



## Statement of the 16<sup>th</sup> EPA Congress

The 16<sup>th</sup> EPA Congress, held in Dublin, found that:

- Parking has an important impact in urban planning, but this is underestimated by many urban planners.
- Several cities have demonstrated that close cooperation between urban planners and parking professionals can lead to good solutions.
- A global survey among parking professionals shows that cooperation between decision makers and parking professionals is valued as an important factor for success.
- Parking of private cars close to the High Street should be carefully considered to manage and maintain the attractiveness of the city centre.
- Implementing standards for e-payment processing will bring significant benefits to the parking industry.

The congress also demonstrated that experience from cities outside Europe, like in San Francisco and Sydney should be considered in Europe and that transparency and transfer of knowledge in parking at a global perspective should be of high importance.

The EPA Congress found that new technology in parking equipment and the importance of environmental issues, like the introduction of “clean” private cars will have great impact on the parking industry in the future. It was also demonstrated that parking regulations and enforcement in parking will change due to the development of new technology and will give the industry new opportunities.

The congress recognizes that the key messages for the future will be the following:

- Uncontrolled parking can have a negative impact on urban development and can lead to urban sprawl.
- Dynamic parking charges in the cities can give better accessibility and mobility in the cities of Europe.
- Cashless parking will change the industry in the years to come and could again change the willingness to pay and lead to fewer parking offences. This will also change the enforcement of parking regulations.
- The parking industry must give more attention to consumer and the fact that the industry is a service provider.
- No urban mobility strategy will be successful unless it incorporates a good parking strategy.

The EPA congress demonstrated that the parking industry in Europe is enormous and well established. The congress also found that sharing information between parking professionals at a global scale could be essential to reach the goals on mobility in urban areas. The congress thought the following quote would sum up our findings:

*You can analyse the past, but you must design the future (Eduard de Bono).*

Dublin, September 13, 2013