

The Project

INTERACTION: improving logistics and freight transport

INTERACTION aims to enhance *logistics and freight transport performance* by shippers to reduce energy consumption, CO₂-emissions and transport costs. The INTERACTION project is set up and carried out by a group of energy agencies and specialized consultancies that are actively involved in projects and programmes concerning energy use reduction in freight transport. Recent experiences in different countries show that a sectoral approach towards energy use reduction in freight transport is very successful. Actual practice has shown that – on average – reduction potentials of 15% can be realised.



Interaction message spreads around Europe

One of the main objectives of the project is to gather information and structure it in a way that it is of value to stakeholders. The most important goal is to trigger shippers, logistic service providers, energy agencies and governments to start thinking (or rethink) opportunities to save energy usage and costs at the same time. One of the ways to achieve this goal is to spread this message around Europe. The INTERACTION partners are presenting the project within their own countries, but also outside the participating countries.

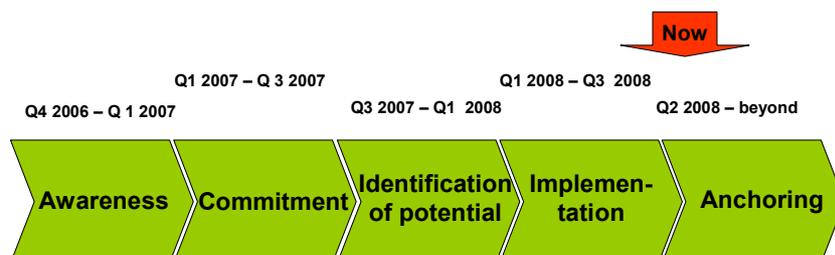
The past few months Interaction partners have participated in the following events:

- OTM Seminar Sustainable Transport, 23 April, Antwerp, Belgium
- AUTF, Journée Chargeurs, 15 May, Paris, France
- Cosmo Energy Conference 2008, 16-17 May, Skopje, Macedonia

Presentations can be found on the INTERACTION website.

Also worth mentioning is that the partners have developed a workshop which addresses sustainable freight transport in a very practical manner. The content of the workshop is a very brief introduction to the theme and after that hands on interactive discussion based on a business case. If you think this workshop is useful for your organisation or if you would like to receive further information, please contact the INTERACTION coordinator (see contact details below)

The Timeline—moving towards the end of the project



The Interaction project will finish in September 2008. At the moment the partners are working very hard with the companies to implement the selected measures. First promising results on CO₂ and costs reduction are coming in at the moment. More in the next newsletter

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Impressive first results – Ecodriving in Greek petroleum industry

Regarding Greece and CRES participation in INTERACTION, one of the measures that were decided to be used has been the ecodriving training. More specifically, three of the participating companies of the oil fuel transport sector were very keen on executing such a pilot action. To meet the objectives of all interested parties, CRES organized a 2-days Ecodriving training, details of which are further presented below.

The trainer has been an expert in the field of Ecodriving for heavy duty vehicles. The three participating companies (BP Hellas, Avinoil and Revoil) showed genuine interest by covering themselves the overall cost, by providing two trucks for the two days of the training and by assisting CRES in organizing the event. The total cost has been shared equally between the three companies.



For the purposes of the training, CRES designed a route in order to simulate actual driving conditions usually met by the truck drivers. The route has been 25 km or about 45 minutes long and provided driving in medium to heavy traffic conditions.

In total, 6 drivers from the 3 companies were trained and each one of them had one, full day training. The practical part of the training included driving prior to theoretical training for each driver which served as baseline measurement and driving after the theoretical part to assess any potential fuel savings. We should mention here also that for the first day of the training, the truck was equipped with an automatic gear-box while the second day a truck with manual gear-box has been used. Also, both trucks were equipped with trip computer for accurate measurements.

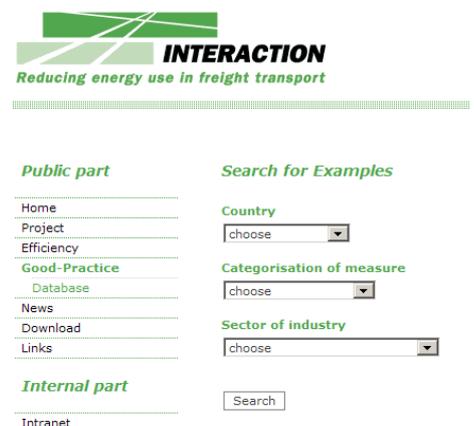
Another interesting thing of the training has been the way that CRES bypassed the obstacle of communication between the foreign trainer and the Greek drivers. Since English could not be used, CRES prepared cards with short messages in Greek and English such as "gear up" etc. It worked perfectly well according to the trainer sayings.

The results have been impressive since the mean fuel saving reached 15% which equals to about 100,000 € savings and 170,000 kg CO₂ avoided per year and for each company. It is also worth mentioning that the truck with the automatic gear-box showed 22% less fuel consumption comparing to the manual equipped one. Based on these results the three companies are even more convinced on the assistance that ecodriving may offer to companies in order to reach financial and environmental goals and they are planning to include it in their relevant policies. Finally, measurements are agreed to continue in the long-term to assess results of ecodriving practice in longer periods of time.

The best practices database

The best practices database with measures and examples of measures is growing as the project is moving towards its end. Please have a look via the INTERACTION website and find some very interesting food for thought.

**Please have a look at: www.eu-interaction.net
and follow the link to 'Good-practice'!**



The screenshot shows the website's navigation and search interface. At the top is the INTERACTION logo. Below it, there are two main sections: 'Public part' and 'Internal part'. The 'Public part' section includes links for Home, Project, Efficiency, Good-Practice Database, News, Download, and Links. The 'Internal part' section includes a link for Intranet. To the right of the 'Public part' links is a search area titled 'Search for Examples' with three dropdown menus: 'Country', 'Categorisation of measure', and 'Sector of industry'. A search button is located below these dropdowns.

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