



# Newsletter nr. 1/2011

## The Congress Invitations are already sent the delegates



Prague in one of the most beautiful cities on the European continent.

- I'm impressed of the quality of the Czech preparing work for the coming Congress in September, says President Oddvar Haagensen after he newly visited Prague together the Administrative Secretary Kevin de Medts.

All the delegates participating in the last congresses have now received the formal invitation including the registration formulars. President Oddvar Haagensen hopes that all the delegates will do their outmost to increase the number of participant at the coming congress.



Ing. Ivo Petrik and his team have done nice preparations

## SLOVAKIA GIVES HIGHER PRIORITY TO ECRAF

On the 8<sup>th</sup> February, in the Czech city of Olomouc, the President met representatives from the Slovak Military Police, representing the Slovakian delegation to ECRAF. The topic for the meeting was to inform the President on the current Road Safety situation in Slovakia, and to discuss how ECRAF could improve or be even more relevant to Slovakia. The Slovak delegation gave the President a good overview of the military Road Safety organization. Continues next page.



From left: LtC Rostislav Vecera Maj/Ing Marian Kudlac, Ing/Maj Ivo Petric, Pavol Jambor, Kevin De Medts, and Oddvar Haagensen

## Czech National Defence University visited by ECRAF



On the 8<sup>th</sup> February, as a part of the programme for the visit to the Czech Republic, the President and the Administrative Secretary were able to visit the Czech National Defence University. The University have students on various programmes from the Bachelors level to Master level. They were given an excellent briefing on the Programme on Logistics and Transportation. The Programmes gave the impression of being of high quality, and it was of great interest to notice that the University also were about to introduce an international program for foreign students. The President met an old friend and good colluege - Col Jaroslav Prucha, who is one of the Directors at the University (See picture to the left).

## Status ECRAF elections 2011 NEXT EC MEETING AT ØRLAND

At the coming General Assembly in Prague, three persons are on election: President Oddvar Haagensen and the EC-members Johnny Laurent and Flemming Pedersen. The Election Committee will in short time start the work with their proposal to the GA.

The next EC meeting will be held at Ørland in Norway after invitation



from the President. Ørland is a small municipality close to Trondheim - with an Air Force Base.



Dear ECRAF friends,

The year 2011 has just started, and most of the European continent is still in winter mode. For many drivers the winter season is a challenge. The best advice is always to drive according to the driving conditions.

I have said many times before that ECRAF during the last two years have changed more than ever before in its short history. I do believe that this change is of vital importance to ECRAF, and that we have taken major steps in the right direction. However, it is also important to recognise that the change have taken important resources. Some will say tresource, but in the horizon I do see a stronger and more competent organization. That was the goal when we started the reorganization process back in 2008. I would like to honour Col Holger Voss as the President at that time for his courage, starting this process for change.



Being part of the Road traffic environment involves taking some risks. It will always be more dangerous to be in the Road Traffic than not. But even more important is to understand and acknowledge that driving a car can be risky. You need knowledge and competence to take the right decisions in critical situations. That is why "Risk assessment" is the main topic on the annual ECRAF Congress in September in Prague. Together with the topic on "Simulators" I am sure that we will be able to share new and important knowledge, important for all ECRAF countries. The new way of organizing the Congress, with external lecturers, discussions and change of experience have proved to be the right way for ECRAF. My hope is that ECRAF will develop along this line in the years to come.

I receive many signals telling me that the interest for ECRAF is improving. I do believe that many of you and your Road Safety work are the reason for me being optimistic. You are the best advocates for ECRAF in your own countries. Let me end the "Presidents Corner" by asking you to keep up your good work – promote Road Safety and save lives.

*Best regards*



## NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the ECRAF newsletter will come in May 2011. Contributions must be received within the third week of April this year.

## EDITORIAL

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## Slovak delegation ...

The President was impressed by their systematic work on road safety issues. Most important, and encouraging was the Slovak delegation's statement that ECRAF is an organization Slovakia will support in the future, which also from this year is reflected in their budget. The President closed the meeting by thanking the Slovak delegation for all their support, and for a good, friendly and open discussion

