The HEEP Area V 2013 Annual Meeting was held in the premises of the Polish General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways (GDDKiA) in Warsaw on 20 June 2013.

The representatives of the HEEP International from the US and Canada as well as of Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Turkey took part in the meeting.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Helmut Meelich, the Area V Director and TEM Project Manager, who welcomed the participants and extended his thanks to the Polish hosts for their invitation to hold the meeting in their country.

Mr. Wally Ballou, the IHEEP President, introduced the participating HEEP International Officers from Canada and the United States.

He further presented the K-TRIPS: the Kansas Truck Routing & Intelligent Permitting system, aimed at improvement of permit application, enhancing customer service, protecting the infrastructure, ensuring legal compliance and promotion of safety. The K-TRIPS project would result in higher efficiency for state agencies and customers in Kansas, having 140753 miles of public roads, where about 100000 permits are being issued annually. His address was followed by presentations of the other IHEEP representatives.

Ms. Denise M. Reis of Pennsylvania, the IHEEP Secretary, informed the meeting about the PennDOT CADD Manager/PennDOT Next Generation project, which - based on fresh review of current policies, processes, procedures and programs – would bring about savings throughout the organization, maximize its organizational capacity and engage its management and staff to undertake a proactive approach for advancing business practices and technology. The project was launched in February 2012 with four pilot projects dealing with bridge inspection, right-of-way, highway...
occupancy permits and safety culture, which would bring USD 7.6 million in projected annual savings. Based on success of these pilot projects, 30 new projects are underway at present.

Mr. Daniel Belcher of MichiganDOT in his presentation of „Amazing stories“ informed the meeting about significant changes to MDOT’s design, contracting and construction processes. All the needed documents are being produced and stored electronically, starting with the survey deliverables, model based design, reference and letting documents, e-Proposal disclaimer, storing common letting data in one location, up to digital electronic signatures. Regarding the construction phase, the main changes include ProjectWise e-Filing, audit trail, innovated documentation, e-Proposals, automatic machine guidance and control as well as iStore applications.

Mr. Dan Buhler of Manitoba, Canada, introduced the background, goals, objectives, methodology, findings and current status of the Manitoba Transportation Asset Management System. The system covers 19000 kilometres of all weather roads and 2200 kilometers of winter ones, servicing 1.3 million people. In order to achieve the goals and objectives of the system, i.e. to improve planning processes, perform trade-off analyses, develop strategic capital planning and different funding scenarios, the initial focus will be on roads and bridges with the planned expansion of the asset management processes and software to other assets in the future. The system should eliminate the deficiencies of the asset systems in use at present, which are fragmented, aging, unsufficiently integrated, not user friendly and not consistently geo-referenced. The new system, the first phase of which is expected to be completed in 3 years, should inter alia improve bridge management, bring about data integration and consistency and redevelop the provincial linear referencing system.

In the afternoon session, the Polish representative, Ms. A. Cybulska, Head of International Co-operation Team of the General Directorate of National Roads and Motorways (GDDKiA), informed the meeting about the status of the road network of the country and especially about the development of the motorway and expressway network in recent years. This network comprizes 1383 kilometres of motorways and 1122 kms of expressways, the majority of which has been constructed in the last five years. She also explained the ways and methods of construction financing, including
the rules governing the European Union’s grants, new methods of maintenance on contract basis and methods and measures aimed at higher road safety, based on Scandinavian experience. Her presentation was accompanied by photos of realized infrastructure projects.

The Educator and Student Participation (ESP) part of the meeting was introduced by Mr. Wally Ballou and Ms. Diane L. Gunsch. The Polish student, Mr. Michal Latala of the Warsaw Polytechnic University presented his contribution on „Computer animation in civil engineering road design with Bentley MicroStation SelectSERIES 3“.

At the closing session of the meeting, Mr. H. Meelich (Austria) was elected the Area V Director. Ms. Judit Florian (Hungary) will act as the Area V Secretary.

Mr. Wally Ballou, the IHEEP President, invited the Area V representatives to take part in the 55th Annual IHEEP 2013 Conference to be held in Overland Park, Kansas on 8 – 11 September 2013. On behalf of the IHEEP International Officers, he also expressed his gratitude to the HEEP Area V Director and to the Polish authorities and organizers for hosting the meeting and its successful organization.