Issue 04 | Winter 2009

# new/s

Construction of new motorway sections

Traffic Arrangements on the project



## Seasonal Greetings

Upgrading of existing motorway sections



Olympia Odos Issue 04 | Winter 2009

The 4th issue of the Olympia Odos News presents the Project's progress during the last four months.

You will also find information about the long-term traffic arrangements implemented on the Korinthos - Patra section, which are necessary for the construction of the new motorway sections.

The works to improve road safety and upgrade the infrastructure on the existing sections of the Elefsina – Korinthos Motorway and the Patra Bypass are ongoing at a high pace.

The works for the construction of the new sections of the Korinthos – Patra and Patra – Pyrgos Motorway are in progress, while the construction activity focuses on large structures, such as underpasses and overpasses, culverts, bridges and tunnels. The constructors are geared up and mobilized to increase the pace of works, as the necessary land for the project is gradually made

With the festive season fast approaching, the operational teams are prepared to face the increased traffic in wintery conditions and to help all our customers enjoy the holidays in family or with their friends.

This year, to celebrate the spirit of Christmas. OLYMPIA ODOS S.A., decided to discontinue the distribution of corporate agendas and to use the corresponding funds to support the completion of the landslide protection structure at the Lepreon Primary School. The Company also supported the important initiative of the Association of Veteran Footballers of Panahaiki, which every year organizes a benefit football match to raise money for the MERIMNA Medical Care and Education Center helping disabled children.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and many happy journeys.

The team of Olympia Odos

### **ONLINE Information**

You can sign up to receive the latest news on Olympia Odos. Visit www.olympiaodos.gr and subscribe to our mailing list.

## **Road Safety Rules**

- 1 Safe driving is also environmentally friendly.
- 2 Talk on cell phones using a hands-free or Bluetooth device is allowed, however, it can cause the driver's distraction.
- 3 Avoid serious discussions while driving. If you need to talk on the cell phone about an issue that requires your attention, it is necessary that you stop at a safe park area to make the call.
- 4 Typing or reading an SMS while driving dramatically increases the risks of accidents.
- 5 Alcohol and driving do not mix. If you plan to drink, chose the party's driver who will not drink and who will drive the others safely back home. Alternatively, use taxis or public transport.
- 6 Do not drink and drive. Even small amounts of alcohol may reduce the response time to a possible obstacle or risk. The situation further worsens in case of simultaneous medication.
- 7 Rest before long trips. Before every trip, we shall see to sleep well, while during the trip we shall make a stop every two or three hours to rest and stretch.
- 8 Avoid medication while driving. In case the relevant medication instructions prohibit driving you should strictly observe this directive.
- 9 Besides the necessary equipment (fire extinguisher, triangle & first aid), it is good practice to have with us a reflective vest and a blanket or warm clothes for an emergency, and check the weather forecast prior to our departure.
- 10 Only by keeping the necessary safety distances, you can ensure the required time to respond and avoid an accident.

## Roads to the Future Alliance for safety & courtesy on the road AN INITIATIVE OF RSI "PANOS MYLONAS"

In cooperation with the Road Safety Institute PANOS MYLONAS

## 12.500 OLYMPIA PASS subscribers

The new electronic toll collection system of Olympia Odos, the OAYMIIA PASS, operates with great success since last spring, offering easy and convenient passes to thousands of subscribers.

#### More and more drivers discover the benefits of OLYMPIA PASS...

"I am a professional and every day I commute between Megara - Elefsina, where I work. When the OLYMPIA PASS system was implemented, I was one of the first who became a subscriber both for my personal car and the vehicles of my company since OLYMPIA PASS offers quick passes, the drivers do not need to have any cash with them, while at the end of every month I receive the invoice and the detailed list of the passes made by every private car or truck separately. It is worth noting the impeccable service at the Customers Care Service who answer all our questions and provide information about any problems that may have arisen on the national network. I ally myself with solutions such as OLYMPIA PASS that make our everyday life easier in our modern era."

### **Konstantinos Pipilos, OLYMPIA** PASS subscriber (Building **Materials Plant Managing** Director)

"I live in Megara and I work in the area of Magoula, so every day I use OLYMPIA PASS for my passes. I would like to thank you for the express service I enjoy when I use the OLYMPIA PASS. I do not need to look up for small change or to wait in long queues at the toll stations anymore. I am informed about my balance by phone, I may at any time reload my device and every month I receive the detailed list of my passes, giving me better control over my expenses."

#### Spyros Stamoulis, OLYMPIA PASS subscriber (Professional)

"I became an OLYMPIA PASS subscriber in the beginning of summer 2009. I was interested in using it for my passes to Nea

Epidavros, Argolida, mainly during the summer period. I am quite satisfied, since I do not need to look up for change in the last minute and to delay both my pass and that of the drivers behind me. I did not want to lose time and to get plenty of small change every time I crossed the toll stations."

Panagiotis Diamandis, OLYMPIA PASS subscriber (private individual)

### Get the OLYMPIA PASS free of charge and enjoy:

- Easy and convenient passes from the Olympia Odos toll stations
- Reloading your account at all manual toll lanes
- Special electronic lanes for buses and trucks
- Traffic account management for companies and professionals



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### PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

## Upgrading of existing motorway sections Elefsina – Korinthos and Patra Bypass

The works to upgrade the infrastructure and improve road safety on the existing motorway sections Elefsina – Korinthos and Patra Bypass are now in full speed. In particular, indicatively among others:

- The central median of the Elefsina - Korinthos and the Patra Bypass sections is reconstructed where necessary, while a new drainage system is rebuilt also where necessary.
- Motorway fencing is restored, new metal safety barriers are installed and new road markings are implemented section by section.
- The infrastructure of the motorway traffic and communication management network is under construction by installing the



fiber optics network along the motorway.

- The noise barriers foundation is under construction (where provided).
- The infrastructure and the equipment of the tunnels are renovated.

- The construction of the new overpass bridge at the Pahi I/C on the Elefsina-Korinthos section is completed, while in the beginning of the year traffic will be temporarily deviated in order
- The signage design is completed and in the beginning of the year, the new signage will be gradually installed with new signs and gantries.
- Improvement and upgrading works
- Finally, next year, the slope and new asphalt layers will be implemented gradually.

## to demolish the old bridge.

- of Toll Stations are underway.
- Heavy maintenance works.
- arrangement works will continue

## Construction of new motorway sections Korinthos - Patra and Patra - Pyrgos

The construction works for the new motorway sections of the Korinthos - Patra and Patra -Pyrgos motorway are also in progress. The construction activity focuses mainly on the large structures such as the overpasses and underpasses, the culverts, the bridges and the tunnels. In particular:

All new tunnels of the Korinthos - Patra section (at Derveni. Mavra Litharia, Akrata, Platanos and Panagopoula) are under construction. The works are mainly in the excavation and provisional retaining phases. Due to the

antiquities found at the eastern portal of the Akrata tunnel, it will require to make changes to the alignment of the road in this area, which have been proposed to the Authorities, whose final decision is pending. For the Panagopoula tunnel, difficulties to access the portals have been partially overcome and works have also begun.

A number of new bridges of the Korinthos - Patra section are under construction, particularly in the areas of Finikas, Kamares, Meganitis River, Rozena, Tholopotamos River and Krathis River.

On the Patra - Pyrgos section, topographic works (soil investigations, PUOs networks investigations) are carried out, as well as geotechnical investigations and cleaning of plants in the streams.



## Traffic Arrangements on the project

The traffic arrangements along the road (lane closures, bottlenecks, etc.) from Elefsina to Korinthos and to Patra are necessary interventions in order to provide safety to transit drivers, passengers and employees during the implementation of the Project.

They are implemented according to special studies and approval by the competent bodies and authorities (Independent Engineer, Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks, Hellenic Police, etc.), according to the contractual provisions and legislation. When the traffic arrangements affect also the local road network, the constructors coordinate with the competent local authorities, so that the disturbance to the local community will be the least possible.

The arrangements are temporary, while the Project and its benefits will be permanent.

### Special arrangements on Korinthos - Patra section

A typical long-term traffic arrangement that is applied is that where the road narrows to one lane per direction of a width of 3.8 meters minimum and the two traffic flows are separated by special posts placed at the middle of an intermediate zone of a width of 60 cm. This reduces speed at safe levels, prevents overtaking and serious accidents and head-on collisions are avoided. In addition, the main objective is to have standardized arrangements along the road so that the driver is familiar with what he will face ahead.

## Emergency stop areas

What happens, however, in case a vehicle breaks down inside such a traffic arrangement? To cope with this, emergency stop areas have been arranged at special recesses next to the road, where the driver can temporarily stop.

#### Safety measures

The worksites next to the road are separated from the traffic lanes by cones and mobile New Jersey safety barriers made of concrete or plastic filled with water. Special signage with arrows, amber lights and special reflective markers is implemented. The temporary marking is of yellow color, while upon completion of the works it will become white again.

### Driving before the arrangements...

- Pay attention to the warning signs that alert you of the arrangements (ex. in 2km, in 800m., etc.), in order to adjust your driving behavior and change lane in time before you enter the arrangement.
- Do not attempt hasty overtaking before an arrangement.







## Driving safely through the arrangements...

- Observe speed limits.
- Keep safety distances so that you do not need to brake.
- Do not try to overtake.
- Drive carefully and do not get distracted by the work being done by your side.
- Do not stop or break suddenly.
- In case of emergency (breakdown or sickness) try to safely reach the nearest emergency stop area.





## The following important long-term traffic arrangements are currently implemented:

1 Kalavryta I/C From km 158+300 to km 162+000

Thanks to this arrangement, the new bridge at Kalavryta I/C, the widening of the Korinthos-Patra NNR, the underpasses of the motorway and five retaining walls on both sides of the road will be constructed

Zahloritika area From km 163+500 to km 164+700

Thanks to this arrangement, the new bridge over the motorway at km 164+100 will be constructed

Western Aigio Semi-interchange From km 176+300 to km 179+400

Thanks to this arrangement, the new Meganitis River Bridge will be constructed

4 Kamares Aigio area From km 185+000 to km 185+800

Thanks to this arrangement, the new bridge at Kamares, Aigio will be constructed

- 5 Panagopoula area
  - From km 187+600 to km 191+600
  - From km 193+500 to km 195+000
  - From km 195+000 to km 197+200

Thanks to these arrangements, the Panagopoula tunnels will be constructed

6 Agios Vassilios – Platanos, Rion area From km 202+000 to km 205+150

Thanks to this arrangement, the underpasses and the widening of the motorway from km 202+000 to km 205+150 will be constructed



















## Operation Facts & Figures

24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year, 410 Operation personnel and 150 subcontractors' staff offer services to the users of the road.

The Operation staff (in the familiar yellow vans) performs almost 2.000 interventions per month in order to help drivers facing a problem (breakdown, tire, gas, accident, etc.) and nearly 200 interventions of infrastructure or road equipment repairs.

The Call Center (22960 95555) is open daily from 07:00 to 19:00 and weekends from 10:00 to 19:00 providing up-to-date information handling nearly 2.000 calls per month.

About 16% of drivers using Olympia Odos choose the electronic toll (OLYMPIA PASS or e-pass of Attiki Odos) to pass through the toll stations. This percentage increases during peak hours and peak days, when more and more drivers (up to 25%) choose the electronic method of payment to avoid delays.

Did you know that an electronic toll lane can accommodate three times as many cars than a manual toll lane? So the driver spends three times less time than if paying cash?

# Annual Winter Maintenance Drill (Snow cleaning)

The Annual Winter Maintenance Drills in both Sectors of the Project (Elefsina - Xylokastro and Xylokastro – Mintilogli), were conducted with the participation of forces from the operation company and the competent subcontractor, in order to ensure the perfect preparation and readiness for the possible relevant activities. The training includes both theoretical and practical courses during which the operation staff and the subcontractor made a series of preventive winter maintenance works (pavement temperature records, preparation of the trucks for salt spreading, patrolling for preventive salt spreading etc.).



To Patra

## Olympia Odos assists local communities

### Landslide protection structure at the Lepreon Primary School



Following the destructive forest fires of August 2007, the school suffered serious damages due to the landslides and the rockfalls from the adjacent hill deforested by the fire. The students were in danger and therefore their number was dramatically reduced during the school year of 2007-2008.

ECOCITY, an environmental nongovernmental organization, within the framework of actions to support and reorganize the local communities, victims of the forest fires of August 2007, took the initiative to construct structures in order to secure the soil from landslides around the surrounding area of the school and the schoolyard. Under the supervision of a volunteer civil engineer, a geotechnician and a landscape architect as well as of the Technical Services of the Municipality of Zaharo and the Community of Lepreo, the works for the construction of a protective wall, the installation of mesh and its painting, the structure for the drainage of the mountain foot, the planting, cleaning and arrangement of the surrounding areas were completed.

Moreover, the ACS American-Hellenic School offered great help by donating the electronic and digital equipment for the broadband connection of all students of the Lepreon School, and the implementation of an e-learning program so that English lessons could be organized every afternoon with students from the neighboring villages who have no school and who these years stopped learning English or the few ones who could "travelled" to Zaharo.

The project was completed in the beginning of June 2009, thus ensuring a sense of security to students, teachers and parents. The total budget of the project amounted to €75,000 Euros and was supported by the following companies: Interamerican, TITAN, OLYMPIA ODOS, SIDMA, ALPHA BANK, GEFYRA, ACS, "I Agapi". The sponsorships and the volunteer work were the driving forces of the entire operation.

## Donation to the Medical care and Education Center "MERIMNA"

The Association of Veteran Footballers of Panahaiki organizes every year a benefit football match. This year, on Monday 14/12/2009, they organized the match between the Veterans of Panahaiki and the Veterans of AEK of Athens, at the court of Panahaiki in Agia. The match was organized under the auspices of the Achaia Prefecture and the revenues were given to the MERIMNA Medical care and Education Center helping disabled children.

OLYMPIA ODOS S.A.A supported this important initiative and bought tickets, which were distributed to the personnel of the company.

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

**ELEFSINA** 

AT ELEFSINA TOLL STATION IN THE DIRECTION TO PATRA

**ISTHMOS** 

AT ISTHMOS TOLL STATION IN THE DIRECTION TO ATHENS

RIO

AT RIO TOLL STATION IN THE DIRECTION TO ATHENS

Call Center 22960 95555

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