

PROJECT PROFILE

Title	Effective asset management meeting future challenges	
Contractor	Ministry of Transport, Danish Road Directorate (DRD)	
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Start date	May-10	
End date	Sep-12	
Status	to start 2010	
Type of project	ERA-NET ROAD Joint Research Programme SRO4	
Cost	€150.0k : Total budget: €2,850.0k	
Project reference	ENR SRO4	

Description	<p>A cost-effective, reliable transport system is essential in developing and maintaining a thriving economy. According to ERTRAC, road transport contributed to 11% of total EU GDP in 2005. However, this economic success comes at a price. In 2006, the transport sector accounted for 23% of all CO2 emissions, with road transport generating 73% of this total. These conflicting issues require that the road network be very carefully managed, particularly in light of the new challenges posed by the recent downturn of the European economy.</p> <p>The aim of the programme is to improve the management of the European road network by identifying and developing methods and procedures which optimise performance from a technical, economic and sustainability point of view. The management of a road network involves a wide range of areas including engineering, economics, social development, civil engineering, traffic management, safety, information technology, and many more. It is important that a holistic approach is adopted encompassing the whole service life “from cradle to grave” in order to maximise the potential benefits of these important national assets.</p> <p>This research programme is a trans-national joint research programme initiated by ERA-NET ROAD. Funding for the programme is being provided by 11 national road administrations in Europe including the NRA. The programme is being managed by the Danish Road Administration under Danish laws and regulations. The projects commissioned were devised by consortia from various EU countries.</p>
Objectives	<p>The main objective of this joint research programme is to recommend management processes and tools that Road Directors and Operators can use to manage the national road network in a safe, reliable, economic and sustainable way, in line with stakeholders' expectations. The processes will incorporate a holistic approach to the management of all of the road components at all decision-making levels, from strategic level to operation level. They will enable Road Directors to identify where to target resources to obtain best value. The outputs from the programme will ensure that a common framework can be adopted by the different Road Authorities across Europe</p>
Benefits	<p>The research will contribute to the development of an advanced asset management system using state-of-the-art procedures and techniques. It will enable the the strategic management of the road network as a complete entity, rather than looking at each of its individual components (pavement, bridges, tunnels, gantries, signs, lighting systems, etc) separately, as is the traditional approach. It will take account of stakeholders' requirements and expectations and will incorporate environmental issues into the management process in order to minimise the negative effects on users, society in general, plant and animal habitat and biodiversity.</p>
Outputs	<p>The outputs of this research programme will be a series of reports focusing on different aspects of asset management. The outputs will be used to assist in the development of an integrated asset management system for the NRA.</p>