European Transport Conference 2008
6-8 October 2008
Leeuwenhorst Conference Centre
The Netherlands

See the booking form for details of our special ‘Two for One’ offers and 50% discount for young professionals

The most important topics in transport, the best-informed speakers, the most animated discussions

For full and up-to-date details about the seminars and speakers at the Conference, please visit the AET web-site: www.aetransport.org
The European Transport Conference - a key event in the transport calendar

The European Transport Conference, now in its 36th year, is the key annual event for sharing innovation, best practice and networking with colleagues from more than 50 countries. The Conference is unique in Europe, attracting over 500 transport practitioners and researchers to a meeting place, where they can find in-depth presentations on policy issues, research findings and best practice across a broad spectrum of transport modes.

If you come to the Conference, it may be to present a paper or to listen to others but you will find yourself in the midst of an expanding network of professionals who are committed to a common cause of moving forward the transport agenda to be tackled in Europe and its neighbouring countries. Papers are presented by active professionals and researchers, selected by the most respected members of the transport profession in Europe.

Each year, the Conference attracts new delegates, keen to experience this “meeting of minds” and to immerse themselves in three days of high-quality technical and policy presentations and discussion. About a third of delegates return each year - confirmation of the quality of the programme and presentations and the overall excellence of the value for money offered. This is also confirmed by the consistently high rating in post-conference research.

Special Offers for Practitioners

The Association for European Transport is keen to attract more representatives from the public sector to ETC and is making an attractive offer to practitioners and officials from local and regional government to attend ETC on a “two for the price of one” basis. If you would like to take up this offer then please indicate on the booking form. Please note that delegates must be from the same organisation and the bookings should be sent together.

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First-Time Delegates

The Association is keen to make the first experience of the European Transport Conference both memorable and trouble-free. To this end, Rachel Risely, AET Council member, has undertaken to welcome as many first-time delegates at the registration desk and will conduct a feedback session on Wednesday 8 October. Accent will sponsor a welcome reception on the Sunday evening.

Profile of Attendance

- Policy-makers, transport planners, planners and engineers from central and local government
- Providers of technical advice and consultancy
- Researchers, lecturers and students from universities, institutes and research bodies
- Analysts and advisers from banking and investment houses
- Managers and planners from public transport companies and authorities
- Environmentalists and lobbyists

Evening Sessions

Case studies based on work in London will be presented.

Extra Sessions

Session on Walking and Wayfinding, Monday 6 October

There will be five speakers in the session with opportunity for debate and discussion. The session will address the importance of walking and wayfinding as part of a sustainable, healthy transport network. Improvements in the walking experience will be examined and there will be a presentation on “Networks between places: distances, spatial awareness and ease of travel. Case studies based on work in London will be presented.

Session on the study of evaluation of business travellers in-work-time travel time savings Wednesday 8 October

The societal value of savings and losses of time accruing to business travellers has for many years been treated in a fairly simple way in the UK, the wage rate (plus on-costs) has been taken as a measure of lost/won productive value. This assumption was challenged twenty years ago in The Netherlands, and a different approach taken, involving evaluation of the actual use of saved/lost travel time, and the productive use of travel time itself. This approach has now been tested in the UK, in the context of rail travellers. The impact of travelling conditions, and particularly crowding, has been analysed. This session will present the thinking behind the study, the design and conduct of the data collection, the analyses and conclusions of the work.

ELITE workshop

The impact of shippers’ sustainable initiatives on transport and logistics, a workshop organised by the ELITE network but available for ETC delegates to attend, and presentations on congestion charging led by Val Shawcross, Chair of the Transport Committee of the London Assembly.
**Venue**
Leeuwenhorst Conference Centre, Noordwijkerhout, near Leiden, Netherlands

The Conference will be held in a residential conference centre, close to Noordwijk, Amsterdam’s popular beach resort. Leeuwenhorst offers first-class lecture rooms, excellent catering and modern, and well-equipped en-suite bedrooms.

There is plenty to do within the conference centre, which contains sports facilities, sauna, whirlpool, fitness room and a swimming pool, or you could venture further afield by exploring the surrounding tulip fields or dunes by bicycle or discover the history and sights of the nearby cities of Amsterdam, Haarlem, Leiden and The Hague.

Amsterdam Schiphol Airport provides international access by air and is also a hub for railways in the Netherlands. Many cost airlines fly into Schiphol and, by booking a month or two in advance, some very attractive prices can be achieved.

Leiden is 20 km from the conference centre. For those staying in Leiden or arriving at Leiden Station, the Leeuwenhorst Express runs in the morning from 0815 to 0915 hours and again in the evening at 1745 hours. The cost per single journey is EUR 5. Taxis are also readily available. The journey to Leiden takes approximately 20 Minutes. Alternatively some delegates last year chose to use the exciting “Zuidtangent” bus rapid transit service from Schiphol to Haarlem and then by local bus right to the front door of the conference centre - very inexpensive, comfortable and fast.

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**Special Features of the 2008 Conference**

- Daily plenary and keynote sessions given by well-known names in world transport circles
  - Professor Eddy van de Voorde of the University of Antwerp on Current Issues in Transport Policy in Belgium
  - Professor David Hensher, University of Sydney, Australia on Hypothetical Bias, Stated Choice Studies and Willingness to Pay
  - Ian Hodgson of DG Environment, European Commission on The Next Steps for EC level action on Climate Change
  - Michael Wegener of Spiekermann & Wegener Urban and Regional Research (S&W) on The influence of changing fuel prices on travel behaviour (invited)

- A choice of at least 10 simultaneous sessions each day

- More than 250 papers presented, selected by the 10 Programme Committees from over 500 abstracts submitted, with audiences of 20 - 80 people in each session

- AET General Assembly and elections to the AET Council held at lunchtime on Tuesday 7 October

- Conference Dinner in the Rotunda on Tuesday evening

- Evening technical and social sessions

- Welcome party for and feedback session from first-time delegates sponsored by Accent (www.accent-mr.com)

**Key Themes**

- Appraisal
- Climate change and sustainable transport
- Accessibility
- Mobility management
- European transport policy and research
- Planning for sustainable land-use and transport
- Local public transport
- Rail
- Freight and logistics
- Road pricing
- Traffic and transport: engineering and safety
- Discrete choice modelling
- Activity and land-use models
- Networks and traffic assignment
- Transport economics
- Leisure and tourism transport
- Survey methods
- Uncertainty
- Transport demand modelling
- Roads policy

**Bringing Practice and Research Together**

The unique feature of the European Transport Conference is its multi-seminar approach. The structure of the Conference has been enhanced to embrace a balance of practice and research. Delegates have access to these two distinct but overlapping aspects of transport and can move between sessions of great diversity.

The distinctions are drawn into two main areas:

**Transport Policy and Operations** includes seminars of direct relevance to transport planners and engineers with case studies as well as policy development. These cover local and national policy initiatives, transnational transport policy in Europe, as well as the broader implications of the climate change and sustainability agenda. Seminars also focus on the practical aspects of transport demand management, transport engineering and traffic safety, freight and logistics, local and interurban public transport, funding for transport, transport impacts of tourism and the delivery and operation of roads policy.

**Research to Inform Decision-Making in Transport** includes seminars with a more methodological focus covering innovative and applied methods. While these sessions are more directed towards those working in transport research, they do also have practical applications to transport.
Overnight Accommodation
Delegates will get most benefit from their conference attendance if they stay at the conference centre but details of hotels in Leiden will be made available to delegates wishing to stay in the local area.

Accommodation at the conference centre is of high quality. The organisers have reserved a number of bedrooms but they are likely to be popular and over-subscribed. Details of the range of rooms available are contained in the accommodation booking form.

Awards
Each year, AET makes a number of prestigious awards to recognise the best papers presented at the European Transport Conference. Papers considered for these awards will be reviewed by a subject-panel made up of senior academics and professionals from across the transport community. The awards include:

- The Neil Mansfield Award for the Best Paper by a sole author aged 35 or under.
- The Planning for Sustainable Land Use and Transport Programme Committee Award on sustainable land-use/transport solutions, sponsored by Halcrow (www.halcrow.com).

The awards will be made during the Conference.

Proceedings
The papers for the conference will be available on the AET web-site in the month before the Conference. After the Conference, the proceedings will be produced on a CD-ROM. Delegates who have booked and paid for their conference place will receive a password to give them access to the papers.

Abstracts
Abstracts of papers to be presented will be available on the Association web-site in late July.

Stewards
In order to encourage more students and young professionals to attend the Conference, the Association has allocated more places for seminar stewards. Those selected will act as a steward for one day and then will have free attendance on two days of the Conference. Travel and overnight accommodation is not included and those applying must be able to fund this part of their attendance at the Conference.

Students interested in applying for this important and interesting role, should apply to Sally Scarlett

Social Events and Leisure Time
There will be a transport-related quiz on the evening of Sunday 5 October. Delegates in 2007 will remember that this proved to be a memorable and fun evening!

The Sartre Bar, close to Samuel’s Restaurant and the Conference Registration Desk and Exhibition will be open every evening for conference delegates.

Cheers, the Sports Bar, will also be open for those either wanting a drink or to participate in reasonably quiet sports, such as ten-pin bowling, darts or pool.

Dinner at Leeuwenhorst Conference Centre
There is a choice of dining. There will be a two-course buffet for conference delegates in Samuel’s Restaurant. The price will be EUR 25 or GBP 18. Delegates can have dinner in the à la carte ‘Restaurant Sabor’ or a 3 course fixed menu in the Gaudi or Dali restaurants, both of which can be booked at the conference centre reception desk on a daily basis.

Visas and entry requirements
Delegates who think they will need a visa to attend the Conference are recommended to make early application to the Netherlands Embassy in their country, as the processing of visas can take some time. The Association is able to write letters in support of visa applications but only for those who have booked and paid for their conference place. Delegates who need a visa are advised to contact Sally Scarlett at PTRC to discuss the status of their booking.

Travel and Health Insurance
Delegates are advised to take out travel and medical insurance. Those from EU countries will need a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to obtain health care in the Netherlands. The card can be obtained from government health departments in all EU countries.

Wireless Internet Connections and the Internet Café
All delegates will have free access to the internet, sponsored by Mott MacDonald (www.mottmac.com)

Bring your own to use anywhere in the conference centre or use the computers provided in Mott MacDonald’s internet café.
## Opening Session
0845-0915

Welcome from the Association for European Transport
Tom van Vuren, Chairman of the AET Board

## Plenary Session
0915-1000

Current Issues in Transport Policy in Belgium
Professor Eddy van de Voorde, University of Antwerp, BE

## Seminar
1030-1230

Transport Policy and Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Seminar Sponsor</th>
<th>Session 1 1030-1230</th>
<th>Session 2 1330-1530</th>
<th>Session 3 1600-1800</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appraisal</td>
<td>Appraisal</td>
<td>Reliability Issues</td>
<td>Rail Crowding and the Use of Travel Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change and Sustainable Transport</td>
<td>Air Transport Issues</td>
<td>Emissions</td>
<td>Noise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>Understanding Accessibility: what does it really mean?</td>
<td>Information for Transport Users</td>
<td>Will Improved Travel Information Change Travel Behaviour?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Engineering and Road Safety</td>
<td>Reduced Intervention</td>
<td>Reconciling the Role of the Streets for People and for Movement</td>
<td>Improving Road Safety</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Public Transport</td>
<td>Competition</td>
<td>Renewal and Restructuring</td>
<td>Infrastructure Blocks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rail</td>
<td>Railway Structure and Organisation</td>
<td>Reliability Issues</td>
<td>Rail Crowding and the Use of Travel Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freight and Logistics</td>
<td>Global Container Flow Forecasting</td>
<td>Route Choice and Scheduling Models</td>
<td>Innovative Applications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Research to Inform Decision-Making

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Session 1 1030-1230</th>
<th>Session 2 1330-1530</th>
<th>Session 3 1600-1800</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appraisal</td>
<td>RAND Europe</td>
<td>Discrete Choice Modelling</td>
<td>Sequence or Dominance in Discrete Choices</td>
<td>Estimation of Random Coefficients</td>
</tr>
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<td>Sequence or Dominance in Discrete Choices</td>
<td>Estimation of Random Coefficients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity and Land Use Models</td>
<td>Peter Davidson Consultancy</td>
<td>Activity-based Modelling Issues</td>
<td>Activity-based Modelling Examples</td>
<td>Land-Use Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networks and Traffic Assignment</td>
<td>PTV</td>
<td>Road Traffic Models and Simulation</td>
<td>Efficient Solution Algorithm for Traffic Assignment</td>
<td>Road Transport Assignment - simulation or not?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>Seminar Sponsor</td>
<td>Session 4 1030-1230</td>
<td>Session 5 1400-1600</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Plenary Session 0900-1000</strong></td>
<td>Professor David Hensher, University of Sydney, Australia on Hypothetical Bias, Stated Choice Studies and Willingness to Pay</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Transport Policy and Operations</strong></td>
<td>Appraisal</td>
<td>Appraisal</td>
<td>Welfare Measures</td>
<td>Cost Benefit Analyses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Climate Change and Sustainable Transport</td>
<td>Reducing CO2 Emissions: what measures will be most effective?</td>
<td>Tackling Emissions from Road Freight and Aviation</td>
<td>Tackling Air Pollution in Urban Areas by Reducing Emissions from Transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>European Transport Policy and Research</td>
<td>Demand Management</td>
<td>Sustainable Investment</td>
<td>Ports and Maritime Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mobility Management</td>
<td>Local High Speed Rail</td>
<td>Reduced Mobility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Road Pricing</td>
<td>Road Pricing</td>
<td>Assessment and Impact of Congestion Costs</td>
<td>Financing Road Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Traffic and Transport: engineering and safety</td>
<td>Alternative Modes</td>
<td>Scheme Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local Public Transport</td>
<td>Perceiving and Understanding the Public Transport System</td>
<td>Reduced Mobility</td>
<td>Decision-making Factors for Public Transport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rail</td>
<td>Local High Speed Rail</td>
<td>Rail Development</td>
<td>Station Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freight and Logistics</td>
<td>Innovations in Logistics</td>
<td>Demand for Freight Services</td>
<td>Changes in Carrier Markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transport Demand Modelling</td>
<td>Specification Issues in Transport Modelling</td>
<td>Scale and Aggregation</td>
<td>OD Matrix Estimation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertainty</td>
<td>Travel Time Reliability</td>
<td>Modelling Reliability in Roadworks</td>
<td>Reference Dependence and Loss Aversion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Survey Methods</td>
<td>Web versus Interviews</td>
<td>SP Analyses Issues</td>
<td>SP Applications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Plenary Session
0900-1000

### Seminar
1030-1230

### Seminar Sponsor
Session 7
1330-1500

### Session 8
1530-1700

#### Transport Policy and Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seminar</th>
<th>Seminar Sponsor</th>
<th>Session 7</th>
<th>Session 8</th>
<th>Session 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Transport Policy and Research</td>
<td>Workshop on Knowledge Sharing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change and Sustainable Transport</td>
<td>Sustainable Tourism Growth - the need for an integrated transport and tourism strategy</td>
<td>Are We Willing to Pay for Greener Transport?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobility Management</td>
<td>Assessing the Impact of Changing Land-Use Patterns on Travel Demand</td>
<td>Understanding Travel Behaviour</td>
<td>Can Parking Policies Improve Quality of Life</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning for Sustainable Land Use and Transport</td>
<td>Who Decides and How? The need for transparency in decision-making</td>
<td>Are We Willing to Pay for Greener Transport?</td>
<td>Planning for Growth: exploring the consequences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure and Tourism Transport</td>
<td>Sustainable Tourism Growth - the need for an integrated transport and tourism strategy</td>
<td>The Implications of Tourism Infrastructure Development on Transport Planning; the need for an integrated approach</td>
<td>Methodological Approaches and Developments in the Study of Tourism Transport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads Policy</td>
<td>Network Management</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Public Transport</td>
<td>Public Transport</td>
<td>Visit to the Amsterdam Public Transport Authority</td>
<td>Visit to the Amsterdam Public Transport Authority</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freight and Logistics</td>
<td>Opportunities for Waterborne Transport</td>
<td>Mode Choice</td>
<td>Societal Impact of Freight Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Session 8</th>
<th>Session 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Transport Economics</td>
<td>Optimising Road Tolls</td>
<td>Endogeneity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Demand Modelling</td>
<td>Large Scale Modelling</td>
<td>Discrete versus Aggregate Large Scale Models</td>
<td>Applied Transport Modelling Issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networks and Traffic Assignment</td>
<td>PTV</td>
<td></td>
<td>Route Choice Modelling Issues</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Uncertainty</td>
<td>Risky Choices</td>
<td>Preference Uncertainty</td>
<td></td>
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<td>SP Design Issues</td>
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</tbody>
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The Association for European Transport

The Association promotes international understanding, co-operation, discussion, research and development related to all aspects of transport. Its membership is encouraged to participate in the European Transport Conference by joining committees, which plan the conference programmes, and by attending the Conference itself. Further details of membership can be obtained from Sally Scarlett or by visiting the AET web-site: www.aetransport.org

Membership of AET

AET provides a forum in which professionals working in the transport sector in different countries can meet and exchange ideas and information. To become a member and take advantage of the discounted rate at the Conference, please complete the appropriate section of the booking form.

The benefits of membership include:

- Conference discounts and the possibility of discounts on attendance at PTRC training courses
- Free on-line access to ETC proceedings from 1996
- Facilities for publishing and disseminating research findings
- A membership database for making contacts throughout Europe
- Membership of Programme Committees, the AET Council and Board of Directors

The Association General Assembly

This will be held on the Thursday lunchtime of the Conference. The annual business of the Association will be conducted as well as the election of members to the AET Council. The General Assembly is open to all who are interested, but only paid-up members of the Association are eligible to vote at the meeting.

PTRC - conference organisers

PTRC manages ETC on behalf of the Association for European Transport. PTRC has a world-wide reputation for the quality and professionalism of its events aimed at the international transport community. Further details of its UK and international training programme, projects and publications can be obtained from Sally Scarlett or from the PTRC web-site: www.ptrc-training.co.uk

Executive Board of the Conference

The Conference is managed by an Executive Board of representatives of the Association and of PTRC. The personnel involved with the Conference are:

- Ian Chatfield
  Technical Director, PTRC
- Gerard de Jong
  Director, Association for European Transport
- Glenn Reffin
  Director, Association for European Transport
- Sally Scarlett
  Managing Director, PTRC
- Tom van Vuren
  Director, Association for European Transport

Please direct all correspondence about the European Transport Conference and membership of the Association for European Transport to:

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Tel: +44 20 7348 1970  Fax: +44 20 7348 1989  e-mail: info@aetransport.org  web-site: www.aetransport.org