



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

OPENING SPEECH

**MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTS
AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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- Dear representative of the European Commission;

- Dear EasyWay Community;

- My Friends, good afternoon!

It is my privilege and honor to welcome you all, to the 2010 edition of the EasyWay Annual Forum, in Lisbon.

It is with great pleasure that, by doing so, Portugal recognizes the importance of being involved in one of the most promising projects in Europe that will undeniably lead us to a brighter future towards sustainable mobility.



... Let's start with this vision:

- Wouldn't it be great if we had a sustainable transport system that allows the European travelers and hauliers to travel safely with no damage accidents, efficiently with no delays, and cleanly with no environmental damages?
- Wouldn't it be great if we had a road network where the users are supported by harmonized and seamless ITS services in all aspects of their travel (pre-trip, on-trip and after-trip)?
- Wouldn't it be great if we shared an Europe where all transport-related problems regarding mobility, safety



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and environment were solved for both the particular
and the professional road user?

The answer is:

Yes, that would be great ...

and that would be... a *Shortcut to the Future!*

I am very glad to find an European Program so largely participated, mainly represented through their ministries for transport, national road authorities, motorway companies, service providers, universities, city authorities, enforcement bodies, and so on, in a total of more than 150 partners.

All aligned;



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All sharing the same vision;

All with one single purpose:

To better serve the road user's interest.

The road user *is* the center of the perspective.

Portugal shares and supports this vision, since sustainable mobility is embedded in the Government strategic approach.

In fact, one could say that Easyway's principles are in line with some of Portugal's own objectives:



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- Enhance individual wellbeing by promoting an optimized mobility system within the country;
- Promote a sustainable coordination between transport policies and urban planning and development;
- Encourage the respect for the environment by supporting the adoption of less polluting transport means and technologies;
- Improve the global cost/efficient ratio of the transport sector by promoting inter-modality and efficient connections;
- And, mainly, one of our Government strategic goals is to efficiently integrate the Iberian, the Trans-European and the Trans-Atlantic transport networks,



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assuring their inter-operability and cohesiveness, so that it may strengthen the national competitiveness and the role of Portugal, as a logistic Platform for Europe and the world.

In these past couple of years, while pursuing those objectives is easy to point out some major projects that have been promoted in our country:

- The creation of an Electric Mobility Network, an integrated network linking various Cities in Portugal, making it possible to recharge electric vehicles almost everywhere, from parking slots on the street, to your own garage, at home.



- Yes, Portugal is investing in new energy models:
- 43% of our electricity already comes from renewable sources.
 - Portugal has the largest wind farm in Europe.
It is expected to produce 530 GWh (five hundred and thirty Gigawatt Hours) annually, enough electricity to supply 160,000 (one hundred and sixty thousand) homes.
 - Portugal also has one of the largest photovoltaic power stations in the world.
 - All this will contribute to reduce both the environmental impact of our mobility and our dependence on imported fossil fuels.



➤ Finally, Portugal has made a huge effort, under the *Portuguese Technological Masterplan*, promoting Innovation and Development by bringing Information Technologies available to all, in all sectors. This is a key element for the backbone of all the Information Services that are waiting to be created.

... And now, with the publication of the ITS Directive, in July, a positive framework is set, for the deployment of ITS Services across Europe.

It is a huge opportunity and also a great responsibility.

And the Annual Forum seems to be the time and the place to begin this joint venture.



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So, I truly hope that the outcome of this Forum may be fruitful and eco in our actions, help us enlighten our path, inspire us, and prepare us with firm steps towards the future.

Finally, I take this opportunity to personally salute InIR, for the organization of this important event, and for the role it holds, as mobilizing element within the sector, for the *building up* of this vision in Portugal.

To you all, who will actively participate in the Annual Forum, I wish the very best and a pleasant stay, while you are here. Enjoy!

Thank you!