



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, May 27, 2013

CONTACT

IBTTA: Kristofer Eisenla, Luna Eisenla Media

kristofer@eisenlamedia.com | 001-202-670-5747 (mobile)

ASECAP: Stephane Verwilghen, Policy Advisor

s.verwilghen@asecap.com | 0032-2-289-26-24

International Transportation Organizations Sign Joint Declaration Supporting Tolling Policies Promoting Mobility and Economic Growth

ASECAP, IBTTA Advocate for Tolling throughout Europe and North America

DUBROVNIK, CROATIA - As governments worldwide face economic challenges, the [European Association of Operators of Toll Road Infrastructures \(ASECAP\)](#) and the [International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association \(IBTTA\)](#), the worldwide association for the owners and operators of toll facilities and the businesses that serve them, today signed [an international joint tolling declaration](#) designed to support a wider application of tolling policies throughout Europe and North America.

The joint declaration, signed earlier today during ASECAP's [41st Annual Study and Information Days](#) in Dubrovnik, Croatia, calls for an increase in advocacy and application of tolling policies to support infrastructure funding throughout the globe.

According to ASECAP President and ASFINAG CFO Klaus Schierhackl, **"the proper application of tolling systems allows us to ensure the quality of our networks. It enables us to offer the high levels of service that our customers and society as a whole expect from us. Bearing in mind the huge investment needs in Europe and North America, the time is right to unlock the full potential of the well-established cooperation between ASECAP and IBTTA: traffic fluidity, safety and sustainable mobility by and large need to be financed as efficiently and equitably as possible."**

"With growing budget shortfalls and increasing transportation infrastructure needs across the world, tolling is quickly becoming a powerful tool to fill the transportation infrastructure funding gap," said [Robert Horr](#), President of IBTTA and Executive Director of the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority in New York. **"This joint agreement demonstrates the strong bond among toll facility owners and operators across two continents committed to articulating and advancing the benefits of tolling. We look forward to working together to support a proven, reliable method of transportation funding and to strengthening the road infrastructure around the world."**

Supported by the many benefits of tolling, the joint tolling declaration states:

A JOINT TOLLING DECLARATION

Tolling is one of the most powerful and effective tools to finance, build, maintain, and improve road infrastructure for the benefit of road users and citizens ...

... ASECAP and IBTTA think that a wider application of tolling policies, based on the user pays principle, will be highly beneficial for governments – especially those that face severe economic pressure and may not have enough funds either to support new infrastructure or improve existing ones – and the users, who can immediately see the benefits they receive for the fees they pay on the road infrastructure they use.

Based on these beliefs and our strong commitment to implement our Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation, we are proud to present this joint tolling declaration and to demonstrate the reasons why tolling supports mobility and economic growth in North America and in Europe, as well as in other regions of the world.

During the signing of the international agreement, ASECAP and IBTTA also [released a new fact sheet titled, *United States and Europe Tolling Brief*](#), which highlights facts and figures on how tolling supports mobility and economic growth throughout the U.S. and Europe.

###

About ASECAP

[ASECAP is the European Association of Operators of Toll Road Infrastructures](#), whose members' networks today span more than 46.000 km of motorways, bridges and tunnels across 21 countries. ASECAP's purpose is to defend and develop the system of motorways and road infrastructures in Europe applying tolls as a means to ensure the financing of their construction, maintenance and operation. Moreover, ASECAP exchanges among its members information regarding the construction, maintenance and operation of toll infrastructure, and promotes and organises study meetings for its members on technical, administrative and financial issues aimed at the deployment of efficient traffic management, providing to the end users a high quality road service at an appropriate cost. For that purpose, it also collects technical and statistical data and participates in select projects. ASECAP maintains relations with relevant international organisations, the EU institutions and the industry's main stakeholders, protecting the interests of ASECAP members regarding the deployment of a holistic cooperative transport approach. For more information, visit www.asecap.com.

About IBTTA

[The International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association \(IBTTA\)](#) is the worldwide association for the owners and operators of toll facilities and the businesses that serve tolling. Founded in 1932, IBTTA has members in more than 20 countries and on six continents. Through advocacy, thought leadership and education, members are implementing state-of-the-art, innovative user-based transportation financing solutions to address the critical infrastructure challenges of the 21st century. For more information, visit www.ibtta.org or join us on Twitter [@IBTTA](#) or [#TollRoads](#).