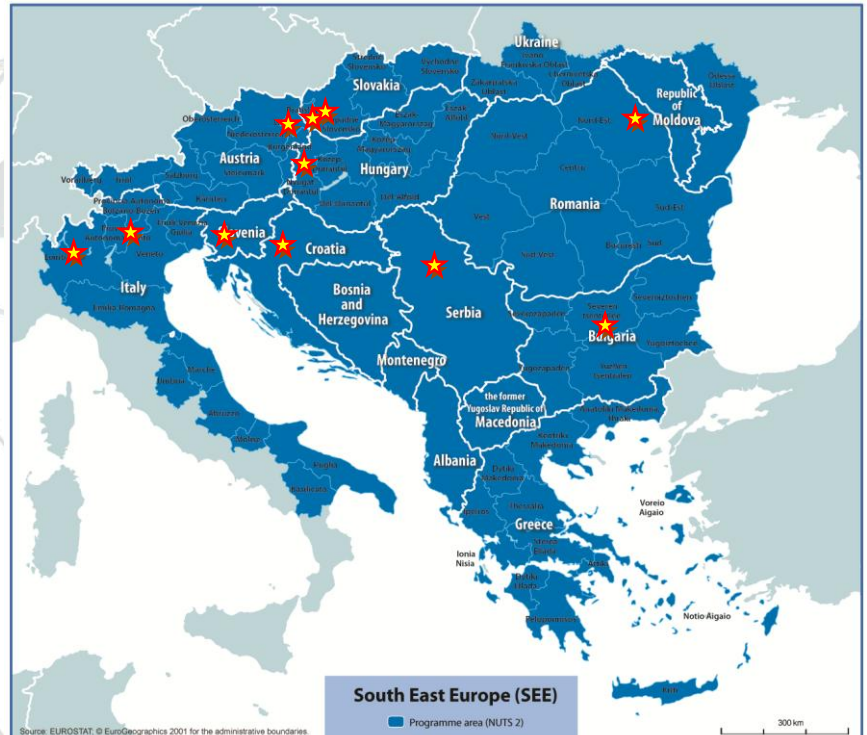


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- Comuniprese Societa'
Consortile a Responsabilita'
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- Universitatea Tehnică
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AUTOCLUSTERS Newsletter



The project's aim is to develop the network of existing SME facilities together with R&D or universities in automotive industry. The purpose of the project is to realize second level clustering activities with objectives to increase innovation capacities, increase effectiveness of technology transfer – improve the innovation circle in automotive industry, and through the project clearly address the global objectives – facilitating innovation, knowledge economy and information society.

The contribution into improving the attractiveness of the region should be taken in account as well. The invitation of the partners from EU-15, NMS and IPA countries together with proposed activities including intensive cooperation and knowledge-exchange is a clear contribution to EU cohesion policy by diminishing the gap between participating regions.

South East Europe

– Regional News

Implementation of the hydrogen technology in South Tyrol, Italy

The first multi energy gas station to distribute Hydrogen has been opened near Bolzano South in Trentino-Alto Adige Regine(IT). It is the first of many to be located along the Brennero highway between Munich and Modena. Further H₂ stations along the motorway Bolzano-Modena are planned to supply the whole motorway with hydrogen until 2013.



The plan is to have such station each 100 km. The plant in south Bolzano will combine the distribution of traditional fuel, natural

gas, bio-methane and mixtures of self-produced hydrogen within a service area. Hydrogen will be produced from hydropower via electrolysis at max. 500 kg/day (5.700 Nm³). The capacity could be doubled in the future. The HRS will dispense pure hydrogen as well as natural gas/hydrogen mixtures (HCNG) with a content of up to max. 30% H₂ in CH₄. The CNG buses in Bolzano then can be refuelled with HCNG. Operation of the H₂ and the HCNG refuelling should start end of 2009/ beginning 2010. The station is located at the Autobahn exit Bolzano South and thus well situated for the highway users as well as for the local residents/ customers.

Further HRSs are planned along the highway from Brenner to Modena (approx. 450 km) and should be in place by 2013. An extension northward via Innsbruck (North



Tyrol, Austria) to Munich is presently under discussion. The responsibility for the introduction of hydrogen in South Tyrol lies in the hands of the non-profit and partly government owned Institute for Innovative Technologies (IIT) in Bolzano, Italy.

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It is an international cooperative network of educational and research institutions with subcontractors and other bodies active in automotive industry.

The second level clustering activities proposed by the project are strictly oriented on the activities, which are improving the innovation capacities in the region and improve technology and know-how transfer – improving the innovation circle.

The project in the first stage analyses the cluster's development and best practices across the regions as well as creating the connection with other existing European activities in the automotive clustering. The project focuses highly towards producing concrete results and addresses the main challenges that are particularly specific for South-East Europe region.

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AIMS

There are three main issues we would like this project to focus on:

- Requirements for implementations of new technologies, particularly according to new European strategies and policies
- Innovation capacities - Lack of labour on the market mainly in the area of highly qualified workforce for automotive industry
- Innovation circle - Lack in cooperation between R&D (universities), SME's and car (part producers)

In the case of NMS (New Member States), candidate countries, potential candidate countries and neighbouring countries there is still cooperation between industries and universities at lower level, an issue which is negatively affecting the sustainable development of the automotive industry in South-East Europe.

POLI-AUTO the building of a new Automotive Cluster in Lombardy, Italy

Over the last twenty years the Lombardy automotive industry had a deep decrease due to the closure or reassessment of many important plants such as Alfa Romeo in Arese, Fiat Autobianchi in Desio, Innocenti in Milan and OM in Brescia. Nevertheless the Lombardy automotive industry maintains a good dimension: Belcar's research pointed out that there are about 50000 employees working and a turnover of 20.000 billion €.

The good dimension of the Lombardy automotive industry, is supported by its neighbourhood with the most powerful Italian automotive region (Piedmont – Fiat group) and by its strong internationalization vocation which allowed the creation of good technical and commercial relationships with other European nations such us Germany, France and Spain.

Evaluation of automotive cluster strength: 3-stars		Evaluation of automotive cluster strength: Employment	
Regional Cluster	Employment	Regional Cluster	Employment
Stuttgart, DE	136 353	Stuttgart, DE	136 353
Piemonte (Turin), IT	85 915	Piemonte (Turin), IT	85 915
Obenbayern (Munchen), DE	82 339	Obenbayern (Munchen), DE	82 339
Braunschweig, DE	79 997	Braunschweig, DE	79 997
Dogu Marmara (Burga), TR	44 901	Catalana (Barcelona), ES	74 086
Vastverige (Gothenburg), SE	42 832	Íle de France (Paris), FR	61 351
Karlsruhe, DE	40 694	Lombardia (Milan), IT	51 631
Niederbayern (Landshut), DE	37 960	Vlaams Gewest (Antwerp), BE	46 084
West Midlands (Birmingham), UK	37 913	Dogu Marmara (Burga), TR	44 901
Sud – Muntenia (Plotiesti), RO	32 935	Vastverige (Gothenburg), SE	42 832
Severovýchod (Hradec Králové), CZ	31 578	Karlsruhe, DE	40 694
Střední Čechy (Prague Surr), CZ	29 511	Niederbayern (Landshut), DE	37 960
Castilla y León (Valladolid), ES	27 136	West Midlands (Birmingham), UK	37 913

Recently the “Politecnico of Milan” participated and won a regional Call for Tender (Driade Programme - 25 Million Euro for 7 winning projects) for building a Regional Automotive Cluster: managed by Mechanical Department and organized by Comunimpresa (technical Advisor), the project involve major companies like Brembo, Pirelli, Mercedes Same and the most innovative Research Center in Italy called “Kilometro Rosso” in Bergamo.

Full article at www.autoclusters.eu

Belchev Motors Presents Bulgaria's First Electromobile

Bulgaria's first electricity-powered automobile of the XCAR type was manufactured in the town of Stara Zagora. The project has been developed by a five-member team of the Belchev Motors Company. All parts of the electromobile have been manufactured in Bulgaria.

The one-seat XCAR is 210 cm long and weighs 400 kilos with the batteries, which need eight hours and 6.5 kilowatt-hours of electricity to charge. XCAR's battery life is one hundred kilometres and the mileage cost is 0.01 lev per kilometre. The one-seat electromobile's maximum speed is 45 km/h and it costs 9,900 levs.

Representatives of Belchev Motors say the two-seat model will be shown soon. They have already submitted application to the Ministry of Transport to license the prototype and launch mass production.

The main characteristics of the XCAR are:

Chassis - steel construction

Body - composite materials

Dimensions: length/height/width - 210sm/157am/115sm

Brakes

- front – disks
- rear - engine brake and handbrake

Turn radius - 2m

eight with the batteries - 420kg

Pay load - 250kg

Engine - 2 three-phase brushless motors, 1.5KW each

Batteries - 140kg, lead-acid

Charging - 8 hrs

Run - 120km

Max speed - limited to 45km/h

Price: 5000 euro



Full article at www.autoclusters.eu

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PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

The project is built up on experience from previous activities in Automotive industry (NEAC, Automotive Clusters, Belcar, TCAS, I-CAR-O) and in line with EU policies, especially in clustering and automotive industry. The framework's project aims to:

- Create the first sustainable network in automotive industry in SEE region with specific focus on innovation activities
- Create partnerships which consist of institutions from New Member States, non-EU members as well as well experienced institutions from EU-15
- Invite in the network not just clusters and other SME supporting facilities but directly also R&D institutions and universities
- Improve innovative capability by realizing studies of innovation capacities, exhibition in universities and dissemination outputs of our activities, exchange studies and networking activities
- Prove the concept by realizing the project samples and by generating of the proposals to FP7

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INNOVATIVE CHARACTER

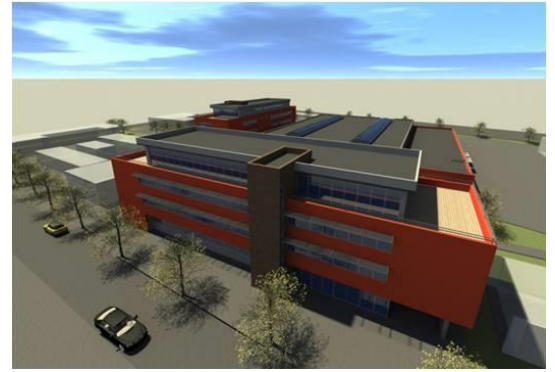
The projects main contribution is to increase innovation capacities and innovation circle in the automotive industry in SEE. As project output, the project intends to establish the first permanent network in the automotive sector in the SEE region.

The method of dissemination of the project's outputs includes the creation of the first web-based interactive database describing innovation capacities across the SEE.

The project would like to contribute towards cooperation between researchers, SMEs and car producers by finding the new innovative ways of cooperation. As the project result the 3 joint innovative pilot projects will be realized. The project as a result proposes the preparation of 3 proposals for the FP7 as well as focusing on the promotion of other non-funded projects identified by working groups which will help them to find other financial sources. All the methods used in the project will be described in the project's common methodology.

Technology park in Trnava, Slovakia

Based on information published by the EU, a new Technology park is going to be built in Trnava, Slovakia. The agreement was signed on October 29th 2009 by Dúha, a.s., Prešov a Trnavská stavebná



spoločnosť (TSS), a.s. as tender winning companies. The project with budget of more than 10 million Eur will be funded from ERDF fund (operation programme Competitiveness and economic growth).

Subject of winning tender is revitalization of Trnava's industrial district, as well as reconstruction and modernizing of engineering networks and stock-logistic pavilion. A part of contract is also building of sophisticated production pavilion and pavilion of production cells with total flooring of approximately 4250 sq. m, production and technology pavilion with area of 2560 sq. m and



stock pavilion having 456 sq. m. The role of contractor is also to restore roads, reinforced areas, provide orchard arrangements and small architecture.

The goal is to help leaders of organizations, along with their employees, create work environments that are highly productive, continually profitable and hopefully, an enjoyable place to work. Every business leader knows a lack of sound human relations skills can be extremely harmful in the workplace and harmful to the organization's bottom line. Companies can turn to HPTC to provide quality training in the area of people skills, supervisory skills and organizational development that is easily available, flexible and affordable in an atmosphere that is fast-paced, energetic and relevant.

Future of Slovak Machinery is in Innovation

Slovakia belongs to the countries with economy extremely oriented to export. The Slovak economy is one of the most open from around the whole EU. Export represents more than 87 % of Slovak GDP. That is why the fundamental impairment of results in particular economies and the rapid consumption drop of our business partners negatively hit also Slovakia.



It manifested mainly in an industry, especially in the automotive sector which, likewise in other developed EU member countries, represents significant support

for economy. The three largest car factories in Slovakia - Volkswagen Slovakia, PSA Slovakia and Kia Motors Slovakia - have manufacturing capacity of more than one million cars per year. This amount is influenced by recession. Despite this fact, Slovakia in this unfavourable global economic situation produces the most cars in the world in proportion to population and these statistics can be changed in a short time period. In a year, German car producer Volkswagen will start production of small family car based on concept Up! Volkswagen announced the several billion investments in April this year, not even four months after Slovakia established the European currency Euro.

Automotive industry employs almost 60 thousand people in Slovakia. There are tens or hundreds of Slovak small suppliers and subcontractors linked-up to car producers. This is the reason why Slovakia participates in an internationally oriented cooperation with European coverage. The recession consequences, being neither originated nor caused in Slovakia, are manifested in everyday life of citizens and entrepreneurs. This is because the recession range struck all fields. Slovak government therefore monitors actual situation and takes decisions in order to reduce the negative effect of recession.

Full article at www.autoclusters.eu

This project is co-funded from South-East Europe programme and European Union (www.southeast-europe.net).

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IMPACT

Innovation activities in the automotive industry should be generally considered as activities with positive impact on environmental sustainability.

This concrete project defines 4 major areas where joint innovative pilot projects and proposals will be selected. Finally 3 of them will be realized and for 3 others the proposals for FP7 will be prepared.

One of the most important areas with positive impact on environmental sustainability is "Green technology" but, the pilot projects or proposals from areas "Plastics and non-metal materials" and "Technology and electronics" will contribute to this EU policy as well.

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