



## **TISPOL BULLETIN NO 21/2011** 18 October 2011

### **CHOOSE THE ITEMS THAT INTEREST YOU THIS TIME:**

[The background to TISPOL's new Strategy Document](#)

[News update](#)

[Call for case study material in the coming months](#)

[Latest TISPOL videos to watch and enjoy](#)

[In case you missed it: congratulations to our photography competition winner](#)

### **FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY**



I HAVE taken time during the days after the Conference to work through every sheet of feedback provided to us by delegates and exhibitors. This is vitally important, not because we like to give ourselves credit for doing a good job, but because we want to know what worked and what did not. We recognise that air conditioning in the conference hall on the first day was insufficient and we have raised this issue with the venue. Having said this, no one expected temperatures in the high 20s in the north of England at the end of September.

We are pleased that the content and the quality of speakers have met with so much positive response. This helps us as we begin the process of planning an event for next year. We want to make it as relevant as possible to your working life and the many challenges you face. It is encouraging to note that we have already received a number of firm requests from exhibitors to be with us next year in Edinburgh – a good indication that the Conference provides an ideal meeting point and market place.

I hope you will enjoy this Bulletin.

**Ian Hamill**

## TISPOL'S STRATEGY DOCUMENT

We have worked long and hard to produce a robust, enduring Strategy Document that will be at the heart of all TISPOL's activities in the years to come. The strategy is based on the concept of Vision Zero as a fundamental principle, for efforts to improve road safety. It also reflects the preconditions laid down by the EU Commission's Road Safety Action Plan, 2011-2020, which call for a 50% reduction of fatalities by 2020.

The background is encouraging, but nevertheless challenging. Road deaths across Europe have generally fallen over the past decade. Some countries have experienced significant falls. Others have not, and need assistance to ensure their road safety record keeps up. A long-term squeeze on resources will make the challenge even more significant. But it remains more important than ever to focus on our way of making significant fatality and serious injury reductions a reality.

So how can TISPOL play its part to deliver on the tough target that has been set? The key points of Vision Zero are as follows:

- every human being is unique and irreplaceable, and we cannot accept that 30,000 persons lose their lives annually in traffic accidents across Europe
- human physical and mental capabilities are known and shall form a basis for road system design – premises for chosen solutions and measures
- the road system will encourage safe road user behaviour and protect against fatal consequences of normal erroneous actions
- road users and authorities have a joint responsibility for traffic safety

We have identified, though the foundation work pioneered by Roar Larsen and the ongoing efforts of new President Pasi Kemppainen, the ways in which we can have the most powerful effect on reducing casualties.

We will play our part by identifying good practice and disseminating its findings through seminars, conferences, training manuals, databases and through the website. Co-operation – with other stakeholders – is vital, as is the co-ordination of enforcement operations, the more efficient investigation of crashes and the early detection of emerging trends that may threaten road safety.

Do take a moment to look at the TISPOL Strategy Document in detail. It's attached to the email that brought you this Bulletin.

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TISPOL'S STRATEGY DOCUMENT IN YOUR LANGUAGE?**

If you would like to distribute TISPOL's Strategy Document in your own language, then please arrange for it to be translated from English. Then save the new text as a Word document and send it to [media@tispol.org](mailto:media@tispol.org). We will then produce the layout in your language and send you a PDF. Hopefully the computer will be able to read and process all languages.

## NEWS UPDATE

### Russian delegation visits Finnish National Traffic Police



St Petersburg Traffic Police representatives visited the Finnish National Traffic Police premises last week. Major and director Tatjana Zybina, accompanied by colleagues Senior Lieutenant Elena Zueva and Lieutenant Viktoria Zubova come from the preventative police work section. Their special interest was to learn about Finnish Police communication, driver education and road safety campaigns. They also visited other road safety stakeholders during their three-day visit.

TISPOL President Pasi Kemppainen said: "This is a good opportunity to exchange good practice across the border between Russia and Finland, as well as giving a chance to inform our Russian colleagues about TISPOL's work on the field of road safety matters."

Discussion between Russian and Finnish colleagues covered different publicity areas, including citizens, authorities, key stakeholders and experts, as well as international ways of communicating Road safety messages. The National Traffic Police of Finland has started to work as a part of the Finnish Police in social media (e.g. Facebook) where the Finnish Police has at the moment more than 176 000 fans.

Press officer, Sergeant Jussi Pohjonen from the National Traffic Police, said: "Police need to be in Facebook because citizens are there too."

Other communication channels were covered too and some examples of latest Road Safety campaigns were presented.

### French motorcycle gendarmes to receive new uniforms



During the next three months, France's National Gendarmerie will be equipping all its motorcyclists with a new uniform, involving a high-end standard of security. Since 1950, the current uniform has not changed, involving cavalry boots and traditional

cotton trousers, which caused the French gendarmes to be colloquially referred to as "chats bottés" (puss in boots).

Last year, of the 13 gendarmes who lost their lives while on duty, six were motorcyclists. It was high time to enhance the security of those officers at risk. A new jacket fitted with an airbag device will be part of the new uniform, along with new boots, gloves, helmet and materials to withstand accidental long slides on road surfaces. Conspicuity will be improved by the addition of high-visibility yellow reflective bands, already fitted to vehicles.

A total of 4,000 police officers will have been equipped by the end of the year, representing an 8-million euro investment for the Gendarmerie.

### **Jail term for record Swiss speeder**

A 28-year-old Swiss man captured his own reckless speeding on his mobile phone's video camera - and secured himself a long jail sentence as a result. The man drove a Bentley Continental (560 hp) in the Vaud canton, between Lausanne and Geneva, at speeds of up to 325 km/h (203 mph) on the interstate A1. This happened on 21 April 2011 at 3.30 AM. The driver filmed himself driving with his mobile phone placed on the car's dashboard.

Comments Andre Roth, of the Basel City Police: "Thanks to this the police could find him guilty. Never before has someone been caught with a speed like this on Swiss roads. Because of other reasons the police had to check the mobile phone of the driver and by chance discovered the video-clip."

The driver was imprisoned for seven and a half years.

### **Plans for new British offence**

The British government has announced a new criminal offence will be introduced to help to provide justice to seriously injured victims of dangerous drivers. Currently, there is no charge that specifically recognises the causing of serious injury while driving, so drivers who inflict serious injury through reckless and irresponsible behaviour may only be charged with 'dangerous driving', which carries a maximum of two years in jail, or 'careless driving', which carries a maximum penalty of a fine and disqualification. Under the new law, drivers can be charged with 'causing serious injury by dangerous driving' and face up to five years in prison and an unlimited fine.

TISPOL welcomes this step, which will hopefully give courts more scope to deal with drivers who cause serious injury to others.

### **European Council adopts cross-border directive**

The European Council has adopted a directive on cross-border exchange of information on road traffic offences, based on a text agreed with the European Parliament.

Member states will have two years following the publication of the

directive in the EU's official journal to transpose it into their national legislation.

By facilitating cross-border exchange information, it is hoped that the directive will help combat road traffic offences that considerably jeopardise road safety, by facilitating cross-border exchange information. A member state in which an offence has been committed by a vehicle registered in another member state will be able to identify the owner of the vehicle and investigate who is personally liable for the offence, so that sanctions can be enforced. This will also help ensure equal treatment of drivers irrespective of their country of residence.

Under the new legislation, member states will allow each other access to vehicle registration data for identification of the owner or keeper of the vehicle with which the offence has been committed. Once that person is identified, the member state in which the traffic offence took place will send him or her a letter setting out the details of the offence committed and the fine imposed in accordance with its law. In any case, it will depend on the member state in which the offence has been committed and on its national law to determine whether and how the offence will be prosecuted.

Due to their special position under the Lisbon treaty with regard to policy cooperation, the UK, Ireland and Denmark do not participate in this measure, but may decide to join later.

## **WE WANT YOUR CASE STUDIES**

AS PART of our plan to include everyone in our communications plans, we are soon to launch a programme in which we will be compiling road safety case studies. We will be showcasing these on the website and in more wide-ranging publicity efforts, and we hope to collect as wide an assortment of topics as possible. In the coming weeks, we will draw up some design templates and also create case studies from various items that have already been given to us.

For now, please have a think about how you can contribute to a case study:

For example

- How we engaged with the motorcycle community to promote advanced riding sessions, leading to a reduction in fatal and serious crashes
- How we worked together on a cross-border operation with officers from our neighbouring country. What we learnt from the exercise and what the results were
- How we maximised our already stretched resources to target early morning drivers still impaired by alcohol, and to secure more than 100 offences in a week

It will be important to have some good photographs to illustrate the case studies.

So- you will be hearing from us in a short while, but if you have any good ideas immediately, please don't hesitate to let us know. Just email [media@tispol.org](mailto:media@tispol.org).

## **VIDEO UPDATES**

### **New President**

New TISPOL President Pasi Kemppainen explains the priorities for his year in office

**WATCH NOW**

### **Manchester control**

Observers from 30 European countries watch as Greater Manchester Police officers conduct a highly successful traffic control in which drugs are discovered, trucks are prohibited, uninsured vehicles are seized and two arrests are made.

**WATCH NOW**

In the next Bulletin, we will begin loading the first in a series of videos recorded at TISPOL's recent Conference.

## **'ENFORCEMENT PHOTOGRAPH' WINNER**

A quick repeat of the announcement last time, and our congratulations to Jocelyn Balcaen, of the Belgian Federal Police, whose photograph of two patrol motorcyclists on a motorway was chosen as winner of TISPOL's Enforcement Photograph of the Year competition.



## **NEXT BULLETIN:**

The next TISPOL Bulletin will be available on Tuesday 1 November 2011.