



NEWS RELEASE

Students awarded for local projects to reduce speed

19 March 2013, Brussels – “We are delighted to reward the work of these committed students. Their work is proof that low-cost measures to reduce speed have a high life-saving potential when they are implemented clearly at targeted sites,” said Ellen Townsend, ETSC¹ Policy Director during the Award Ceremony for STARS projects.²

Four groups of two students each received the awards for the STARS awards for projects aimed at reducing speed at high risk sites in Europe. The jury selected the four winners, of the eleven local projects implemented in the framework of STARS, based on the effectiveness of the intervention, the overall cost-effectiveness of the project, but also the students’ ability to involve local partners and communicate the results to the community.

Martins Tamovics of Latvia and Ricardo Aitken of the US, both students at the Technical University of Munich, received a 3rd place *ex-aequo* award for their project which reduced speed on a street in Munich with a high flow of pedestrian traffic. His Excellency Selim Yenel, head of Turkey’s Permanent Delegation to the European Union, presented Hakan Gürel and Ugur Erdem, of the University of Ankara with a 3rd place *ex-aequo* award for their action which uses improved road markings to reduce speed in Ankara. MEP Elisa Ferreira (S&D, Portugal) presented the 2nd place award to Joana Nogueira and Federico Henriques for their project which introduced speed-reducing chicanes on a Lisbon street by modifying the layout of the parking places. The winners of the STARS 2013 competition are Ignacio Álvarez and Pablo Alonso, who redesigned a road section and roundabout in the campus of their university, the Polytechnic of Gijón. Ms. Remedios Bordiu, the permanent representative in Brussels of the Asturias region handed the award to the two students.

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Notes to editors:

¹ ETSC is a Brussels-based organisation dedicated to reducing the numbers of deaths and injuries in transport in Europe. The ETSC seeks to identify and promote research-based measures with a high safety potential. It brings together 47 independent non-profit making national and international organisations concerned with transport safety from across Europe. www.etsc.eu

² STARS is three-year project which aims at mobilising transport research into speed management to demonstrate how excessive and inappropriate speed can be reduced through existing measures. The main objective of STARS is to run concrete actions that can reduce speed through the work of students. STARS relies on the work of committed young university students who are encouraged to run a local speed management action to reduce speeding through infrastructure projects or communication projects in road transport with the support of ETSC and its partners.