Roads to Respect Award Ceremony

30th September 2009 12.40-13.30

A European Campaign for better Road Safety Engineering

European Parliament, Paul Henri Spaak, Room 4B49

Every year, about 39,000 people die in the European Union as a consequence of road collisions. Poor infrastructure continues to be an important cause of road traffic crashes. Road safety research shows that infrastructure is a contributing factor in one out of three fatal accidents in Europe and that safer road design and layout would do most to reduce the rate of death and serious injury. Present road design results from many decades of construction and maintenance in a time when safety issues where diluted among other considerations. Many roads do not meet latest safety requirements. On top of that, traffic conditions have changed dramatically.

With safer roads, deaths and injuries are preventable. Good roads enforce desired traffic behaviour by assisting the task of driving and offer an environment that is adapted to the limitations of human capacity. In considering these limitations, safe roads respect the vulnerability of the human body and the value of human lives.

The "Roads to Respect" (R2R) project focuses on treating high risk infrastructure sites as this is the area of road safety work where the most substantial and sustainable casualty reductions can be achieved in relatively short time and at relatively low cost.

In the 2008 edition of R2R, 20 engineering students from Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Serbia and Slovenia have run between September 2008 and July 2009 a road safety campaign to treat at least one high risk site in their home countries. For their outstanding achievements and for their commitment and determination to get their projects implemented, ETSC wants to congratulate Marios Philippou, from the University of Cyprus, Petar Krasic from the University of Novi Sad (Serbia) and Petros Sekeris from the Democritus University of Thrace (Greece) in an Award Ceremony that will take place next 30 September at the European Parliament in Brussels.

The R2R 2008 award ceremony will be chaired by Ms. Inés Ayala Sénder (MEP). The awards will be handed by Ms. Isabelle Kardacz (European Commission), Ms. Inge Huijbrechts (Toyota) and Mr. Rik Nuyttens (3M).

To attend the Award Ceremony: daniel.ugarte@etsc.eu

ETSC is grateful to Toyota and 3M for their support to the Roads to Respect Programme