

## NEWS 02

May 2009



**These news were prepared for the dissemination of project actions on Atlantic Area WebPlatform**

*“The last events in the DURATINET project”*

The launch of the **duratiNet project** was in LNEC, Lisbon on the last 19-20 February 2009 with the first Project Partners Meeting and the 1<sup>st</sup> Transnational Workshop. Twenty five members coming from the seventeen institutions partners in the project participated in the meetings. During the Partners Meeting, all the subjects related with the project internal organization and administration, the detailed short term technical workplan and the communication actions to be organized in the project were discussed during one full day and half of intensive and very participative work from all consortium members.



Project Partners Meeting



The duratiNet Consortium

The **1<sup>st</sup> duratiNet Transnational Workshop** was organized during half a day on the 19<sup>th</sup> February. Several Portuguese infrastructures administrations were invited to participate.



1<sup>st</sup> Transnational Workshop

The program of the workshop included the project presentation to the Portuguese technical community and to project end-users was made by the project leader and the coordinators of the different working group activities in the project. Around 70 participants coming from the several areas of activity related with the management of transport infrastructures participate and gave their contribution on the discussion promoted by the project members concerning the main objectives of the project, the expected results, namely the guidance manuals on maintenance of concrete and steel

structures as it concerns to their durability, and the webtools under preparation in the project. These Webtools will facilitate the transfer of knowledge and the project results communication - the **duratiNet website** the data base **DB –DURATI** and the **web-forum on Green and Smart Materials for Structures (GSM)** towards to the creation of a new **Cluster** at the duratiNet project closure. Two representatives from REFER and EP the Portuguese authorities for the management of Railway and Road transport infrastructures in Portugal and a structural engineer with a large expertise on repair design of transport infrastructures. All of them given a relevant contribution in the workshop with their oral presentations during which they point out main questions and needs in the field of maintenance and repair of transport infrastructures and given some examples of repair case studies coming from some of their most emblematic bridges. From the discussion promoted during the workshop it can be concluded that all the objectives defined in the project are of great relevance for the administrations and the other potential end-users. These types of workshops that are organized all semester have an important contribution for tangible objectives in the **duratiNet project**.

#### Next **duratiNet** Meetings

The next Project Partners Meetings and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Transnational Workshop will be held on the 22<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>th</sup> of June at Belfast. The organization of these meetings has the collaboration of the project partner Queens University of Belfast. The workshop program and the invitation to all administrations, institutions, enterprises and technicians interested in the project thematic could be downloaded from the project site [www.duratinet.org](http://www.duratinet.org) any other information could also be obtained from [duratinet@lnc.pt](mailto:duratinet@lnc.pt)