

News from the Member Federations | General CoESS news

- Government welcomes BSIA (UK CoESS member) members to counter-terrorism briefing
- BSIA (UK CoESS member) defends the use of full-body scanners in UK airports
- ESTA Business Conference, Exhibition and General Assembly - June 13-15, 2010 (Porto, Portugal)

News from the CoESS Working Committees

- CoESS Working Committee Cohesion - February 19, 2010 (Vienna)

News from ASSA-I (Aviation Security Services Association International)

- Accident investigation in civil aviation: EDPS insists on ensuring confidentiality of data from persons involved in accidents
- Commissioner favours EU rules on body scanners
- Industry on track to deliver green aircraft by 2020
- European passenger traffic down -5.9% during 2009
- Europe's airports outline their vision for future EU aviation policy

News from the European Union

- How apprenticeships can help during the recession
- Commission launches public consultation on a future EU-US data protection and information sharing agreement
- EU votes in new Commission after long delay
- Parliament urges EU to open accession talks with Macedonia
- Monthly Labour Market Monitor February 2010
- Croatia moves closer to EU membership
- February 2010 - Flash Consumer Confidence Indicator
- EU-Central America negotiations resumed in Brussels on February 22, 2010
- Commission gives green light to Iceland's EU bid

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Government welcomes BSIA (UK CoESS member) members to counter-terrorism briefing



Over 160 directors and managers from security companies in the British Security Industry Association (BSIA), active member of CoESS, enjoyed a series of industry briefings organised by the Government's Office for Security & Counter-Terrorism (OSCT) in London on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. The briefings were attended by representatives from the BSIA's Security Guarding, Cash and Valuables in Transit (CVIT) and Police & Public Services sections and were arranged exclusively for security companies providing frontline security staff to guard crowded places and protect the critical national infrastructure. Following a keynote address by Lord West of Spithead, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Security & Counter-Terrorism, delegates received briefings from senior staff of the OSCT on the UK's counter-terrorism strategy. Additional briefings were given by the Centre for Critical National Infrastructure, the National Counter-Terrorism Security Office, and the Olympic Security Directorate. The OSCT has reported that feedback from the event has been wholly positive and has stressed the importance of building further on this partnership by taking its important counter-terror message deeper into industry.

- ➔ Source: British Security Industry Association (BSIA) | February 12, 2010
- ➔ For further information, please consult the BSIA website: <http://www.bsia.co.uk/home/O3M2I322834I?backlinktype=home>.

BSIA (UK CoESS member) defends the use of full-body scanners in UK airports



In light of the full-body scanners recently hitting the headlines again, the British Security Industry Association (BSIA), active member of CoESS, is highlighting the importance of safety over sensationalism. Ashley Smith, the BSIA's Civil Aviation Security Section Chairman, comments: "The attempted terrorist attack that took place over Detroit on Christmas Day 2009 alone provides a stark reminder of the importance of aviation security. Technology such as full-body scanners plays a vital role in helping airport staff to maintain vigilance and carry out all-important security checks." "To better protect an individual's privacy, full-body scanners should not work in the same manner as the hand-luggage scanners we are all used to seeing at the airport. Image analysis should be done remotely, out of sight of the scanned passenger, with systems incapable of storing, exporting or transmitting those images. All images should be automatically deleted from the systems after they have been reviewed." "The use of full-body scanners is simply an evolution of existing security technology and allows passengers to travel safely and securely with minimum delay or disruption to their journey. With this in mind, the private security industry has welcomed the Government's support for full-body scanning technology in UK airports."

- ➔ Source: British Security Industry Association (BSIA) | February 19, 2010
- ➔ For further information, please consult the BSIA website: <http://www.bsia.co.uk/home/O41B5A581911?backlinktype=home>.

ESTA Business Conference, Exhibition and General Assembly - June 13-15, 2010 (Porto, Portugal)

From June 13-15, 2010 ESTA, the European Security Transport Association, corresponding member of CoESS, will organise its Business Conference, Exhibition and General Assembly in Porto, Portugal. The working sessions will see three main themes debated: the cash cycle of the new decade, EU upcoming legislation impacting on the Cash-in-Transit industry and security issues. Top 5 reasons to attend the ESTA Business Conference:



- Get the latest on the industry
- Increased company visibility
- EU information
- Exhibition
- Insight in ESTA Working Groups

- ➔ Further information and registration details can be found on the ESTA events website: <http://www.esta-cash.eu/en/events/index.html>.
- ➔ The conference programme can be found here: <http://www.esta-cash.eu/en/events/porto-program-june-2010.html>. Registration is open until April 15, 2010.

News from the CoESS Working Committees

CoESS Working Committee Cohesion - February 19, 2010 (Vienna)

On February 19, 2010 the Working Committee Cohesion met in Vienna, mainly to discuss the Vienna Roadmap - Chapter II Project, the Working Committee's White Paper. Additional agenda items included: the Slovenian member federation's project 'European Social Dialogue and Current National Development in the New Member and Candidate Countries' Private Security Industry', next steps for the Working Committee and presentation of country reports.

- ➔ The minutes of the CoESS Working Committee Cohesion of February 19, 2010 will soon be made available on the CoESS intranet site: <http://coess.org/intranet/login.php>. Please note that you will have to login to be able to consult this document. In case you experience any difficulties logging in, please contact the CoESS General Secretariat.

News from ASSA-I (Aviation Security Services Association International)

Accident investigation in civil aviation: EDPS insists on ensuring confidentiality of data from persons involved in accidents

On February 4, 2010, the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) adopted an opinion on the European Commission's proposal to update the current rules for civil aviation accident investigation (proposal of October 29, 2009 for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on investigation and prevention of accidents and incidents in civil aviation). The opinion focuses on the aspects of the proposal which have an impact on the protection of personal data, including the processing of data from passengers lists, victims, families and witnesses, during the different stages of the investigation and in the context of an exchange of information between investigation authorities. The EDPS welcomes the fact that data protection aspects are taken into account in the proposal. However, considering the specific context in which personal data are processed - investigation of accidents to improve aviation safety - further safeguards should be foreseen to ensure confidentiality of the data. This should include provisions requiring the deletion or anonymisation of personal data as soon as possible when they are no more needed for the investigation.

- Source: European Commission | February 4, 2010
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website: http://www.edps.europa.eu/EDPSWEB/webdav/site/mySite/shared/Documents/Consultation/Opinions/2010/10-02-04_Accidents_civil_aviation_EN.pdf.
- The proposal of October 29, 2009 can be found on the EUR-Lex website: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0611:FIN:EN:PDF>.

Commissioner favours EU rules on body scanners



The European Commission will produce a report on the impact of body scanners on health, privacy and security in April 2010. Commissioner Siim Kallas told MEPs on February 10, 2010. "The safety and security of passengers is the major priority for me as Transport Commissioner," Kallas said during a debate with MEPs on the use of body scanning technology in airports. Kallas argued that after the attempted terrorist attack on a US flight on Christmas Day, which departed from Amsterdam, the "reality of the threat to civil aviation" was obvious. But questions on how much added value the introduction of stricter and more privacy-intruding measures brings were also justified. The Netherlands and UK have introduced full body scanners in their airports and other countries are also looking into this possibility.

- Source: EUobserver | February 11, 2010
- For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/29454/?rk=1>.

Industry on track to deliver green aircraft by 2020

Industry is on track to ensure "carbon-neutral growth" in the aviation sector from 2020, but strengthened European Union support for research and development is vital to help manufacturers deliver the green technologies required, stated François Gayet, Secretary-General of the AeroSpace and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD). "In 2000, not everybody was convinced we could reach our ambitious targets. But now, at mid-term, not only can we say that we will reach these targets collectively, but we are also working on new targets for 2030 and 2050," said Gayet. "Today's two big competitors [US firm Boeing and European company Airbus] are competing head-to-head" to adopt the new technologies. Meanwhile, an EU research programme to develop green aircraft (the so-called 'Clean Sky' Joint Technology Initiative, JTI) and a potential follow-up programme to support R&D on the sector are "vital" to help European industry keep up with cutting-edge research and development, Gayet insisted. When a new generation of airplanes is launched to replace the Airbus A320 family, for example, the choice of technology for those planes will need to be made 7-10 years in advance, and if a manufacturer is not at the technological forefront "it could lose future competition," Gayet explained.

- Source: EurActiv | February 18, 2010
- For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/sustainability/industry-track-deliver-green-aircraft-technologies-2020-news-260049>.

European passenger traffic down -5.9% during 2009

The overall passenger traffic at European airports for 2009 decreased by -5.9% compared with 2008. The accumulated figure for freight traffic during January to December 2009 decreased by -13.1% and movements decreased by -7.5% during the corresponding period when compared with 2008. 86% of airports lost traffic in 2009. However, the year ended with some signs of confidence returning, as the overall passenger traffic at European airports increased by +2.2% in December 2009 compared with December 2008. The overall freight traffic among European airports increased +16.8% in December 2009 when compared with the corresponding month in 2008. The overall figure for movements at European airports decreased -2.5% in December 2009 when compared with December 2008. ACI EUROPE, the Airports Council International, remains cautious about the outlook in 2010, in face of what appears to be a fragile economic recovery for Europe, significant structural changes in the aviation market and the prospect of further increases in security costs following the recent events of December 25, 2009.

- Source: ACI EUROPE | February 22, 2010
- For further information, please consult the ACI EUROPE website: http://www.aci-europe.org/upload/10_02_22%20European%20passenger%20traffic%202009%20PRESS%20RELEASE.pdf.

Europe's airports outline their vision for future EU aviation policy

With the new European Commission having just taken office and the newly empowered European Parliament firmly established, European airport trade body ACI EUROPE launched its Policy Outlook for the years to come. The launch took place at a reception hosted by the Chairman of the European Parliamentary Committee on Transport & Tourism, Brian Simpson MEP. The event was attended by Members of the European Parliament, as well as officials from the European Commission, EU Member States, EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency) EUROCONTROL and ECAC (European Civil Aviation Conference). The Policy Outlook for Europe's airports "Facing the Challenges of the 21st Century" reflects the business transformation which European airports have undergone in recent years, primarily driven by increasing competition and changing attitudes from governments. Taking stock of the new economic fundamentals in the aftermath of the global economic crisis, the publication advocates a new way of looking at airports - treating them as businesses in their own right. Looking ahead, the Policy Outlook calls upon the European Institutions to proactively address the 4 major challenges that Europe's airports are facing today, tomorrow and in the decades to come: Airport Capacity, the Environment, Global Connectivity and Aviation Security.

- Source: ACI EUROPE | February 24, 2010
- To review the Policy Outlook, please consult the ACI EUROPE website: <http://www.aci-europe.org/policyoutlook.pdf>.

News from the European Union

How apprenticeships can help during the recession

One in five employers are hiring more apprentices to help them through the tough economic climate, but why? Research undertaken on behalf of the UK National Apprenticeship Service has shown that there are a number of business benefits to hiring an apprentice. Apprenticeships develop a workforce that has both the technical knowledge and the practical skills that your business needs and your customers demand. They can make your organisation more effective, productive and competitive, even in these uncertain times. The blend of on and off the job learning ensures they learn the skills that are most required for your specific business. Training apprentices is more cost effective than hiring skilled staff, which leads to lower overall training and recruitment cost and in addition, funding may be available to cover the cost of training your apprentice.

- Source: Skills for Security | February 1, 2010
- For further information, please consult the Skills for Security website: <http://www.skillsforsecurity.org.uk/index.php/happening/2/133>.

Commission launches public consultation on a future EU-US data protection and information sharing agreement

The European Commission launched a public consultation on a future EU-US data protection and information sharing agreement. The consultation aims at gathering the views of stakeholders and the public at large on the basis of a discussion paper as part of the preparatory work for the recommendation to authorise the negotiation of a future EU-US agreement. All stakeholders and organisations involved in the protection of personal data and/or processing, transfer or sharing of information for law enforcement

purposes in the transatlantic context as well as the general public are invited to respond to the public consultation. The closing date is March 12, 2010.

- Source: European Commission | February 5, 2010
- The consultation document can be found on the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/consulting_public/news_consulting_0005_en.htm.

EU votes in new Commission after long delay



On February 9, 2010 the European Parliament gave the green light to the new European Commission, ending an eight-month hiatus in the governance of the Union at the height of the economic crisis. European Commission President José Manuel Barroso and his 26-member college received 488 votes in favour, 137 against while 72 MEPs abstained. The centre-right European People's Party (EPP), the largest group in the Parliament, and the Liberal group pledged their support for Barroso and his team ahead of the ballot. The Socialists, after some internal debate, also said they would vote in favour. The Greens and the far-left voted against while the anti-federalist ECR - citing democracy grounds - abstained. The Commission's main goals of the next five years will be: to help EU countries to put the economic crisis behind them, to take the global lead on climate change and to make Europe more energy-efficient, said Barroso.

- Source: European Commission | February 9, 2010
- For further information, please consult VoteWatch: http://www.votewatch.eu/cx_vote_details.php?id_act=320&lang=en and the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/news/eu_explained/100209_2_en.htm.

Parliament urges EU to open accession talks with Macedonia



On February 10, 2010 MEPs urged Member States to open accession talks with Macedonia, a call backed by the new Enlargement Commissioner, Stefan Fuele. In three separate reports, the European Parliament gave the thumbs up to progress made by Zagreb and Skopje towards EU accession, while Ankara's performance was deemed more modest. The Parliament urged Member States to take a decision "at the Summit in March 2010" and "expects negotiations to begin in the near future." Macedonian authorities have indicated they expect to start and complete the talks within five years.

- Source: EUobserver | February 10, 2010
- For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/29446>.

Monthly Labour Market Monitor February 2010



Economic growth has resumed in the EU, although the recovery remains fragile. Nevertheless, it is still too early to have had much impact on employment at this stage, and latest data covering the period up to December 2009/January 2010 indicate that the labour market continues to deteriorate, although at a more moderate pace over recent months. Although unemployment rates continued to rise in most EU countries, the only particularly strong rises were in Latvia and Estonia, while in several countries the rates appear to be stabilising and, in a few cases, even declining. This month's edition of the Monthly Labour Market Monitor includes a special focus on the financial sector and the postal services sector and an update on the financial sector.

- Source: European Commission | February 15, 2010
- To consult the Monthly Labour Market Monitor February 2010, please consult the European Commission website: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=703&furtherNews=yes>.

Croatia moves closer to EU membership



Croatia's prospects of joining the European Union improved after Slovenia and the Netherlands both ended their blocks on different sections of the membership talks. Talks between the EU and Croatia on fisheries and on the environment opened in Brussels on February 19, 2010. Maxime Verhagen, the Dutch Foreign Minister, announced that his government had dropped its long-standing veto on the opening of talks with Croatia on fundamental rights. Slovenia is still blocking one chapter of the talks, on foreign, security and defence policy, but that is likely to be lifted in the coming weeks, in time for the final two accession conferences scheduled for April and June 2010. In addition to the chapter on foreign policy, Croatia still has to open membership talks on competition and on the judiciary and fundamental rights.

- Source: European Voice | February 18, 2010
- For further information, please consult the European Voice website: <http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/imported/croatia-moves-closer-to-eu-membership/67170.aspx>.

February 2010 - Flash Consumer Confidence Indicator

In February 2010, the DG ECFIN (European Commission) flash estimate of the consumer confidence indicator for the Euro area signals the first fall after 10 months of improvement (down to -17.4 from -15.8 in January 2010). Confidence declined also among EU consumers, but to a lesser extent (down to -13.6 from -13.1 in January 2010). To compute the Flash Consumer Confidence Indicator for the EU and Euro area, DG ECFIN uses the data available on the cut-off date. The estimation procedure combines historical data with information from those Member States for which data are available in the reference month. Experience has shown this procedure to be statistically reliable.

- Source: European Commission | February 18, 2010
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/db_indicators/surveys/index_en.htm.

EU-Central America negotiations resumed in Brussels on February 22, 2010

European and Central American negotiators met again in Brussels between February 22-26, 2010 to resume talks on the bi-regional EU-Central America Association Agreement, aiming at a rapid conclusion of the already very advanced negotiations. The Association Agreement aims at bringing together both regions in a comprehensive partnership covering political dialogue on important issues such as human rights, climate change, science and technology, and global governance. It will also contain a development cooperation and a free trade agreement component. With this free trade agreement, part of the EU and Central America will grant each other preferential access for their products, services and investments. The European Commission will negotiate on behalf of the European Union with representatives from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Panama already participates in the talks as an observer and internal procedures are underway in both the EU and Central America in order to formalise its full membership in the negotiations. An intensive negotiation schedule has been foreseen with an intercessional meeting between trade negotiators at the end of March 2010 and another full round of negotiations covering all three pillars at the end of April 2010.

- Source: European Commission | February 19, 2010
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/ca/index_en.htm.

Commission gives green light to Iceland's EU bid

On February 24, 2010 Iceland took an important step towards EU accession, as the European Commission officially recommended opening membership talks with the island country. As expected, Czech Enlargement Commissioner Štefan Füle said Iceland had been given the green light by the Commission after fulfilling the Copenhagen criteria for EU membership (stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy and human rights, the existence of a functioning market economy and ability to take on the obligations of membership).

The Commission's opinion takes account of political, economic and legal criteria. In all these respects, Iceland's performance was deemed satisfactory, hence the positive recommendation. Yet Füle's leitmotiv was that "there is no short-cut to enlargement". He repeated that in future decision-making he would only take into account factual progress towards membership.

- Source: European Commission | February 24, 2010
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website:
http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2010/is_opinion_en.pdf.

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