





NEWSLETTER No. 05



Innovative prototype bus shuttle operating in Porto

The Porto Lightweight bus shuttle has recently been put into operation. The body of this prototype is made of a composite sandwich-type structure using glass fiber reinforced polymer (GFRP) with a foam core of polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Porto / São Martinho Bárbara

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Alojz and Vlatka or how to ride the tram in Zagreb

CIVITAS ELAN Zagreb presents an informative video about safety for elderly people on public transport. The video is called "Alojz and Vlatka". The main characters of the video are Alojz and Vlatka - two elderly pensioners from Zagreb who are faced with everyday challenges using public transport.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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Teenagers debating with seniors

What do youngsters think of older people on the bus or tram? And do senior people understand the behaviour of the youth? Gent confronted the two groups in an animated debate.

Gent / Vanlancker Sabine

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Planning for sustainable parking with stakeholders

The city of Gent is working out an ambitious, innovative and sustainable parking plan. It is absolutely vital that all stakeholders are involved in this planning process. On 16 February 2012, the Mobility Company organised a brainstorming session with several project developers in Gent.

Gent / Gheldof Jan

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Zagreb finalist for European Mobility Week award

Zagreb is one of two CIVITAS cities of the three nominees for the European Mobility Week award 2011. The aim of the award is to promote achievements in organising the European Mobility Week and also to raise awareness about the necessity of undertaking more local actions when it comes to urban sustainable mobility.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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First integrated transport app for smartphones in Portugal

MOVE-ME is a prototype of an application for smartphones developed by OPT - Optimization and Transport Planning, SA, which provides access to a diverse set of public transport information to the final users.

Porto / Meireles Sara

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Ljubljana - Greenest Local Authority 2011

On 31 January 2012, the City of Ljubljana was proclaimed the "Greenest Local Authority 2011" in an award ceremony at Ljubljana City Hall. Twenty-eight local authorities from Slovenia applied for the title in 2011.

Ljubljana / Kontić Vita

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"Vlatka and Alojz" on Croatian Television

"Vlatka and Alojz", a short and funny promotional video about the importance of safety for elderly people on public transport made an appearance in a TV feature of the popular "Good morning, Croatia" crew on 26 January 2012.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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Mobility Centre welcomed visitor 3,000

The Integrated Mobility Centre in Brno has welcomed its 3,000th visitor since it opened its doors on 19 September 2011.

Brno / Machalova Iva

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Involving citizens, communicating mobility issues

CIVITAS ELAN has held a series of trainings right from the start of the project for different groups of citizens in Zagreb. The driving idea behind the trainings has always been that a better model of public participation in local mobility issues needs well informed citizens that feel empowered to get involved.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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Talks with senior citizens on mobility in Zagreb

In 2012, Zagreb continued to organise workshops on mobility for senior citizens. The first workshop of the year was held in Trešnjevka, a home for elderly people on 18 January. About 30 participants took the opportunity to express their views on mobility for elderly people in Zagreb.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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Forum for dialogue with citizens opened in Zagreb

ZgForum - a multifunctional and interactive place, where citizens have the chance to learn about and get involved in projects in Zagreb - opened its doors on 15 December, 2011.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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DRT service already in operation in Porto!

The new DRT service, the CAT (GATO), was inaugurated on the 15th of December. This service will ensure flexible transport links between the Civitas quarter - Asprela - and the city centre and it's available every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, between 00:30am and 05:30am, having the students as main target group.

Porto / São Martinho Bárbara

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Ljubljana Mayor recognised as Mayor of the Month

Ljubljana's mayor Zoran Janković was honoured as Mayor of the Month for December 2011 by the City Mayors Foundation, an international think tank of professionals dedicated to urban affairs. The foundation praised Ljubljana as a strong and prosperous city with a good local government.

Ljubljana / Kontić Vita

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Ljubljana opens first CNG station in Slovenia

Ljubljana opened the first Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fuelling station in Slovenia on 8 December 2011. On this occasion, 20 new methane buses of public transport company LPP, co-financed by European Union in CIVITAS ELAN Project, made their first public appearance.

Ljubljana / Kontić Vita

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CIVITAS ELAN at municipal development conference

Zagreb and Ljubljana had the opportunity to showcase their experience with CIVITAS during a regional conference. During the Municipal Development Arena 2011 in Zagreb, the two ELAN cities presented benefits and challenges for cities participating in a complex and multinational project.

Zagreb / Pavić Rogošić Lidija

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Twenty additional bicycle bins for Gent!

Following the successful pilot project, the City of Gent decided to place an extra 20 bicycle bins in neighbourhoods where the need is particularly high.

Gent / Reznor Ellen

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Use of IT and social networks for engaging citizens

Based on the interest expressed by CIVITAS-ELAN partners, and the fact that IT and social media can be efficient mechanisms for stakeholder and citizen engagement, a training workshop titled "Use of IT and social networks for engaging citizens" was held in Mechelen on 27 September 2011.

Marega Milena

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Learning from CIVITAS cities - Registration open

The second installment in the series Effective Solutions for green urban transport – Learning from CIVITAS cities, this workshop will take place on 24 April 2012 in Athens, Greece in parallel to the Transport Research Arena 2012.

CIVITAS Secretariat

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Save the date: CIVITAS Forum 2012/CIVITAS Plus Final Conference

CIVITAS Forum 2012/CIVITAS Plus Final Conference to take place Mon-Wed 24th-26th September. The conference will be the 10th such annual event, following fora previously hosted in various guarters of Europe including Funchal, Malmö, Krakow, Bologna and Kaunas since the series started in 2003.

CIVITAS Secretariat

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CIVITAS Forum '11 Report available

A report summarising key facts and figures from the CIVITAS Forum Conference held in Funchal, Portugal, in October 2011 is now available. The report serves as the conference "proceedings" and summarises a variety of indicators related to participation and the main discussion points during the conference's plenary, parallel and Politicians' Forum sessions.

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€67 million available for new IEE projects

The new Intelligent Energy – Europe call for project proposals is open! In 2012, there will be € 67 million available for funding. Do not miss this opportunity to submit your ideas for projects on topics such as energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, clean transport and local energy investments! The call closes on 8 May 2012 (except the Build Up Skills initiative, which has different deadlines).

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Smart Cities - Your feedback needed

The European Commission (EC) is launching a new platform to encourage the development of smart cities projects and policies. As a first step a user survey is carried out to ensure the platform meets stakeholders' needs.

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