECOLABEL) project newsletter - April 2015 now published

First announcement for the third ERPUG Forum on 15-16th October 2015

Electromobility+ Conference to be held in Berlin on 20th May 2015

SAVeRS project final conference on 18th May 2015 in Rome, Italy

New video on Transformers project now on FEHRL's YouTube channel

ERTRAC 2015 Annual Conference took place on 3rd March 2015

roadmap for Transport Infrastructure innovation and the **Shift2Rail** Joint Undertaking.

FIRM15 round table participants

A dynamic round table discussion on "*Investing in innovative transport infrastructure, a critical matter at stake for European competitiveness and social cohesion*" covered in particular the challenges facing Europe, namely that little attention is given to the maintenance of transport infrastructure. While different funding mechanisms exist, these do not cover the total required costs and it is difficult to get money for maintenance. According to the high-level participants, which included MEP Wim Van de Camp (Group of the European People's Party), the EC and European associations (CEDR, EIM, ERF and EURNEX) and FEHRL Executives, maintenance should be seen more as an investment to drive benefits for private partners and society/community.

Three technical sessions, moderated mostly by FEHRL Directors, featured an introduction to the needs and challenges of Transport Infrastructure owners followed by the proposed solutions. In parallel to the whole event, there was a **mini-expo** of key partners and projects. More information can be found **here**, presentations **here** and photos **here**.

... and kicks off FOX and USE-iT, two new Horizon 2020 projects

FOX and USE-IT consortium

On 7-8th May, FEHRL kicked off two new Horizon 2020 projects called FOX (Forever Open Infrastructure across (X) all transport modes), which looks at the technical areas of Construction, Inspection, Maintenance and Recycle & Reuse, and USE-iT (Users, Safety, security and Energy In Transport infrastructure) at a joint meeting for some 25 researchers. The meeting looked at each of the Work Packages, as well as the synergies between these and other projects in terms of building a network of researchers and practitioners from the different transport modes and setting the agenda for the further improvement of cross-modal research development innovation, as well as the demonstration and implementation of the results. Click **here** to

access the FOX presentations and **here** for USE-iT.

Read the recent FEHRL news to the left or at **www.fehrl.org/news** and do not forget to contact us (**info@fehrl.org**) to give your feedback or comments. You can also follow more news about FEHRL on FEHRL's social media channels - **Twitter**, **Facebook** and **Linked In**.

Thierry Goger
FEHRL Secretary General

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