

ESTA NEWSLETTER 2024 - ISSUE 5 - UK



LIEBHERR TAKES PLATINUM AT 2025 ESTA AWARDS

We are proud to announce our first sponsor of the ESTA Awards of Excellence 2025 - Liebherr Mobile and Crawler Cranes. Liebherr is also the first Platinum Sponsor in the history of the ESTA Awards and we would like to thank them for their support and trust.

The ESTA Awards have grown into the leading heavy transport and lifting event in Europe attracting entries and attendees from far and wide.

Showcasing the best

It provides a platform for showcasing the very best in our industry and the opportunity for all of those involved to meet old friend and make new contacts. The 2025 edition will take place on April 10 next year at the Westin Grand Hotel in Munich during the Bauma exhibition. Make sure you don't miss out and save the date.

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NEW CALL ON BRUSSELS TO ACT ON SAFE PARKING MEASURES

ESTA and the European parking organisation ESPORG have embarked on a new round of discussions with the European Commission in an attempt to expand the provision of safe and secure truck parking areas - with special emphasis on those for abnormal and heavy transports.

An ESTA Position Paper on the subject has been sent to the European Commission and will also be used by ESPORG both in its discussion with Brussels and in its own policy documents.

ESTA is calling for:

- **the Commission to produce a report analysing parking capacity on European motorways accessible for abnormal road transport operators.**
- **the revision of the eligibility criteria for projects funded by EU funds via the Connecting Europe Facility, to ensure that safe and secure parking places are adapted to the specific needs of abnormal transport.**
- **parking infrastructure to be designed to accommodate abnormal transports**
- **a booking system to allow registration of abnormal transport and to optimise occupancy**
- **provision of abnormal transport parking facilities to be aligned with permitted routes.**

ESTA argues that such measures will both help to boost Europe's industrial efficiency, improve safety and aid the recruitment of drivers, especially among women.

The full ESTA Position paper is in the Library of ESTA's website clicke here or visit: <https://estaeurope.eu/docs/library/transport/esta-positionpaper-sstpa/>

ESTA became an associate member of ESPORG, the European Secure Parking Organisation, in late 2023. ESPORG represents all parties interested in safe and secure truck parking. Its members include parking area operators, transport and logistics companies, shippers and drivers' representatives.

ESPORG



SPANISH EXPERT TO FILL ESTA'S NEWLY CREATED POST OF POLICY OFFICER

ESTA has appointed leading Spanish heavy lift and abnormal transport expert Miguel Florez de la Colina to the newly created position of Policy Officer as the organisation gears up for the next stage in its development.

Currently the head of Madrid-based Siladen Solutions, Miguel Florez de la Colina previously worked for Mammoet for over 15 years. He is due to join the ESTA administration in March next year.

Siladen Solutions has worked in Spain for Wagenborg Towage, Roll-Lift and Hareket. A fluent English and French speaker, Miguel also teaches part-time in the construction department of the Universidad Politécnic de Madrid, a position he has held since 2007.

EUROPEAN HEAVY TRANSPORT REFORMS MOVE A STEP CLOSER

Crucial Europe-wide revisions of the rules and regulations governing the heavy transport sector have moved another step closer following the latest round of meetings and announcements in Brussels.

The recently appointed chair of the European Parliament's post- TRAN Committee – Greek centre-right MEP Eliza Vozemberg – confirmed that the heavy transport reform measures would be high on the agenda of the new Transport Commissioner, fellow Greek politician Apostolos Tzitzikostas.

The measures are contained in the planned revisions to the EU's Weights and Dimensions Directive (96/53) and include policies that ESTA has supported for many years, in an attempt to reduce the paperwork and bureaucracy faced by the industry.

ESTA Director Ton Klijn said: "We are delighted that the proposed revisions of the Weights and Dimensions Directive appear to be back on track, and we hope that they will receive fresh impetus when Poland assumes the Presidency of the Council of the EU in January."

SAVE THE DATE
10 APRIL 2025

The Westin Grand Munich
Munich, Germany

ESTA
AWARDS
OF EXCELLENCE



Entry forms for the 2025 ESTA Awards - the leading event for Europe's heavy lifting and abnormal transport industry - are now available from the **awards section** of the ESTA website.

Closing date for entries is January 10, 2025. The awards dinner will be held on the evening of April 10 at the Westin Grand Hotel, Munich.

If you would you like to know more about the sponsorship opportunities for the ESTA Awards please contact ESTA Marketing Officer Connie Lindhoud at marketing@estaeurope.eu or on +31 624932762.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Deadline: January 10th, 2025
Submit at: awards@estaeurope.eu

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Transport measures backed by Germany's Federal Cabinet

Important changes to the over-complex regulations governing heavy and abnormal transport in Germany – and moves to speed up permit approvals – have been approved by the country's Federal Cabinet.

The changes have been long called for by German industry leaders through the lobby group Verbändeinitiative Großraum und Schwertransporte (VI GST) whose founding members include ESTA and German association BSK.

Effective lobbying

VI GST brought together 31 mostly German economic, business and transport organisations to pressure the German government to urgently improve the difficult conditions faced by large and heavy transports in the country.

The problems include unnecessary and obstructive local regulations, long delays in obtaining permits and weak or unusable infrastructure that cause transports to take lengthy detours.

On November 6, Germany's Federal Cabinet approved urgent amendments to the country's General Administrative Regulation on Road Traffic Regulations (VwV-StVO).

The amendments include:

- **Introduction of a guideline of two weeks for permit application processing by responsible federal and state authorities.**
- **More flexible regulations for falling below approved dimensions and weights of the transport**
- **Bringing forward the start of night driving to 20:00 hours from 22:00 hours to increase flexibility**
- **Enabling the transport of divisible loads up to a maximum weight of 40 tons on oversized and heavy transport (Großraum und SchwerTransport -GST) empty runs to make better use of existing truck capacities.**
- **Relaxation of the language requirement for GSTs to accept English as well as German**

If finally agreed, they are due to come into force in Spring 2025, although supporters are concerned that the country's February elections will jeopardise that schedule.

Footnote: VI GST's post-election priority

VI GST has published a position paper reiterating three core demands that it hopes Germany's new Federal Government will commit to after the election in February.

The three demands are that the new government:

1. Expands transport infrastructure in line with demand and finance it sustainably
2. Reduces, simplifies and digitizes application and approval procedures
3. Promotes close cooperation for joint solutions

**THE ESTA TEAM WISHES YOU
HAPPY HOLIDAYS !**



ESTA President Fabio Belli

ESTA Director Ton Klijn

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fabio Belli', written in a cursive style.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ton Klijn', written in a cursive style.