

ASECAP Feedback to the EC Consultation on EU standards for safe and secure parking area for trucks

The European Commission has launched a consultation on EU standards for safe and secure parking area for trucks through supplementing Regulation (EC) No 561/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the establishment of standards detailing the level of service and security of safe and secure parking areas and to the procedures for their certification. This initiative sets EU standards for safe and secure truck parking areas (SSTPAs).

As motorway operators we are strongly supporting appropriate EU legislative measures to move Europe closer to 'Vision Zero' fatalities. Road safety is the first priority of toll road operators.

This initiative sets EU standards for safe and secure truck parking areas (SSTPAs) based on four levels of security, a common level of service and certification procedures and builds on the work of the 2019 Commission study on SSTPAs. This classification will allow to better define level of services offered in the different service area.

ASECAP would like to take the opportunity of this consultation to recommend that the criteria for minimum level of service for power supply as mentioned in annex 1 remains an optional criteria or target only gold or platinum level.

Indeed, the establishment of these facilities will lead to high financial expenses, especially on existing parking areas where they were not foreseen when they have been constructed. In some ASECAP members network, resting areas are equipped with electric power facilities for refrigerated road transport vehicles, but the demand is close to zero. Most of the drivers prefer cargo cooling by fuel aggregate rather than electric power.

Building those facilities also requires an electric transformer station. Because of the low demand of electric cargo cooling, it will be important to raise the question of their necessity since they are barely used. Therefore, it will not make sense to make huge investments which will need to be compensated to the road operators.

Further, the new proposal of the EC guidelines for the development of the TEN-T includes "safe and secure parking areas is considering to deploy secure parking available at a maximum distance of 100 km from each other,..." by 31 December 2040. By that deadline, ASECAP members are assuming that a wide part of road transport will already be almost electrified. Therefore, it could be wise that synergies could be used for cargo cooling.

ASECAP is also recommending that a more precision and definition could be added for the terms "Perimeter" and "Parking area" in the annexes.

About ASECAP:

ASECAP is the European Association of Operators of Toll Road Infrastructures across 20 member countries representing 135 companies employing more than 50.000 direct jobs and 200.000 indirect jobs. They operate, maintain, manage a network of more than 86.000 km with a long-term vision that ensures highest quality standards to make the road infrastructure safest thank to the user/payer principle providing sustainable financing.

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