

PREFACE

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Participants,

Both traffic emissions and air quality limits have been reduced in recent years. Air quality targets are however still exceeded in many areas and projections suggest that this situation will not change in the medium-term.

Global warming is a major source of immediate and future concern. The ongoing increase in mobility leads to more congestion and negative impacts on local emissions and energy consumption. Many measures to reduce the environmental impact of traffic – both pollutant emissions and global warming - are therefore under discussion.

To be able to evaluate and to minimise the environmental impact of the transport sector, it is necessary to have a good fundamental understanding of basic processes, appropriate instruments and management policies. The instruments and methods for measurement and modelling studies have improved in recent years. A comprehensive knowledge of the complex relationships in the field of transport and environment however has still not been realised. Improved tools and data processing performance also provide the opportunity to also push application limits, which in turn imposes additional demands on measurement and simulation tools. This spiral will most likely continue until traffic-related environmental impacts are (nearly) zero. Thus research in the inter-disciplinary fields of traffic planning and management, driving behaviour, emissions and air quality at both micro- and macro-scale levels, is likely to maintain its importance.

The Transport and Air Pollution symposium provides a forum for a broad interdisciplinary knowledge exchange at a scientific level. The French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research (INRETS), the National Centre of Air Pollution (NCAR) and the Institute for Internal Combustion Engines and Thermodynamics at the University of Technology in Graz jointly organise the TAP conference, alternating the location between France, USA and Austria.

This conference is the 16th in this Transport and Air Pollution series and we hope that you will enjoy your visit to Graz. We hope that the conference will meet your expectations in promoting the scientific exchange, extending and strengthening of contacts.

The work of all contributing authors and the scientific committee is gratefully acknowledged. We also want to express special thanks to the staff organising this Graz conference.

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Stefan Hausberger

Graz, June 2008