

Issue 05 / July 2010

# news

The Road  
Safety  
message  
all over  
Greece

16 kilometers of tunnels  
under construction on  
Korinthos-Patra

## Current Traffic Arrangements on Korinthos-Patra

What shall I do in case of  
breakdown or accident?



**OLYMPIA  
ODOS**



The **construction works** for the new motorway sections as well as for the upgrading of the existing sections are now more than apparent along the entire length of the Elefsina-Patra road axis. At many locations, the drivers will notice the earthworks along the Korinthos-Patra New National Road (N.N.R.), the widening works, the specialized crews constructing new bridges, interchanges, over and under passes, as well as the boring of new tunnels.

In this issue, you will find detailed information about the progress of the 16-kilometers of tunnel boring. You will also be informed about the current **traffic arrangements** implemented on the Korinthos-Patra section, as well as important advice on your safety and that of our employees.

Furthermore, we inaugurate a new column presenting you the **operation company personnel** consisting of approximately 400 employees who staff the patrols, the intervention teams, and the toll staff, the Traffic Management Centers, the Customer Services and the Call Center. They are our people and they are on the road 24-hours to assist you and protect you. In this issue, we present you the tasks of a member of the Intervention Team.

Always aiming at **enhancing Road Safety** in Greece, Olympia Odos supported the initiative taken by the Road Safety Institute Panos Mylonas and the Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers during the 3rd Pan-Hellenic Road Safety Week and the European Day of Courtesy on the Road. The Operation company participated in the meeting "Road Safety: Policies & Developments" and presented the work of Olympia Odos in road safety, while it took over the distribution of a leaflet on informing drivers about courtesy on the road.

Moreover, the operation company has initiated a **training program** for children, which aims in shaping a safer behavior to young pedestrians and cyclists, and tomorrow, drivers. Within this framework, we organize student visits at the operation and maintenance centers and at the Traffic Management Centers.

We wish you safe and happy journeys.

**The team of Olympia Odos**

**ONLINE Information**

You can sign up to receive the latest news on Olympia Odos and the traffic arrangements. Visit [www.olympiados.gr](http://www.olympiados.gr) and subscribe to our mailing list.

**What should I do in case of breakdown or accident?**

- I try to safely reach the closer parking/ emergency stop area or to pull off the road and stop by the Emergency Lane (EL).
- I put on the car's warning lights and I install the safety triangle sign.
- I call from my cell phone **22960 95555**, or when inside work zones I call the emergency number **1025** to inform the Traffic Management Center.
- I report the kilometeric point where I am situated or the last exit/village/city I passed as well as the direction on which I am driving in.
- I inform the employee of the Traffic Management Center about the type of incident so that the proper road assistance vehicle can be promptly dispatched to the incident.
- I wait for the Olympia Odos patrol to arrive at the incident and provide me with safety and services.

In case of breakdown, Olympia Odos, in cooperation with specialized Road Assistance associates, removes your vehicle off the road to a safe location and free of charge.



**16 kilometers of tunnels under construction on Korinthos-Patra section**

The geological conditions, the geotechnical difficulties and the environmental conditions on Korinthos-Patra section, as well as the prerequisites of modern motorways alignment specifications with adequate geometrical characteristics, require in many cases the construction of a large number of tunnels. Today, more than 16 kilometers of tunnels are under construction from Korinthos to Patra. The major geological formations through which the tunnels pass are comprised of marl, conglomerate, sandstone and

limestone. The excavation method used is N.A.T.M. (Austrian method).

Below you will find information on the tunnel boring progress of phase A' on Korinthos-Patra section:

**Derveni Tunnel**

**Technical features:**  
Successive tunnel sections linked with a bridge of 480 m + 627 m in the direction to Korinthos  
**Tunnel boring progress:**  
**480 m + 627 m**

**Mavra Litharia Tunnel**

**Technical features:**  
Twin tunnel of 1,189 m in the direction to Korinthos and of 1,160 m in the direction to Patra  
**Tunnel boring progress:**  
**1,111 m to Korinthos and 1,064 m to Patra**

**Akrata Tunnel \***

**Technical features:**  
Successive tunnel sections linked with a bridge of 790 m + 252 m in the direction to Korinthos  
**Tunnel boring progress:**  
**123 m + 208 m**

**Platanos Tunnel**

**Technical features:**  
Twin tunnel of 1,677 m in the direction to Korinthos and of 1,571 m in the direction to Patra  
**Tunnel boring progress:**  
**825 m + 1,011 m**

**Panagopoula Tunnel**

**Technical features:**  
Successive tunnel sections of 530 m + 555 m + 4,015 m in the direction to Korinthos and of 3,160 m in the direction to Patra  
**Tunnel boring progress:**  
**0 m + 0 m + 620 m + 435 m**

\* The discovery of important archaeological findings delays the excavation progress

**Demolition of Kalavryta I/C Bridge and Krathis River Bridge**

Changes in the alignment that aim in the maximum improvement of the geometric characteristics of the motorway (i.e. use of more tense curves) as well as many aged existing structures that do not meet today the required specifications lead to the need to demolish and then construct new bridges, interchanges and overpasses. In April, the right ramp bridge (direction to Patra) of Korinthos-Patra N.N.R. at Kalavryta I/C was demolished by controlled explosion. The bridge was opened to traffic in the '70s when the construction of the Athens-Patra N.N.R. was completed. Respectively, in May, the right ramp bridge of Krathis River was demolished. Both operations were completed successfully both in the demolition phase as in the traffic management.

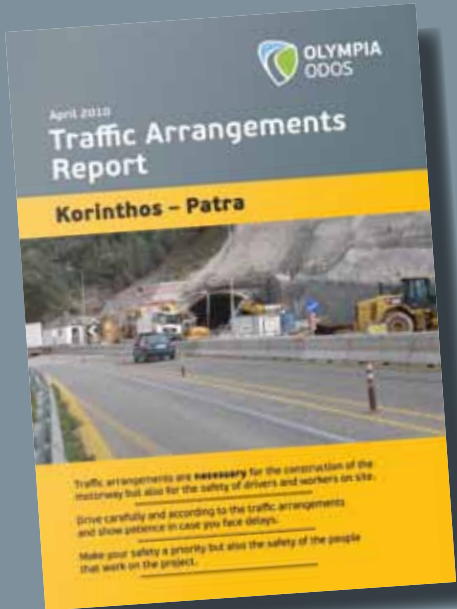
Through a well-organized and coordinated operation plan, consequences to traffic were minimized. Both demolitions took place with the presence of the Traffic Police and the Operation staff that took measures and made the necessary traffic deviations. A short total blockade of both the New and Old Korinthos-Patra Roads took effect in order to safeguard the area required to safely demolish the bridge while providing safe traffic conditions. Immediately after the demolition and the safety check, the cleaning operation of the New and Old National Roads started and in a very short period, both Roads were opened to traffic.





# Current Traffic Arrangements on Korinthos-Patra

On the occasion of Easter Holidays and the expected travelers' exodus, Olympia Odos Operation inaugurated a systematic and substantial communication with the drivers to inform them about the traffic conditions and help them better schedule their trip.



The Operation Company:

- Issues **Press Releases** for all major changes in the work zones that could affect traffic conditions,
- Distributes leaflets at toll stations (prior to big holidays) with all the basic traffic arrangements in the work zones. Such a leaflet is the **Traffic Arrangement Bulletin** for the Korinthos-Patra section that was issued in April 2010 and includes the kilometeric points of the work zones as well as useful information and advice for the special signage the driver will see when driving in these zones,
- Informs drivers through short messages on the **Variable Message Signs** along the road network, and orally from our staff at the **toll stations**, and through information transmitted from the Traffic Management Center to the major **radio stations**.

## Pay attention to the following:

Before the construction zones

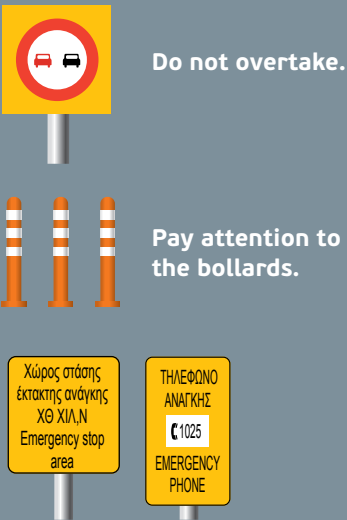


Alerts you of the distance to the construction zones.

Alerts you of the correct speed limit.

Alerts you of the lane arrangements so you can adjust your driving behavior and change lanes on time.

In the construction zones



Do not overtake.

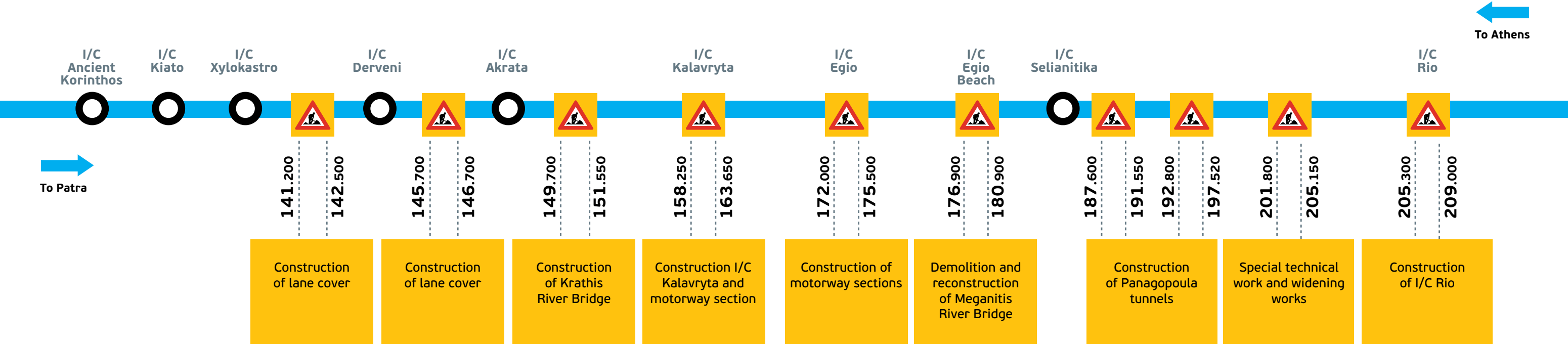
Pay attention to the bollards.

In case of emergency, try to safely reach the nearest emergency stop area. Call the 1025 emergency line.

Other advice



- Do not rush to overtake prior to the construction zones.
- Only overtake when allowed and pass safely.
- Keep a safe distance from other vehicles.
- Stay focused on driving and avoid distractions.
- Avoid sudden brakes.



# Our people

Olympia Odos Operation staff is present round the clock to ensure the best possible service and provide safety to drivers in a particularly difficult environment. These 400 employees compose the patrols, the intervention teams, the technicians of various specialties, the personnel of the Toll Stations, the Traffic Management Centers, the Customer Services and the Call Center. They are our people and they are out there to assist you. The only thing we ask you is to help them by respecting them and observing their instructions. To better know them, this issue inaugurates a column presenting the personnel of the operation company.



## Intervention Team member

**Mr. Periandros Papanikolaou is a member of Olympia Odos Operation S.A. since its establishment in the summer of 2008 and he works as Works Machinery Operator Assistant of the Intervention Team of Nea Peramos Technical Base.**

### What exactly is your work?

The Intervention Team of Nea Peramos Technical Base consists of 16 people. Other such teams are located along the road at Kiato, Akrata and Patra. Our job is the handling of all Operation machinery in order to perform scheduled technical works on the motorway and to deal with emergencies.

**What are the scheduled works on the motorway and the procedures to be followed in order to implement such works?**

Scheduled works include cleaning of the pavement or small scale repairs (e.g. pothole repair), cleaning of the Toll Stations, clearing of shafts and channels, replacement of safety barriers, maintenance of the road lighting, replacement of signboards, maintenance of fencing and green areas as well as installation of the provisional signage for the above works.

First, we are given a detailed plan with the zone where the works are to be performed. The said plan indicates the provisional signage to be implemented per kilometric

point. The procedure for installing the provisional signage (yellow signs) concerns not only the installation but also the provisional covering of the permanent signage in order not to confuse the drivers. The warning signage starts many meters before the works zone so that the drivers have the time to adapt their driving behavior.

**What are the procedures followed in case of an emergency?**

In general, regardless of the works performed, our first priority is safety; i.e. the safety not only of the users but also of the employees working along the motorway. In case of road accidents, we rush into the spot in order to promptly remove the immobilized vehicles

or various objects such as glasses, broken signs and debris, to replace the safety barriers etc. In case of engine oil spilled onto the pavement, we put sand in order to absorb the oil and then we come back to fully clean the area. Our aim is to open the road to traffic as soon as possible and with the highest possible level of safety. All this is carried out using the appropriate signage to ensure the bodily integrity of both users and employees.

**Have the users become familiar with the operation services?**

In the beginning, it was more difficult, because they were not familiar with us. Now, however, and as time goes by, more and more

people get familiar with us and we receive very positive remarks and many "bravos", since more and more of them understand and appreciate the work we do. Olympia Odos is a very good company and a huge project while everybody can see the difference every day. It is important for the users to know that they are not alone on the road and that we are by their side to assist them.

## OLYMPIAN RACE 2010

### In memory of Yannis Vouros

In memory of our recently diseased colleague Yannis Vouros (Toll Manager at OLYMPIA ODOS OPERATION S.A.), his friend Yannis Papamichail participated in the International Long-distance trail Race "OLYMPIAN RACE 2010" (Ancient Nemea – Ancient Olympia) covering a distance of 180km in 27 hours, 16 minutes and 47 seconds, taking the 31st place.



## The Road Safety message all over Greece

The 3rd Pan-Hellenic Road Safety Week, an initiative of the Road Safety Institute "Panos Mylonas" and the Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers, was organized from March 19 to March 26, 2010. During this week, more than 100 activities were organized all over Greece. Thanks to the valuable assistance of volunteers and the cooperation of more than 100 bodies and organizations, activities and events were organized in 13 Greek cities.

Within this framework, a conference was organized on March 19 on "Road Safety: Policies and Developments" at the Auditorium of the Ministry of Infrastructure. The Managing Directors of the operation and maintenance companies of Olympia Odos, Moreas and Aegean Motorways presented the very difficult work performed by the patrols, the intervention teams and the entire personnel of the Motorways Operation Companies in cooperation with the Traffic Police, the Fire Brigade and the private Road Assistance companies, in order to be in the maximum state of preparedness to assist the drivers in case of accident 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. **It is worth noting that deadly road accidents decreased by 47% and the number of casualties by 52% during the first year of the operation of Korinthos-Patra National Road.**

Moreover, a particularly important message was sent by the Vice-President of the Road Safety National Agency of Portugal Mr. Luis Miguel Pereira Farinha, who presented the experience of Portugal in elaborating and implementing the National Strategic Plan on Road Safety 2008-2015 and in particular the diagnosis phase for 2007, the developments in 2008 and 2009 and the current implementation of the relevant measures. Mr. Farinha said that his country managed to reduce almost by half the road accident

victims after great efforts made these last years. More specifically, from 1,800 casualties in 1998 they passed to 1,600 in 2000 and to 850 in 2006, while they are making continuous progress until now. This significant improvement was achieved by adopting, among others, best practices used in other European countries, coordinating the efforts of various bodies, creating an extensive motorways network, reducing the average age of the vehicles, revising the Highway Code at least 8 times, improving the technical controls level, increasing the relevant campaigns and assigning parts of the project to different bodies.

On March 26, 2010, the European Day of Courtesy on the Road was celebrated all over Europe; Traffic Police, local bodies and companies supporting the activities of the Institute among which Olympia Odos distributed relevant leaflets all over Greece.



## Training Program on Road Safety



In addition to the operation and maintenance tasks for the Elefsina-Korinthos-Patra road axis, the operation company often welcomes schools and shows them round the facilities and the Traffic Management Centers. Moreover, the specialized personnel of the operation company make many presentations aiming at informing and increasing the awareness of our little friends about road safety. In the first four months of 2010, more than 100 students from the final year of the Professional High School of Pyrgos and from the 2nd and 4th Grade of the 44th Primary School of Perivola visited the Traffic Management Center of Patra. This effort continues hoping that we can contribute to the extent possible to shape better drivers and better road behaviors.

### IDENTITY

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