

INTRANSIT

The magazine for secure parking areas and transport companies, No. 1 november 2019



ESPORG

European Secure Parking Organisation

The EU-Parking Standard goes live

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WELCOME



From the President

Change is progress!

As predicted the topic of secure logistics and mobility and thus the role that secure parking plays to achieve a secure end to end transport system has over the last year been moving up on the agenda all over Europe. ESPORG continue to be in the center of decisions, working hard to ensure that the changes happening will result in positive developments for all ESPORG Members.

In the future you will be able to follow all developments, learn from your colleagues and get to know suppliers through our newest initiative "In Transit" – a publication for the members of ESPORG.

In this first edition you will be able to learn that during the past months ESPORG has represented your views within the expert group established by the European Commission to move forward the standard for secure parking areas. ESPORG has played an instrumental role when the European Commission expert group had to establish a neutral secretariat. It will provide a platform to collect and disseminate information about the standard and the parking areas, which have been certified. To support this positive development ESPORG launched an Academy and a fast track service, that will support members in obtaining the certification according to the new standard without delay. For the Board of ESPORG ensuring that European and national decision making bodies put secure parking areas near the top of their agenda remains of major importance. I'm pleased to report that ESPORG is working closely both with the European Commission and several EU Member States to ensure that a sufficient upgrade of existing, or the establishment of new parking areas will happen in the near future.

ESPORG is in the center of all these changes that are happening now, and we continue to be so in order to represent your interests as a member – as change is progress...

I wish you a nice autumn
Michael Nielsen



From the General Manager

When this first ESPORG-newsletter went online and to print, a new European Commission should have been constituted. Unfortunately, the new college of commissioners will start work at the beginning of December at the earliest.

I strongly hope that this will not affect too much the issue, which is highest on the ESPORG-agenda: to establish clear rules for the standards which were presented in spring to guarantee safe and secure truck parking.

ESPORG will strongly keep on advocating these standards. Through the EU Parking Academy, a topic we are covering broadly in this first edition of Intransit (p.4 and 5), ESPORG help parking area operators understand, implement and apply the new standard.

Besides this, I would like to call attention to the short note (p.8) on the latest call of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF): A short text, but of enormous importance for those who want to invest in safe and secure parking areas.

In the future INTRANSIT is going to appear once a month. In every edition we will present one truck parking of our members or an interesting project of our partners. We start here with Smart Autohof in Romania (p. 6 and 7).

My collaborators and I are sure that we can learn from our readers. So – if you have comments on this newsletter, suggestions how to improve it, ideas of what is missing, please contact us: d.penasse@esporg.eu

All kinds of impulses are highly welcome.

Having said this, I wish you an interesting read and look forward to your comments.

Dirk Penasse



A first important step was already made: For a couple of months the EU-Parking Standard has been existing. It is the official standard for truck



parking areas in the EU. Hopefully it becomes binding law during the mandate of the next EU-Commission which will take over at the end of the year.

The Standard was conceived in the EU-funded Study on Safe and Secure Parking Areas for trucks, which was published nearly a year ago in December 2018. ESPORG held an important role in it along with major representatives of the transport sector.

The association also has been very active within an expert group the European Com-



mission set up on the subject of safe and secure parking areas for trucks. ESPORG worked intensively both in the main group and the sub-groups.



The expert group has elaborated a certification and publication methodology, which allows for the rollout of the standard starting these days.

The standard encompasses four security levels and a mandatory service level. To be audited according to any security level, the parking area also has to fulfill the minimum service criteria. The certification includes a site audit and is carried out by independent third-party auditors working for accredited audit entities.

Parking areas that have a valid LABEL certification may be eligible for a transition scheme un-



More information

On the certification process:

<https://www.esporg.eu/eu-parking-standard/>

and

<http://www.eu-parking.org>

More details concerning the support ESPORG provide:
info@esporg.eu

der certain conditions, which foresees less bureaucracy and allows a simplified certification procedure.

Through the EU Parking Academy ESPORG help parking area operators understand, implement and apply the new standard. This makes sure that the parking area is in compliance and gets recognized as a quality parking by the entire logistics chain.

THE WAY TO SUCCESSFUL CERTIFICATION

THE EU PARKING



Keep on learning

Why:

The EU-Parking Standard requires a training for parking managers and staff members of parkings from the silver level onwards. Without it there is no chance to obtain the Silver-, Gold- and Platinum-level under the EU-Parking Standard. As well the Standard requires training for lead auditors under the rules of the audit accreditation scheme.

Where:

The EU Parking Academy delivers tailor-made training for practitioners of both groups who would like to be trained on safe and secure truck parking. It abides by the rules of the EU-Parking Standard. The training offer concludes mandatory and voluntary courses.

How:

The training for managers and staff should encompass at least 6 hours of training based on 4 units (1,5h each). There are different programs for internal and external staff and for parking managers. Courses for auditors are structured differently.

*More details of the EU-Parking Academy:
<https://www.euparkingacademy.eu>*

Something completely new happens in the premises of Autopistas in Barcelona – and the faces of Josep, Enrique, Javier and three more colleagues show a kind of respectful curiosity.

The six senior staff members of the two truck parking areas, run by Autopistas near the Catalan capital, are back to school. They are the first to participate in the first course of the EU Parking Academy.

„This is a pilot“, Jesús Jorcano starts the session. At first the trainer asks for the expectations, the men in front of him have.” „We would like to know what is going to change“, answers Josep short and sweet. The others just nod.

This is exactly what the Academy wants to achieve. Its curriculum, in collabo-

ration with ESPORG, aims at providing all information necessary for understanding the future standards for truck parking areas. The EU Commission has published them in spring, hoping to get them into binding EU-regulation soon. Jesús tells his “students” all about the requirements of the different quality levels - from Bronze to Platinum - and how to reach them.

In the meantime the EU Parking Academy has organized more courses in Romania, Spain and Belgium.

The experience of the Barcelona pilot helped improve some minor aspects of the curriculum. From Barcelona to Bucharest truck parking staff will know better what to do to put their parkings up to a higher level.

Montserrat (Montse) Serrano, 41, has been working since 2014 as head of customer experience and business development at Autopistas. She is responsible for the coordination of all projects concerning secure truck parks and service areas. Intransit talked to her just after the first course of the EU-Parking Academy on the requirements of the EU-Parking Standard.



What do you think of the EU-standard for truck parkings?

Montserrat: For our company it has always been a priority to be certified. Already when we opened the first truck park in 2011, we decided to be certified by some kind of European organisation. So we decided to join Esporg. And now it is a priority for us to be certified with the new standards, which the European Commission has set up.

Will it be difficult for Autopistas to reach the EU-Commission's levels?

No! Right now we have four locks, which means a very high standard concerning security, and we obtained that level of certification very easily. All infrastructure was developed thinking about the customer and his security. So, within the new EU-standards we hope to be at the Gold-Level – as a minimum.

What is your opinion on the curriculum of the EU Parking Academy?

I think it is a good tool to share with our staff and managers the European standard. This kind of training offers good moments to share visions. We are a big company, we have managers, maintenance staff, colleagues responsible for tolling and security. They all have important visions in truck parking management. So it is a good moment to bring everybody together and share their views of necessities, their strategic points ...

... have you already heard opinions of participants?

Well, all of them were proud to be invited to that kind of courses, because it is not a common training. In that kind of sessions we ask them for their opinion and their point of view. And all of them were involved in the first certification we got. So for them it is useful to see and to feel that we have a continuing line in Autopistas. They are proud to know that the business of truck parking is important for our company.

What could be improved – related to the course?

Maybe it should be developed more as a workshop than a training – participants should not only listen and write down notes. There were not too many people on both days. Maybe we can make a bigger group and make one workshop session.

Could you elaborate that a bit?

Maybe we could use techniques like workshops or design thinking, in general new techniques in which people are more involved. Simple things like using bullet points, building different groups, giving people different roles. Someone could be the auditor of whom others get an evaluation – just to give you some examples of what I mean.

Is there a need at all for this kind of course?

For sure. not only in our company, but generally in the sector. Here in Spain there are a lot of companies, whose core business is – different from ours - truck parking.

Does Autopistas plan to open more truck parks?

For us truck parks are a strategic element for differentiation of our business. However, in order to be more than a tolling and infrastructure manager, the particular context to make existing truck parks bigger or to invest in new truck parks must be considered: We have to keep in mind the limits of the tolling concession. This year one of our concessions ends. And if we don't have a long term perspective, we can't invest in truck parks. We are working on different scenarios.

WHERE TRUCKERS FEEL

THE STORY OF SMART AUTOHOF (BY SMART AUTOHOF)



Our story starts in July 2018 when we opened the doors of Smart Autohof to the public transiting the Western part of Romania. Our parking is a location with more than one advantage for transport companies and people on the move.

When you're on the road the security of the goods is the most important matter which we think about. It's crucial for the trucks to be parked in a modern, clean and secure area with well illuminated zones. Also it's very important to have good and easy access to enter and exit the location.

This is Smart Autohof's answer to these needs: A large secure parking for trucks with 124 parking spaces available – including Frigo and ADR spaces according to regulation. A public parking lot for small cars, mini buses, vans or buses. A modern Smart Diesel truck gas station. A retail gas station. A restaurant with traditional food. Showers for transit customers. Automatic laundry and terraces and relaxation areas.

We consider the ESPORG certification of four stars and four padlock-symbols to be very important for us and our customers and we value respecting and implementing every aspect that allows us to promote ESPORG values.

Our role is to pioneer on the premium segment of the secure parking market ensuring that we deliver impeccable services through always improving ourselves and innovating.

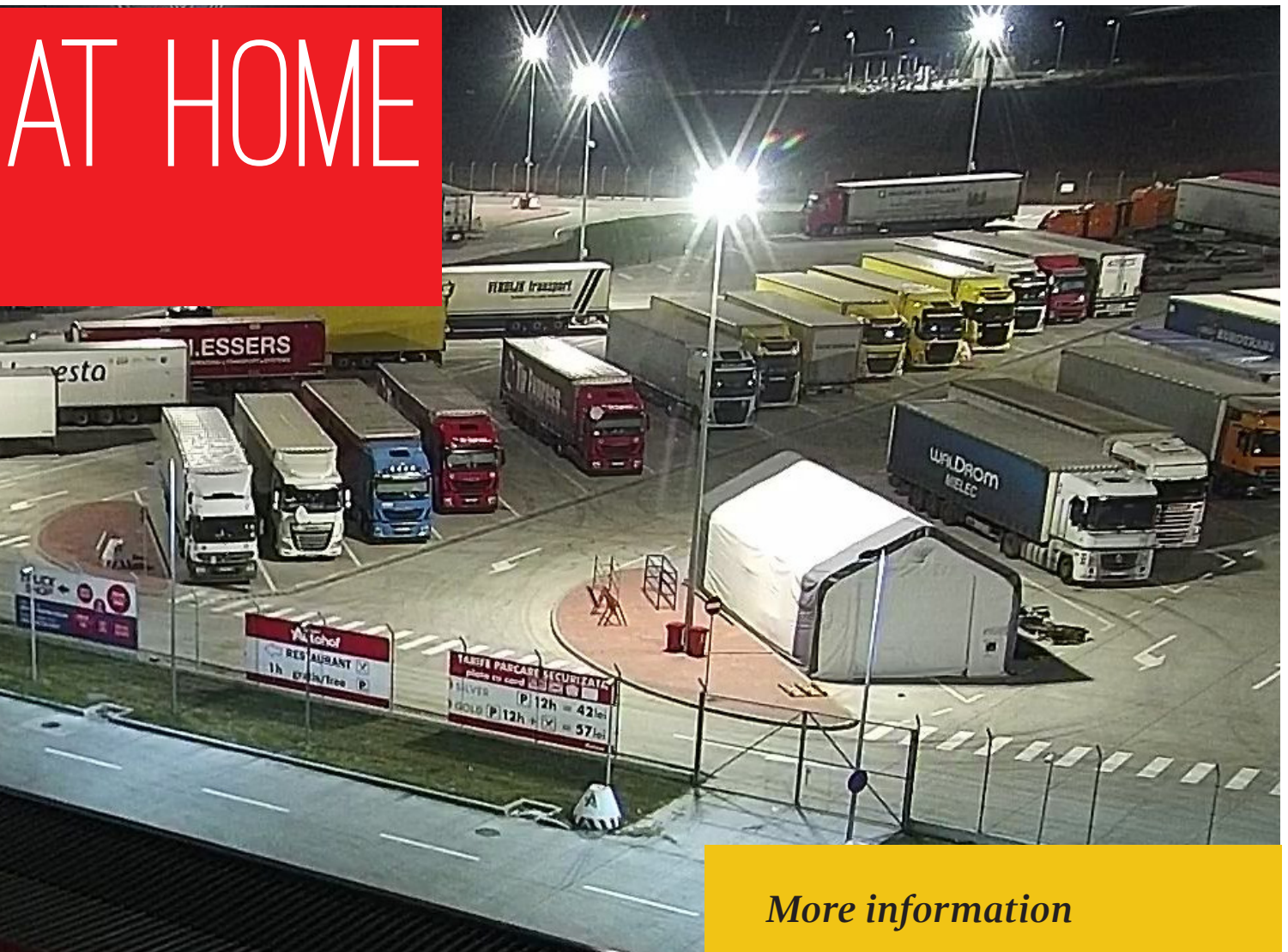
The strategic position on the fourth Pan-European Corridor is very well thought and this is our contribution to the secure parking environment in Europe. We consider that our contribution to the European community of secure parking is very important because of the strategic location making Smart Autohof a key point on the map near the border between Romania and Hungary with access from the DN 7 route and A1 highway.

The level and differentiation of services makes Smart Autohof an important player on the Romanian and European market and the feedback received from our customers tells us over the course of the first year of business that we were right when choosing our offer (see yellow box).

The future of secure parking in Europe is clearly based on new technology and data and we are aware of this and are making sure that the systems are up to date and ready to upgrade if and when needed. This way we will ensure that we will meet the needs of transport and logistics companies in the future years as well as we are today.

Our story is just at the beginning and it will write a page every day. We are making sure that transport companies are benefitting from the best services every time they choose us as destination or on route stop and we are offering special prices for payment with fleet cards. Also, drivers receive discounts at our restaurant where they can enjoy our delicious traditional food.

AT HOME



Considering all of the above we invite you to discover whether you're visiting this part of Europe or you're in transit or even if you're working, our home away from home: Smart Autohof.

More information

What

24 hours human guards with dedicated security dispatch and patrol over the entire perimeter

State of the art CCTV system that surveys the entire property

Well illuminated parking spaces

Automated barrier system for entering and exiting the premise staff and for parking managers.

Where

Smart Autohof is located in the west of Romania, between the Hungarian border and Arad, at the crossing of A1 and E68. The exit is Pecica.

*Address: Strada 601 nr 78,
Pecica 317235, Romania*



ESPORG NEWS

Funding:

60 million EUR for parking areas

The European Commission (EC) has launched another call to support key transport projects through the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). In this 2019-call a total funding envelope of 60 million € is reserved for parking projects between 2020 and 2023.

To be eligible, a project must be sufficiently mature (concrete planning stage), have a clear business plan and be located on one of Europe's main roads.

The process is demanding but manageable. Applicants should start as early as possible to compile the application file. The deadline is 26 February 2020.

We don't leave you alone: ESPORG are ready to support you to understand the call for proposals and also have partners, if required, helping you set up the application. Please contact for any further information on the topic: f.maas@esporg.eu

Get together:

General Meeting and Annual Conference

At the ESPORG General Meeting on 6 November, we are paving the way for another year of positive developments for safe and secure parking areas across Europe. Based on the insights of the Study on Safe and Secure Parking Areas for Trucks we have worked with our members to roll out the EU-Parking Standard, set up the EU Parking Academy and further our good collaboration with shippers and hauliers.

Our Annual Conference on 7 November shows the transport sector our vision for the development of the sector as well as the view of other stakeholders. The objective is to move forward together, by involving the entire transport sector and supply chain, so that safe and secure parking areas are not a stand-alone project but integrated appropriately in the end-to-end solutions the market expects.

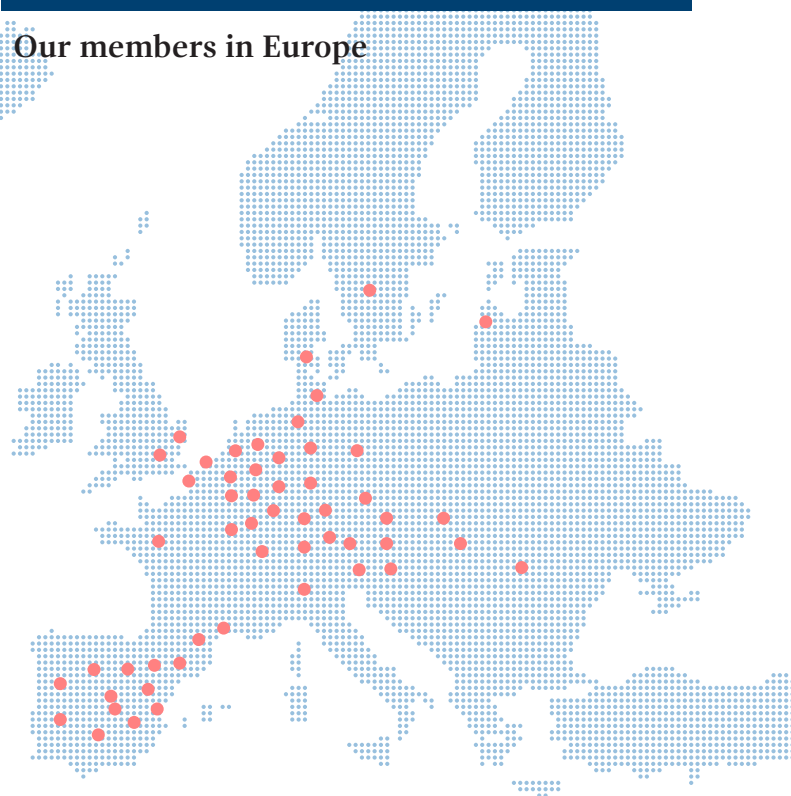
Partnership:

Cooperation with UETR

ESPORG are glad to announce cooperation with UETR, the European Road Hauliers Association. In addition to our successful cooperation with IRU (the International Road Transport Union) we consider UETR to be a good partner to exchange on expectations of transport companies and services our members can offer.

Map

Our members in Europe



Intransit is published by ESPORG, the European Secure Parking Organisation.

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Michel Scheperslaan 85,
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The article on pages 6 and 7 represents the opinion of SMART AUTOHOF which is not necessarily that of ESPORG.