Intermodality and synchromodality in the European Modular System

Cluster 3 Logistics and Freight

Call for Papers

NECTAR Cluster 3 is planning to organize a cluster meeting in Zaragoza (Spain) on the 4th and 5th of June 2020. The topic chosen is “European Modular System”.

Main topic

European Modular System (EMS) is a concept applied in road transport allowing combinations of existing load units (modules) to be used in longer and sometimes heavier vehicle assemblies on certain roads. EMS improves the efficiency of road transport thus reducing its environmental impact. After long negotiations, the EU has reached a compromise allowing the use of longer and heavier vehicles throughout the European network on the condition of using existing standardized EU modules: the so-called EMS.

The main benefits to be obtained with this system include:
- Helping Europe to meet the growing demand for transport.
- Reduction of fuel consumption.
- Emission reduction.
- Reduction of transport costs for operators.

The main key issues for discussion about EMS are:
- Intermodality and synchromodality.
- The impact on road safety.
- The effect on road wear.
- Traffic and congestion reductions.
- Assessing the shift from railway/waterborne to road; EMS as a threat or an opportunity?

Papers addressing these issues, through an evaluation of the coming changes and comparison of different systems, are welcome for presentation.

**Participation and membership**
The participation of one author per paper is free and includes one night’s accommodation, and coffee-breaks. Up to 25 authors will be invited to present a paper in the workshop. NECTAR membership for the year 2020 (€70 or, for those under the age of 30, €40) is required in order to attend the meeting. Non-members can find details on how to join the association on the ‘Membership’ page of NECTAR’s website: [http://www.nectar-eu.eu/membership/](http://www.nectar-eu.eu/membership/)

**Deadlines:**

Submissions of abstracts: 9/3/2020  
Notification of acceptance: 13/4/2020  
Submission full paper: 30/5/2020

A special issue as an extra output of this meeting will be organized.

Abstracts should be sent to vmuerza@unizar.es, elarrode@unizar.es, Cathy.Macharis@vub.be, and tomas.ambra@vub.be

**Venue**
The workshop will take place at the Paraninfo of the University of Zaragoza. Built in 1983, this historical building, the most emblematic of the University of Zaragoza, is located in the heart of Zaragoza, easily reachable by public transport.

**Organizing committee:**

For more information or questions please contact: Victoria Muerza, University of Zaragoza, vmuerza@unizar.es; Emilio Larrodé, University of Zaragoza, elarrode@unizar.es; Cathy Macharis, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Cathy.Macharis@vub.be; Tomas Ambra, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, tomas.ambra@vub.be

NECTAR is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network. It brings together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society in an international perspective. For further information see: [http://www.nectar-eu.eu](http://www.nectar-eu.eu)