

NEWS RELEASE

**Annual Competition for Road Safety at Work in the EU**

***Brussels, 3 November 2011*** – The European Transport Safety Council (ETSC)<sup>1</sup> has launched a new call for entries in its third annual competition on work related road safety. “I hope this award will motivate employers to take on the challenge and reap the benefits of managing road safety as an integral part of their working practice. Introducing road safety measures makes good business sense, particularly in a tough economic climate when employers should want to cut the costs of collisions in their vehicle fleets,” said Antonio Avenoso, ETSC Executive Director.

The competition is part of the ETSC project: Preventing Road Accidents and Injuries for the Safety of Employees (PRAISE)<sup>2</sup>. PRAISE aims to increase road safety in the work context and “praise” best practices in order to help employers secure high road safety standards for their employees.

Part of the project is a competition<sup>3</sup> which aims to spur on companies throughout the EU to tackle road safety at work. ETSC is searching for entrants who can demonstrate what they have achieved through their efforts to reduce collisions at work and/or while commuting to and from work. ETSC’s panel of judges will evaluate entrants based on a number of criteria including evidence of progress, innovation and lasting efforts. The ‘PRAISE Awards’ are presented annually at the PRAISE Brunch to employers identified for responsibly taking on the road safety challenge. Previous winners include British Telecom, the Irish Electricity Supply Board and KTL<sup>4</sup>. There are two separate categories in the competition: one for SMEs (Small-Medium Enterprise) and one category for larger employers.

Employers rewarded by PRAISE will receive positive recognition for their efforts made in road safety and press coverage. Moreover, they will have the opportunity to exchange best practice with other companies committed to road safety thus creating new business opportunities. Finally, ETSC hopes that employer’s commitment to work related road safety will increase by receiving recognition for their efforts.

Employers who wish to apply to receive the award can find all relevant information and our electronic application form at <http://www.etsc.eu/PRAISE-award.php>.

For more information please contact ETSC Policy Director Ellen Townsend at [ellen.townsend@etsc.eu](mailto:ellen.townsend@etsc.eu), or Project Officer Julie Galbraith [julie.galbraith@etsc.eu](mailto:julie.galbraith@etsc.eu) tel. +32 (0)2 230.41.06, fax +32 (0)2 230.42.15



PRAISE project is co-funded by the European Commission, the German Road Safety Council, the Swiss Council for Accident Prevention (bfu) and the MAPFRE Foundation.

## Notes to Editors:

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<sup>1</sup> ETSC is a Brussels-based independent non-profit making 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 45 national and international organisations concerned with transport safety from across Europe. [www.etsc.eu](http://www.etsc.eu)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.etsc.eu/PRAISE.php>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.etsc.eu/PRAISE-award.php>

<sup>4</sup> More information can be found here <http://www.etsc.eu/documents/05.06%20-%20PRAISE%20AWARD%20News%20Release.pdf>

[http://etsc.eu/documents/Press Release PRAISE May 18 2011.pdf](http://etsc.eu/documents/Press%20Release%20PRAISE%20May%2018%202011.pdf)