The opinions expressed in the studies are those of the consultant and do not necessarily represent the position of the Commission.

WHITEROADS

White spots in the Trans-European road network: a positive approach to road safety

Project details	
Domain	Road and Tunnel Infrastructure
Duration	from 01/05/2010 until 31/10/2012
Website	http://www.whiteroads.eu/
Other sources	Ceneral overview, challenges, statistics

The general objective of this project is to identify the features of road sections along the Trans-European Road Network where no accidents have happened during a certain period of time ("white spots"), so that relevant data about design, maintenance and management of "white roads" can be collected and analysed. This is probably the first positive approach to road safety in the field of transport research.

Other specific objectives are included below:

- To define the concept of a European White Spot, once the databases and accident records of EU-27 have been analysed.
- To consider the specific conditions of vulnerable road users; thus, the project will carefully analyse the potential white spots for vulnerable road users (mainly motorcyclists).
- To identify the characteristics of white spots and white roads, in terms of: traffic conditions for light and heavy vehicles, alignment parameters, weather conditions, road marking conditions, maintenance level of road signs and guidance equipment, conditions of safety barriers, specific safety equipment for vulnerable road users,... Trials will be developed across the TERN, in different EU countries, in order to identify these characteristics.)
- To develop "Guidelines for the design of white roads in the TERN", considering the data collected from the field.
- To develop "Guidelines for the maintenance and management of white roads in the TERN", considering the data collected from the field.
- To disseminate the concept of "white spot" and "white road" by different means: specific web site, newsletter, technical publications, congresses and seminars, so that a positive approach to road safety is extended and conclusions might be applied to other road networks.

The project is a complementary action to the European Directive on safe infrastructure management, as it will provide a new perspective for road safety research, which could be considered when developing road safety audits, inspections, or impact assessment.

	Coordinator
•	European Union Road Federation (BE)

Partners

• Asociación Española de la Carretera (ES)