

The IRF's contribution to the 20th French - Swiss Symposium

The 20th French-Swiss Symposium was held in Avignon (France) on April 3 – 4, 2008. Since 1989, this symposium groups together the French and Swiss main road associations, professionals, technical universities, consultants as well as the respective road directors in each country.



The 20th symposium was jointly organized by the French Technical Department for Transport, Roads and Bridges Engineering and Road Safety (SETRA) and the Swiss Association for Road and Transport professionals (VSS).



In addition to the technical site visits, the symposium has focused on two themes:

- Traffic management and management of road construction sites,
- Environment: Road infrastructure development & biodiversity, sustainable development and emissions control.

The Environment session was an ideal opportunity for IRF to present its project work on the Greenhouse Gas Calculator aiming at the calculation and modelling of emissions of road infrastructure construction and maintenance projects.

Mr. Imed Ben Hamadi, IRF Director of International Statistics, has presented and discussed with participants the methodology designed by IRF together with members and technical partners, the modelling process and the calculator's structure.

Mr. Jean Beauverd, IRF Chairman stressed the importance of the IRF calculator as an incentive for innovation and advancement in current construction practices to reduce emissions.

Participants have made relevant suggestions which generated valuable and fruitful discussions and exchange of view throughout the two days symposium.



From left to right : Prof. André-Gilles Dumont (EPFL), Mr. Jean Beauverd (IRF Chairman), Mr. Serge Le Cunff & Mme Nathalie Elchaninoff (SETRA Bagneux).