A symposium focusing on long-lived bridges, jointly sponsored by the Transportation Research Board’s Strategic Highway Research Program 2 (SHRP 2) and the Forum of European national Highway Research Laboratories (FEHRL), has been organized within the Transport Research Arena (TRA 2010) conference that will take place this June in Brussels, Belgium. The two-part symposium will be conducted in sessions held on the afternoons of Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th June, 2010.

Tuesday 8th June - 13.45 - 17.00
Keynote presentations: Long Lived Bridge Research in Europe and the United States
Visit to Poster Session on Long Lived Bridges
Panel Discussion: “Why do we need research on long lived bridges?”

Thursday 10th June – 14.00 – 18.30 - followed by a cocktail
Review of SHRP 2 bridge renewal research in the United States
- Overview of work in progress in SHRP 2’s bridge renewal research projects
- Presentations on related work in Europe
- Questions by presenters seeking guidance from attendees

Delegates of TRA 2010 are welcome to attend this symposium without any additional registration or attendance fee.

SHRP 2 is a targeted, short-term, results-oriented program of strategic highway research designed to advance highway performance and safety for U.S. highway users. Renewal is one of four research focus areas that were selected on the basis of their importance to the US economy and quality of life and the promise of high payoffs. The objective of SHRP 2 Renewal is to rebuild the aging infrastructure through rapid planning, design, and construction that causes minimal disruption and produces long-lived facilities. The SHRP 2 research projects that will be highlighted in this symposium are key components of research in the Renewal focus area.

FEHRL is a registered International Association with a permanent Secretariat based in Brussels. Formed in 1989 as the Forum of European national Highway Research Laboratories, FEHRL is governed by the Directors of each of the national institutes. It provides a coordinated structure for the interests of over thirty national research and technical centres from Europe, together with associated institutes from around the world. It is engaged in road engineering research topics including safety, materials, environmental issues, telematics and economic evaluation. Research capacity is provided by the national institutes and makes use of the wide range of test facilities available to them.

The purpose of this symposium is to enable SHRP2 and FEHRL researchers to report to the bridges and structures community on the status of ongoing research, and for them to seek comments and advice from each other and the attendees on their incomplete work that will enhance the chances of success of these projects and improve the quality of their results.

Information about TRA 2010, SHRP2, and FEHRL can be found at
TRA 2010: http://www.traconference.eu/
SHRP2: http://www.trb.org/StrategicHighwayResearchProgram2SHRP2/Public/Blank2.aspx
FEHRL: http://www.fehrl.org/

Please plan your stay in Brussels to permit you to participate in both half-day sessions.

For further information, please contact Eugene O’Brien, eugene.obrien@ucd.ie or A. Robert Raab, rraab@nas.edu.