

PRESS RELEASE

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SAFERIDER project: FEMA needs motorcyclists' views

In the past, FEMA has found that the development of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) often creates two types of problems for motorcyclists:

1. The first is that motorcyclists are generally forgotten in these developments (e.g. Intelligent Infrastructure, V2V communications, etc.);
2. Secondly, transport engineers often simply try to apply what works for cars to motorcycles, completely overlooking the specific characteristics and needs of the motorcycle and the motorcyclist.

Aline Delhaye, FEMA General Secretary, says: *"If motorcyclists want to avoid the implementation of inappropriate new technology on motorcycles, then they have to get involved in the development of ITS technology and provide their expertise at the proposal stage, to make sure that their needs and wants are well known by transport stakeholders. This is the reason why FEMA decided to become involved in EU Research programmes, like SAFERIDER"*.

The SAFERIDER project aims to study the development of new devices to improve the comfort and safety of riders through passive technology such as warning devices to alert the rider of a potential crash or provide information about black spots or traffic. This EU Research project is coordinated by CERTH and involves several participants: <http://www.saferider-eu.org/consortium.html>

Aline Delhaye: *"The decision by FEMA to participate in the SAFERIDER project is because we need to find out if ITS technology can assist a rider to make decisions to avoid collisions or crashes. FEMA needs to ensure that the technology being developed can benefit riders - but if doesn't, then FEMA needs to be in a position to make motorcyclists' point of view clear. It is therefore very important that we provide the opinions of the riders to guide the partners in the development of the products within the project"*.

FEMA needs to find out motorcyclists' needs and wants. To this end, a European wide survey on the use of ADAS* and IVIS** technology for motorcycles was recently launched. FEMA is therefore asking as many motorcyclists as possible to answer the SAFERIDER questionnaire, which can be found in the following 6 languages on:

- English: <http://www.fema-online.org/survey/index.php?sid=91175&lang=en>
- French: <http://www.fema-online.org/survey/index.php?sid=91175&lang=fr>
- German: <http://www.fema-online.org/survey/index.php?sid=91175&lang=de-informal>
- Greek: <http://www.fema-online.org/survey/index.php?sid=91175&lang=el>
- Italian: <http://www.fema-online.org/survey/index.php?sid=91175&lang=it>
- Spanish: <http://www.fema-online.org/survey/index.php?sid=91175&lang=es>

Deadline: 31 July 2008

- More information on the SAFERIDER project can be found on <http://www.saferider-eu.org>
- FEMA President's speech at the SAFERIDER User Forum, which took place on June 25th in Brussels: http://www.mep-ride.eu/docs/PresidentSpeech_UserForum.pdf