



## PRESS CONFERENCE INVITATION

### **“EU suffers from striking disparities in motorway safety”**

**10h00-11h00, 19 February 2008**

**Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the EU  
Rue du Commerce 44, B-1000 Brussels**

Over 3,200 people are killed annually on EU motorways. The number represents just 8.5% of the total number of road deaths in the EU and has been going down steadily. However, the striking disparities in motorway safety between different European countries are a cause of concern.

*On the 19<sup>th</sup> February ETSC will launch its new Road Safety Performance Index (PIN) ranking of motorway safety in 18 countries. The detailed analysis demonstrates a six-fold difference between the worst and the best performers in Europe and makes suggestions for bridging this wide gap.*

While motorways represent less than 1% of the length of all paved roads in the EU, they account for up to one quarter of all kilometers driven. Enhancing motorway safety in the underperforming countries would have a strong spill-over effect that would bring about important associated improvements in the rest of the road network. The adoption of the proposed Directive on Infrastructure Safety should allow for a substantial improvement of the Trans-European Road Networks, introducing cost effective instruments to treat high risk sites such as road safety audits.

The European Parliament's Transport Committee is expected to adopt a Report on the Commission's proposal on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Speakers at the ETSC press conference will present evidence showing the need for the swift adoption of this piece of legislation and answer your questions:

- **Graziella Jost**, PIN Programme Manager
- **Ljubo Zajc**, Director General of the Directorate for Transport (MoT), Slovenia
- **John Dawson**, Chairman of EuroRAP
- **Enrico Grillo-Pasquarelli**, Director of Land Transport, DG TREN, European Commission

ETSC and the Slovenian EU Presidency look forward to meeting you at the press conference.

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