

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON THE 4TH TRANSPORT LOGISTICS ICT



BRINGING INTELLIGENCE AND INTEROPERABILITY
TO FREIGHT TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

OCTOBER 13 – 14, 2011
THESSALONIKI, GREECE

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are pleased to announce the 4th European Conference on ICT for Transport Logistics (ECITL '11) on the 13th and 14th of October 2011 in Thessaloniki (Greece). This year's conference will focus on Interoperability among Logistics systems and will demonstrate its benefits in terms of cost savings, lead-time and/or energy efficiency.

FOCUS

The need for multi-modal logistics schemes is constantly increasing as industry is seeking for energy and cost efficient logistics solutions. At the same time, multi-modal logistics solutions are becoming more and more competitive and are starting to further strengthen the links between the regions in Europe. One of the major barriers to the uptake of multimodal logistics solutions is the lack of integration of IT-based logistics planning and control systems of the different stakeholders involved in transport. Although considerable research has been done in this area, the dawn of the fully electronic exchange of information in supply and distribution network remains as a strong vision for the future.

This fact has also been recognized by different European funded Projects, resulting in collaboration activities to develop an IT-Framework for the Logistics sector in order to overcome the persisting interoperability issues. The Common Framework ensures that information is exchanged electronically through as few messages and little complexity as possible. The Framework provides a context in which real-life solutions can emerge, allowing all supply chain partners to publish, access and utilise the data needed for their respective operations.

The purpose of the 4th ECITL conference is to advance from the conceptual level of research to practical demonstrators in order to convince shippers, logistics providers and authorities that interoperability offers tangible benefits. System interoperability generates quantifiable savings in terms of cost, lead-time and/or energy efficiency compared to non-interoperable solutions. This shall be done through case studies derived from the projects' pilot studies and relating to for example, door-to-door tracking of cargo, reporting to customs and other authorities, intelligent cargo in emergency situations, and reconciling long term transport planning with short-term execution.

SETTING

The Conference will host several parallel sessions, some of them interactive. Interactive sessions are aimed at discussion and audience participation to gather direct feedback from the sector to sharpen the view on the issues, including challenges and requirements, exchange of experiences and possible directions for future improvement. Invited speakers will represent the addressed audience, e.g. logistics operators and service providers, industry, researchers, authorities and infrastructure providers, and the supporting projects.

The event is coordinated by the University of Applied Sciences Vorarlberg GmbH (FHV) and is supported by several independent EU funded projects (Logistics for LIFE, e-FREIGHT, CASSANDRA, EURIDICE, INTEGRITY, SMART-CM) dealing with different issues of transport logistics. Together they try to establish a common exchange and cooperation platform for stakeholders and researchers in the logistics sector.

The target audience includes all who are involved in logistics operations, e.g. logistics operators, manufacturers, infrastructure providers, authorities and researchers. In continuation of the attractive locations of the previous conferences in Lucerne, Venice and Bremen the ECITL '11 will take place in Thessaloniki – Greece's second major

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economic, industrial, commercial and political centre, and a major transportation hub for south-eastern Europe. The attractive ECITL 2011 conference venue is located directly in the port of Thessaloniki in one of the imposingly renovated warehouses of the 1st pier of Thessaloniki Port, also hosting the Thessaloniki International Film Festival every year. The local host for this conference will be the “Centre for Research and Technology Hellas/Hellenic Institute of Transport” (CERTH/HIT) based in Thessaloniki.

Additional and up-to-date information about the event, e.g. detailed venue information and the conference programme, can be found on the conference website: www.ecitl.eu.

On behalf of the local host committee,

Prof. George A. Giannopoulos

(signature)

Director of the Hellenic Institute of Transport

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9th km Thessaloniki-Thermi, Thomas Building, PO Box. 60705, GR- 57001 Thessaloniki - Greece
Tel.: +30 2310250929 (conference line), +30 2310272275, Fax: +30 2310272276
E-mail: ecitl@artion.com.gr, W: www.ecitl.eu