

ASECAP PRESS RELEASE

ROAD SAFETY DOES NOT MEAN UNTESTED IDEAS BUT RELIABLE FIGURES

ASECAP - www.asecap.com - is the sole European professional Association of Tolled Motorways, Bridges and Tunnels road operators. Its members manage national and pan European traffic on more than 40.000 km, mostly along TENs. Tolled motorways offer the highest quality standards to their users and road safety is their highest priority. ASECAP and its members actively participate in all European activities related to road safety. They are among the earliest signatories of the European road safety charter, and organize every year conferences and workshops to promote best practices at European level. In close cooperation with the EU Institutions, motorways concessionaires are implementing Directive 2006/569 on road infrastructure safety management along TENs and Directive 2004/54 on tunnels safety.

ASECAP received information on the EuroRap study on "*How safe are you on Europe's trade routes*", based on arbitrary assessments and tests on limited road stretches. ASECAP wishes to remind that several international scientific fora and world road organizations have expressed serious doubts concerning the EuroRap methodology. As an indicative example, Eurorap publication claims that "Italian and Spanish motorways are among the most problematic networks in Europe". ASECAP would like to present the latest figures provided by the national motorways associations to their states in the above mentioned countries. On Spanish toll roads, the number of fatalities has decreased by 62% in the last nine years (2000-2009), whereas the number of km travelled has increased by 35%. In Italy, the number of fatalities has decreased by 48.2 % (2002-2008).

ASECAP fully supports the European Commission in its attempts to promote road safety but it is urgent these attempts to be based on reliable parameters and scientific assumptions. For this reason, the European Commission must urgently establish a unique and reliable corridor on information and data exchange with the relevant stakeholders. Road Safety is a complex matrix and demagogic considerations should be avoided. Based on the existing legal frameworks, both at national and European levels, public and private stakeholders should co-examine seriously such sensitive matters and commonly define relevant key performance "road infrastructure and traffic management indicators".

