

TISPOL

European Traffic Police Network

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TISPOL Bulletin, 12 March 2013



Ian Hamill reports on recent talks in Bulgaria

Last week, TISPOL held a Road Policing Seminar in Sofia, Bulgaria which was attended by representatives from 23 countries. Part of the seminar focused on ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) technology and how it can make an immense contribution to detecting crime on our roads. The technology also plays an important role in the field of road safety such as identifying uninsured vehicles.

During discussion sessions, police officers were able to identify key issues which would support their work in road policing with the main points being the need for information, training and sharing of good practice. These are issues which TISPOL will continue to address in the future.

Members of the TISPOL Executive Committee had the opportunity for a private meeting with Mr Antonov, the Police Director for Bulgaria. This was a very good opportunity to discuss road policing issues and to consider road safety and road crime. Bulgaria in recent years has made a significant reduction in the number of people killed on its roads. For example, in 2001 there were 1,011 road fatalities. By 2012, this had fallen to 601.

Bulgaria has also embraced the 'road policing' model and Mr Antonov expressed his appreciation to TISPOL for the work which is undertaken in sharing good practice in this important field. It is very encouraging that as the result of Bulgarian representatives attending

NEW VIDEO

2-BE-Safe

Austria's Martin Winkelbauer discusses motorcycle safety initiatives.

Polish bus heroes

Two passengers bring a bus to a halt when they notice the driver losing consciousness

TISPOL Road Policing seminars, they have introduced successful cross border road policing operations with both Romania and Greece.

This week, TISPOL will be having meetings with EUROPOL to develop our co-operation and we will also meet with representatives from the road transport sector to discuss a wide range of issues.

Lastly, please circulate this Bulletin and encourage colleagues and contacts to sign up to receive it.

Ian Hamill (*General Secretary, TISPOL*)

Seatbelt operation takes place all this week

TISPOL's pan European seatbelt enforcement operation is taking place between 11 and 17 March. Results from an autumn operation showed that nearly 100,000 drivers and passengers were detected for not wearing seatbelts. Of the final total of 97,489 detections, 3,539 related to children not wearing seatbelts or other safety restraints. The remaining 93,950 offences related to adult vehicle occupants.

UK government to introduce new drug driving legislation

The UK government is introducing a new offence of being in charge of a motor vehicle with a controlled drug in the body. Drug driving, according to transport minister Stephen Hammond, is a menace on our roads with an estimated 200 drug driving-related deaths a year in Great Britain. "The government has a zero tolerance approach to illegal drug use and it is important that we send the strongest possible message that you cannot take illegal drugs and drive," he wrote in a statement to Parliament. [>> More](#)

Polish passengers stop bus as driver faints



Two quick-thinking women bus passengers in Poland took over the driving after noticing that their driver had lost consciousness. A representative of the Polish bus company praised the actions of the passengers for noticing and rushing to the rescue so quickly. [>> More](#)

F1 star David Coulthard assists Scottish road safety initiative

Former Formula 1 driver David Coulthard is urging drivers to slow down on country roads to reduce the number of fatal crashes. The former Formula One driver is backing a new road safety campaign by

the Scottish Government and Road Safety Scotland. [>> More](#)

Register for the PACTS Conference in London

"Lies, Damned Lies and Statistics" - understanding casualty trends and the causes. The Conference takes place on Thursday 21st March 2013, at the Royal College of Surgeons in London. **Book your place now.**

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