

## **“ROAD TRANSPORT SAFETY – BECEP 2024”**

### **Report from the conference with international participation**

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual conference with international participation entitled “Road Transport Safety – BECEP 2024”, organized under the auspices of the Minister of Transport of the Slovak Republic, took place in the period from 18 to 20 September 2024. This conference is the only event organized in the Slovak Republic that focuses on the issue of road safety in the Slovak Republic with participants from abroad sharing their experiences and best practices. The conference was held at the Hotel Patria in Štrbské Pleso.

Issues related to road safety have become an essential part of our lives, requiring increasing attention not only in the context of the current objectives of the National Road Safety Strategy of the Slovak Republic for 2021 – 2030. The professional aspects of the conference were supervised by the Slovak Road Association (SCS), a branch of the Slovak Road Administration (SSC), in cooperation with the Slovak Road Administration – the expert guarantors of the conference were Ing. Daniela Čanigová and Ing. Ivan Dohnal.

This year, the conference was attended by 150 participants working in the field of road safety not only from Slovakia and the Czech Republic, but also from other EU countries, representing several organizations active in the field of road transport safety.

This year's conference was also attended by an invited guest from Mexico, Mr. Gerardo José Yáñez Porcayo, who gave a presentation focusing on policies and procedures in the Mexican road infrastructure. Part of the conference was also a dedicated session focusing on the issues of cybersecurity. This session included presentations by several speakers from abroad: Ms. Xiaolu Hou, Mr. Massimiliano Masi and Mr. Jakub Breier. The conference programme included 21 expert presentations and the participating companies had the opportunity to present their new products, technologies and portfolios. At the same time, the participants were provided with the latest technical and economic information.

The aim of the conference was to provide information on road infrastructure with a focus on enhancing road transport safety. The conference was intended for the general professional public, employees of the state administration and municipalities, traffic police officers from the district and regional inspectorates, road planners and designers, as well as representatives of scientific and research institutions.

The conference was opened with opening speeches by the conference partners and an evaluation of the implementation of the BECEP 2023 conclusions.



Mr. Kolárik (MoI SR), Mr. Ozimanič (SSC), Mr. Macháček (NDS), Mr. Pšenka (MoT SR), Ms. Čanigová (SSC, Branch of SCS at SSC)

**The presentations were divided into five sessions, each session dedicated to a specific topic. Below is a brief summary of the main ideas from each session:**

## Session 1:

In this session, the statistics on the development of the total number of road accidents in the Slovak Republic were presented in detail by the representative of the Presidium of the Police Force. The representative of the Slovak Road Administration and the National Motorway Company (Národná diaľničná spoločnosť, a.s. / NDS) gave a joint presentation focusing on the implementation of Act No. 249/2011 Coll. on road safety management and on the amendment to certain acts as amended, which regulates the audit of roads and the management and control of the safety of roads in use. The measures implemented at accident-prone sites were also presented. The invited guest from Mexico, Mr. Gerardo José Yáñez Porcayo, then gave a presentation on policies and procedures in the Mexican road infrastructure. The first session was concluded by a representative from the Czech Republic, who introduced in his presentation the system tools for the rehabilitation of accident-prone sites.



Mr. Gerardo José Yáñez Porcayo



Mr. Halabica, Mr. Kolárik, Mr. Dohnal, Ms. Čanigová, Mr. Gerardo José Yáñez Porcayo, Mr. Pšenka, Mr. Török, Mr. Glasa

## Session 2:

The 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the conference was dedicated to cybersecurity issues and the opening presentation was given by Ms. Xiaolu Hou, who informed the participants about possible attacks and countermeasures for AI-assisted traffic sign recognition. This was followed by a presentation by Mr. Massimiliano Masi from Italy, who presented his perspective on cybersecurity aspects for motorway operators, from regulatory to operational measures. There was also another guest from abroad, Mr. Jakub Breier, who gave a presentation on the security evaluation of vehicular electronic control units. The session on cybersecurity was concluded by the representatives of NDS, who drew the attention of participants to the obligations of suppliers in the field of cybersecurity for the operator of state-selected services in terms of ensuring road transport safety.



Mr. Pšenka (MoT SR), Ms. Čanigová (SSC, Branch of SCS at SSC), Ms. Blažíčková (NDS), Mrs. Hou (STU) Mr. Švec (NDS)

## Session 3:

The first presentation in this session focused on the operational management of the emergency medical services at road traffic accidents, which was presented by a representative of the Operational Centre of the Emergency Medical Service of the Slovak Republic. The topic of safety in road tunnels was presented in detail by the representatives of the National Motorway Company (NDS). Current trends in traffic engineering and the use of traffic lights at intersections were presented by the company ALAM, s.r.o.

## Session 4:

The fourth session of the conference was opened by a joint presentation of representatives of the Slovak Road Administration, who provided detailed information on the state of roads and motorways in Slovakia. Information on the structural condition of bridges operated by the Slovak Road Administration was also summarized, with a comparison of the condition of roads and bridges operated by individual operators in the Slovak Republic. The latest update on legislative changes and the new Technical Standards issued by the Ministry of Transport of the Slovak Republic was also briefly presented. The construction works on the 1<sup>st</sup> class roads in the region of Banská Bystrica aimed at improving road safety were presented in detail by another representative of the Slovak Road Administration (SSC), who described in his presentation the individual safety adjustments already made. The conference continued with a very important topic concerning the observance of safety distances between vehicles, which was presented by a representative of the Institute of Forensic

Engineering, Brno University of Technology. The implementation of safety surfaces in practice was presented by the company Grames, s.r.o. and the trailer, which was part of the outdoor exhibition, was presented to the participants by the company Hakom, s.r.o. The 4<sup>th</sup> session was concluded by representatives of the National Motorway Company (NDS) with a presentation entitled “Motorway without fatalities – it’s a challenge!”

#### **Session 5:**

In this session, a representative of the University of Žilina gave a presentation on the collection and analysis of indirect road safety indicators. A representative from the Czech Republic presented the tools for the evaluation of the Czech Road Traffic Safety Strategy 2021-2030. Representatives from the capital city of Bratislava gave a presentation on improving passive safety at intersections and other solutions for the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. The last session was concluded with a presentation by a representative of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, who gave detailed information on the main differences in road markings after the amendment of the regulation, the Technical Standards and the Template lists.

Each session was followed by a discussion and the participants exchanged their views and insights on the given presentations. During the final discussion, several participants commented on the topics presented in each session and indicated that further attention needs to be given to these issues.



In conclusion, we as the expert guarantors would like to express our gratitude to all conference participants, speakers from Slovakia and other countries, discussants, conference partners and conference media partners for their valuable contribution to this year's edition of the BECEP conference. We are looking forward to the next 19<sup>th</sup> edition of this interesting professional event.

**Ing. Daniela Čanigová, Ing. Ivan Dohnal**

Expert guarantors of the Conference

Branch of the Slovak Road Association at the Slovak Road Administration, Slovak Road Administration

