



EDUCATION NATION

Albania educates children on road safety in order to reach adults PG 10

TRADITION MEETS MODERNITY

As it gets set to celebrate 120-years, how the ÖAMTC keeps up with changing times PG 18

AUSTRALIA GEARS UP

CAMS reports strong growth in grassroots motor sport in 2015 PG 24

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AUTO+ NEWS



RACING TOWARDS A SPORTING HEARTLAND

Meet the Automobile Club d'Italia
P16

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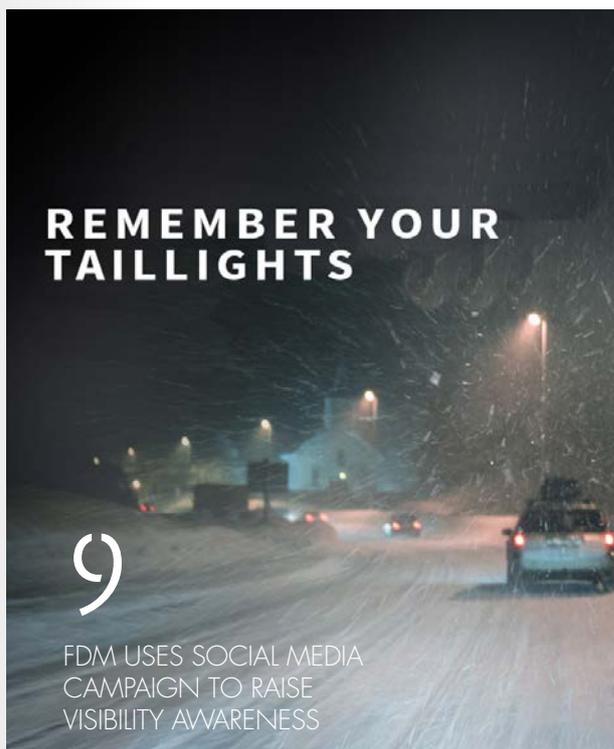
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Dear Friends,

Welcome to this latest edition of our club newsletter AUTO+.

Tradition is an important value within the FIA family. It speaks to characteristics such as wisdom, certainty and trust, key attributes for any business.



In this issue, we visit two clubs with heritage that dates back to the very dawn of the motoring age to see how they are honouring tradition and trust in order to meet the needs of their members in motor sport and mobility and also to see how they are preparing to host two major events in the 2016 FIA calendar – FIA Sport Conference in the case of the Automobile Club d’Italia and the FIA General Assembly in the case of Austria’s ÖAMTC.

As featured in the last edition of Auto+, the third major event of next year will be the FIA Mobility Conference hosted by the Automobile Club of Finland Autoliitto.

Elsewhere, we look back to the most recent General Assembly in Paris, which in the light of the recent tragic events in the city, was a remarkable show of strength for the FIA, with over 380 delegates from 111 countries present. I would like to personally thank each and every one of them for making the journey during such a difficult time.

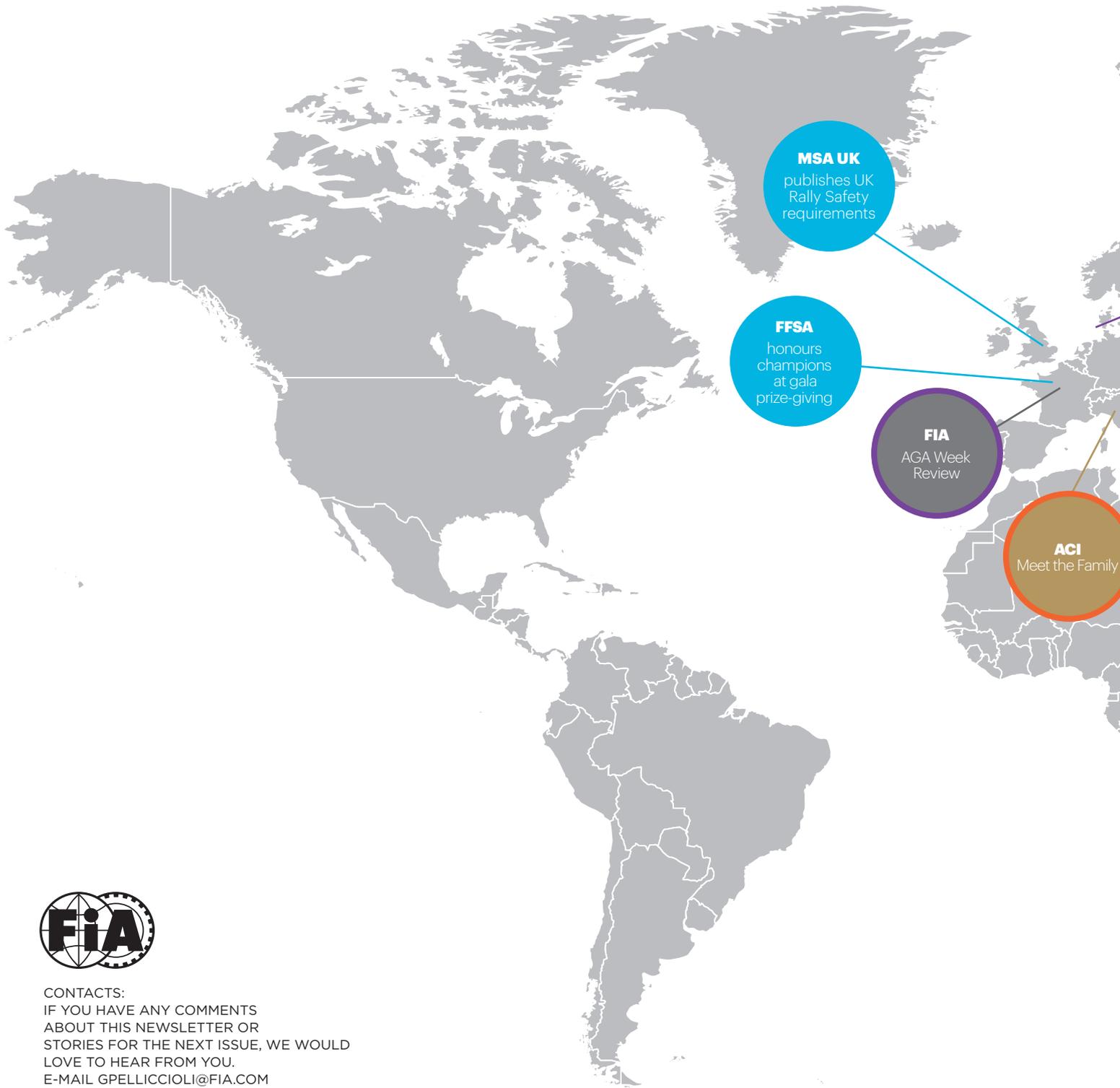
Finally in this issue, we report on innovative uses of new technology and new media in Sweden and Denmark, we look at road safety progress in Albania, Slovenia and Iran, we see how motor sport is growing in Australia and we head back to Paris for the awards night of the FFSA.

I hope you enjoy this final edition of AUTO+ for 2015. Wishing you a very happy Holiday Season.

Jean Todt
FIA President



FIA CLUBS AND ASN_s PARTICIPATING IN THIS ISSUE



MSA UK
publishes UK
Rally Safety
requirements

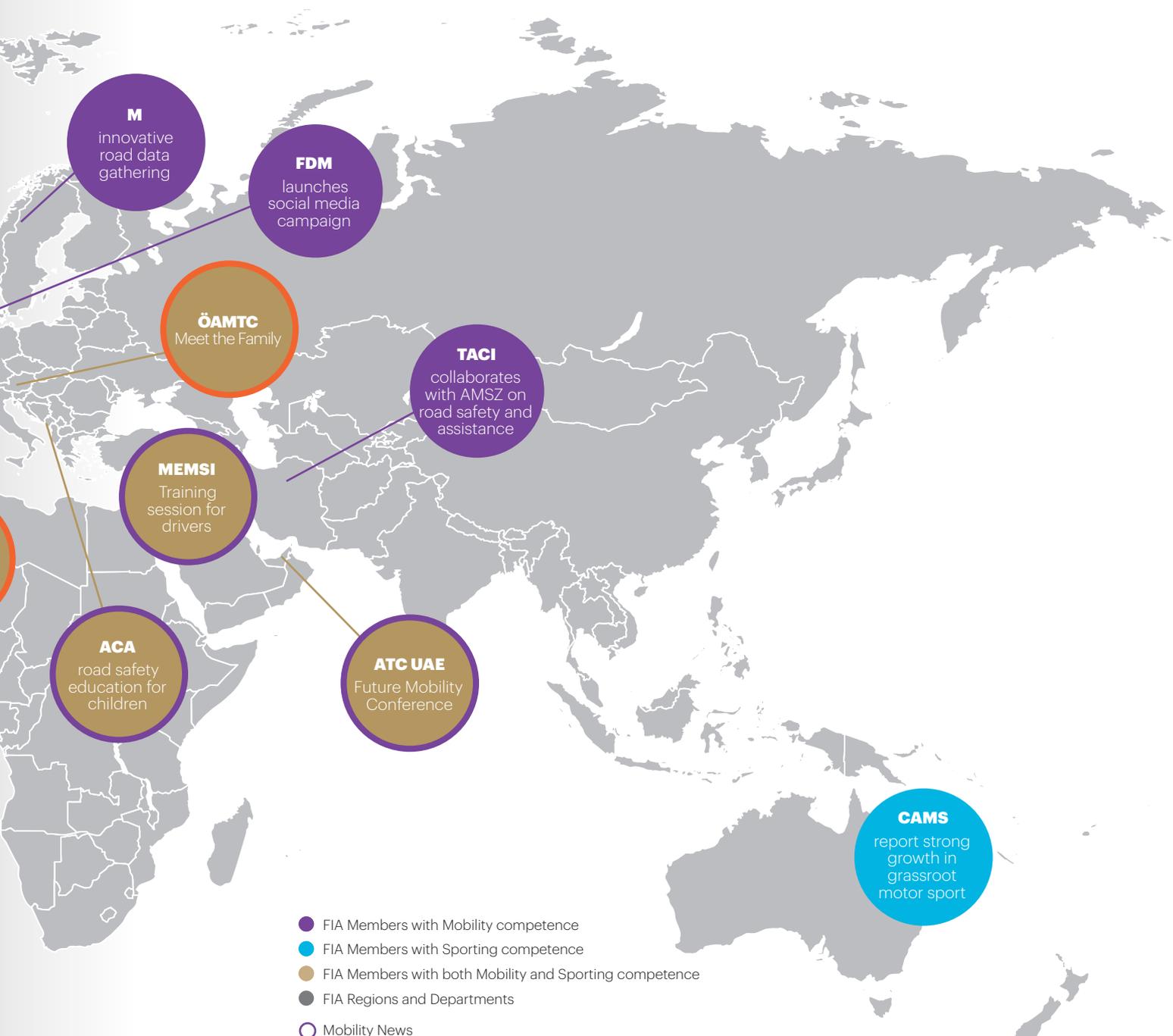
FFSA
honours
champions
at gala
prize-giving

FIA
AGA Week
Review

ACI
Meet the Family



CONTACTS:
IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS
ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER OR
STORIES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE, WE WOULD
LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.
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- FIA Members with Mobility competence
- FIA Members with Sporting competence
- FIA Members with both Mobility and Sporting competence
- FIA Regions and Departments
- Mobility News
- Sport News
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FIA FAMILY GATHERS IN PARIS

The FIA's 2015 year concluded, as is tradition, with its Annual General Assembly week in Paris during the first week of December.

Delegates from all over the world, representing both the Sport and Mobility pillars, descended on Paris for a week of productive meetings and events.

The week represented an ideal opportunity for club representatives and the FIA Community at large to network and discuss the pertinent issues facing them.

The all-important year-end meetings were held for the FIA Senate, the World Motor Sport Council and the World Council for Automobile, Mobility and Tourism, before the end of the week was heralded with a glittering FIA Prize Giving ceremony at the famed Lido de Paris cabaret theatre to celebrate the year's motor sport champions.

To watch the 2015 FIA AGA highlights, click: www.fia.com/multimedia/video-gallery/2015-annual-general-assembly-review-video





Motormannens Riksförbund

Swedish club uses simple app to collect valuable road data

Each summer, the Swedish Automobile Association, with help from sponsors, is granted access to a number of new Volvo cars, which are used by the club for the purpose of data research.

Each vehicle is manned by volunteers and the data they collect contributes an important component of the club's advocacy work.

Last summer the volunteers examined the quality of 920,000km of the Swedish road network using cheap, precise and userfriendly technology. Each of the 12 cars provided was equipped with a smartphone and the innovative Roadroid-app, which uses the smartphone's built-in vibration sensor to measure road texture. The phone's GPS then connects the data to the national road database and the data is uploaded to a map.

The collated data was recently presented in a paper detailing key findings, including the fact that every county above Dalälven, a river in mid-south Sweden, has poorer roads than counties south of the river.

Another finding made a clear connection between road deaths and poor road quality. In a country such as Sweden, where there are often long distances between towns, good road standards are necessary to maintain business competitiveness, while, for motorists, good roads reduce the risk of expensive repairs to cars. The study resulted in high media interest and proved to be an effective way of putting road standards on the media agenda.

The paper: <http://bit.ly/1m9q76M>

The app: www.roadroid.com

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The Swedish Automobile Association used a small fleet of a dozen Volvo cars to document the quality of almost 1 million km of Swedish roads.

Automobile and Touring Club of Israel

MEMSI provided both theoretical and practical training for corporate drivers.



Israeli club trains fleet drivers

Israeli club MEMSI recently completed a driving and road safety training session for corporate drivers, the latest in a series of sessions as companies in the country avail themselves of the club's facilities and offerings.

As part of the safety training, the Israeli Club provided theoretical information covering all the aspects of safe driving.

Among other topics, the training included vehicle control, speeding and braking, emergency braking, overtaking a slower vehicle, entering and exiting a parking, turning lines and increased awareness.

Following the theoretical section of the programme, all the participants were given practical training in which they practiced all they had learned in the classroom on a closed track, as well as on the open road.

The feedback received from the participants was very good, with special comment being reserved for the fact that there were many topics the drivers had only just come to understand despite the fact that a large percentage of the participants had been driving for many years.

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Forenede Danske Motorejere

FDM enjoy success with social media campaign to raise visibility awareness

Danish club Forenede Danske Motorejere (FDM) recently achieved great success with a user-generated social media road safety campaign entitled 'Light Up the Roads', which according to the club demonstrates how such a campaign can carry topicality and relatability for social media users.

In 2011, the European Union introduced mandatory daytime running lights at the front of the vehicle on all new cars in a bid to improve safety by making vehicles more visible.

The initiative differentiated itself from the previous Danish standard by which, since 1989, daytime running lights were mandatory by law, effected in the form of dipped headlights always being switched on in Danish cars. Therefore Danish drivers did not have to worry about when darkness began to set in.

However, with the new use of daytime running lights many Danish motorists have had to get used to manually switching on dipped headlights. Even though many cars have light sensors that detect changes in brightness, some conditions, such as fog, heavy rain or snow are not registered. The change did not go unnoticed by the Danish motorists. FDM experienced a high number of enquiries concerning the matter, especially on Facebook. Many of FDM's

members had had experiences, where they could not see other cars on the road because taillights of the car ahead were not on. Having logged the enquiries, FDM wanted to achieve two things: to inform motorists of the new rules concerning taillights, and to show club members that their concerns were being taken seriously. Therefore a social media campaign was initiated.

FDM created five images to be shared on Facebook and Twitter, each showing the rear end of a car. Two featured cars in the dark, with the remaining three showing situations with poor visibility: fog, heavy rain and snow. The text on each image read 'Remember Your Taillights'. FDM also created the hashtag #husklyset (Remember your Lights) to be used on Twitter. A premise for using social media for the campaign was that FDM would participate in the dialogue that followed. An employee was therefore assigned to monitor the conversation and answer users' questions.

The campaign proved hugely popular, with the first image being shared 2,829 times and reaching 337,602 people, more than 10 times the amount of followers the FDM Facebook page had at the time. The campaign thus illustrated how a strong social media presence can allow an organisation to broaden its communication.

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One of the five images shared on social media to raise awareness on the new taillight regulation.

Automobile Club Albania

Albania seeks to educate children on road safety in order to influence adults



From left to right: Arjola BYZYKA, General Director (Directory of Education, Tirana district); Zamira GJINI, Director (Directory of Preuniversity Education, Ministry of Education and Sport of Albania); Nora MALAJ, Vice Minister (Ministry of Education and Sport of Albania); Niko LEKA, ACA President; Arian KAPEDANI, ACA Vice President; Bajram MUÇA, ACA Club Correspondent

Albania's recent history, in which private car ownership was prohibited, led to a unique road safety issue in which pedestrian of all ages lacked awareness of good road conduct, with pedestrians routinely entering roads and highways, with little regard to safety.

Despite the country undergoing myriad changes in over the past two or more decades the problem has persisted with adults passing on the bad habits to their children.

To meet this challenge, Automobile Club Albania (ACA) has focused on a key issue – children's road safety education – and as part of this focus the club applied for and received grant aid from the FIA Road Safety Grant Programme, for its project 'Educate Children to Educate Adults'.

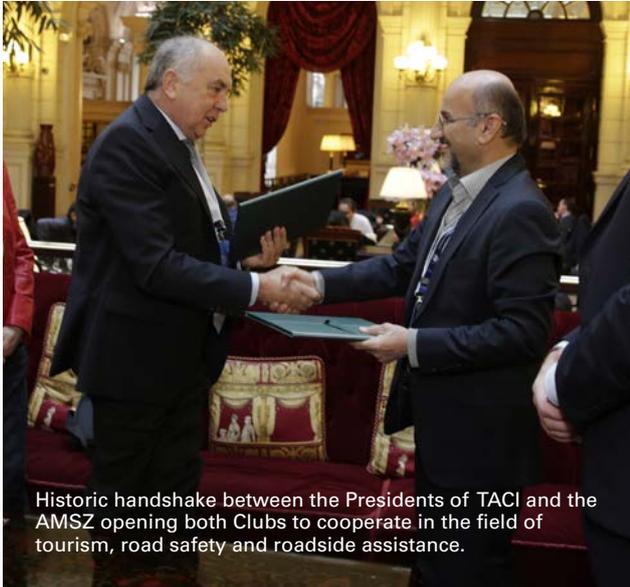
A Spanish 26-part film, entitled 'Green Light', has been translated into Albanian and in an amusing and engaging way the series educates 5-12 yearolds about safe road behaviour. The core idea is to save the lives of children, but by extension it encourages kids to influence the behaviour of adults.

ACA initiated a strong campaign to back up the programme in 2015, including: broadcasting of "Green Light" series on a National TV Channel, special projections in schools participating at the ETEC contest, agreement with the Ministry of Education to introduce these series in the education process of 80 public schools in Tirana and Durrës. This is a first step towards the use of this film in schools and kindergartens, all over the country.

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Touring and Automobile Club of the Islamic Republic of Iran



Historic handshake between the Presidents of TACI and the AMSZ opening both Clubs to cooperate in the field of tourism, road safety and roadside assistance.

TACI and AMZS to collaborate on road safety, assistance

At the recent FIA Annual General Assembly in Paris the President of the Touring and Automobile Club of the Islamic Republic of Iran (TACI), Abolghasem Iraj Kajoori, and the President of Avto-Moto Zveza Slovenije (AMZS), Anton Breznik, signed a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in the field of tourism, road safety, and roadside assistance services.

The new agreement will see the clubs further strengthen the friendly relations and strategic partnership between the two clubs with the desire of developing cooperation on road safety and roadside assistance, in particular offering roadside assistance services to tourists from either country when travelling in Iran or Slovenia.

It also provides for cooperation to enhance the professional knowledge and skills of operative in the field of road side assistance.

In the realm of road safety the initiative will see the two clubs exchange experience and knowledge on road safety projects and programmes.

The Memorandum of Understanding also recognises the importance of cooperative efforts to promote and develop tourism activities particularly in attracting members and tourists.

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Automobile and Touring Club of the United Arab Emirates

Future mobility on ATCUAE agenda

The Automobile and Touring Club of UAE (ATCUAE) recently supported the Future Mobility Conference organised by the Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA) in association with Messe Frankfurt Middle East, in Dubai.

Organised for the first time in the Middle East, the conference represented a unique platform for regulators, government authorities, key industry players and thought leaders to come together and discuss future opportunities, advances and innovations in electric and hybrid vehicles.

The event explored the various aspects of electric and hybrid vehicles, including regulations, development of supporting infrastructure, distribution, market potential, research and development and more.

The Future Mobility Conference turned out to be an excellent networking platform for businesses and government. Draft regulations regarding the planned incentives for electric cars users have been revealed by ESMA.

Mohammed ben Sulayem, ATCUAE President and FIA Vice President said: "Electric and hybrid cars are relatively new concepts in the world of the automotive industry in the Middle East. People here are not yet used to buying these kind of cars. But the positive impact and environmental solutions offered by these concepts make it imperative that all concerned parties work on establishing an effective strategy that can contribute to spreading these concepts in the near future." Prominent figures in the industry attending the event included Thierry Willemarck, President FIA Region I, Belgium and Egil Otter, Manager International Relations and Policy Director, NAF (Norwegian Automobile Federation).

CONTACT: sura@atcuae.ae



During the conference, Mr. Egil Otter, Manager International Relations and Policy Director, NAF (Norwegian Automobile Federation), Norway, (left), H.E. Mohammed ben Sulayem, ATCUAE President and FIA Vice President, UAE, Mr. Thierry Willemarck, President FIA Region I, Belgium, (right).

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RACING TOWARDS A SPORTING HEARTLAND

Next year's FIA Sport Conference will transport delegates to a country steeped in motor sport heritage to meet a club with one of the world's richest racing traditions - The Automobile Club d'Italia. Club President Angelo Sticchi Damiani outlines what delegates can expect and details some of the Club's current programmes...



Automobile Club d'Italia

With 110 years of history and experience, ACI has renewed its commitment to the protection and love of the Italians for the four wheels, undertaking a new project to safeguard vintage cars under the brand of the Club ACI Storico, a new club within the Club to provide exclusive services and products to its members: the traditional Italian style for the future.



There are few countries in the world with a motor sport heritage as rich and diverse as Italy's. The country's love affair with the automobile dates back to the very beginnings of motorised transport and the foundation, in 1898, of the Turin Automobile Club.

The following year, the Turin Club assumed the name of Club Automobilisti d'Italia (Italian Motorists' Club), which, eventually, in January 1905 became the national body known as the Automobile Club d'Italia.

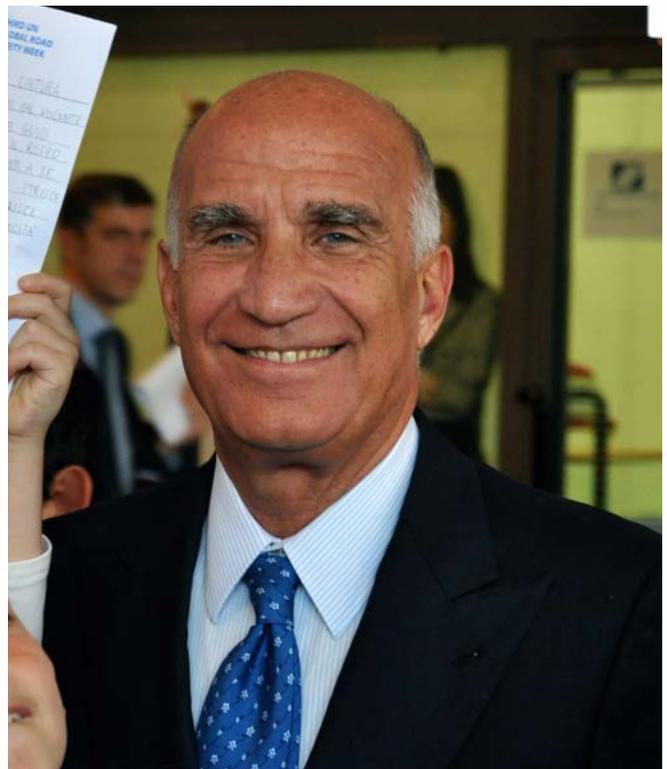
A founding member of the FIA's progenitor, the Association Internationale des Automobiles Clubs Reconnus (AIACR), the club that would soon after become ACI quickly became involved in motor sport and events such as the Coppa Florio, run near Brescia – and which in 1906 gave rise to the Targa Florio – defined the sporting activity of Italy's club. The path was set and from its involvement in the construction of the fabled Monza circuit in the 1920s to its present day involvement in disciplines as diverse as rallying, historic racing, karting and all forms of circuit racing, including most recently the FIA's Formula 4 category, ACI has been at the heart of motor sport in Italy.

FIA family members are set to get a first-hand taste of the depth of the club's sporting heritage next summer, when ACI will host the fourth FIA Sport Conference in one of motoring's most significant cities – Turin.

"The choice of Turin, strongly supported also by President Jean Todt, needs just a short foreword," explains ACI President Angelo Sticchi Damiani, "an independent association of not more than seven people, fond of motor sport – with (soon to be Fiat chief) Giovanni Agnelli as the Secretary – formed a club in Turin on 6th December, 1898. Their activities gave birth to the ACI as a national association – and always it was based in Turin.

"From then on, so many important manufacturers, designers and producers began in Turin, pushing the growth of motor sport in Italy. Now it's time to embrace this heritage, on behalf of the ACI and the country, as a key reference in the global automotive market, thus assuring it has visibility that goes far beyond the borders of Europe.

“ DELEGATES WILL EXPERIENCE ITALY'S STRONG PASSION FOR MOTOR SPORT ”



ACI President Angelo Sticchi Damiani

“We are really very proud to be hosting the 2016 FIA Sport Conference,” he adds. “It represents a unique opportunity for our club to showcase and enhance Italian motor sport at an international level. I believe the Conference is the best opportunity for ACI to bring the world motor sport community together in a place where they can socialise, network and share know-how and experiences. We will all have the chance to listen and learn but also to offer ideas and projects that prove motor sport is a business worth investing in, even though these are still hard economic times for everybody.”

The Italian club President is sure that the country’s sporting heritage and current diversity of disciplines will also give the event a unique flavour.

“I wish to convey to all our guests coming from all over the world a very warm welcome and I can guarantee that we will provide friendly hospitality and also that delegates will experience Italy’s strong passion for motor sport,” he says. “I expect the ‘Made in Italy’ tradition of excellence to be evident in how Italian organisations have contributed and continue to contribute to the growth of motor sport all across the world.

“ACI is directly involved in the organisation of many motor sport events, quite a few which are valid at FIA international and world championship level. Of course we are very proud of these events as they act as testimonials to our excellence in the world of motor sport. Not only the Rally of Italy and the Formula One Italian Grand Prix, but also the Targa Florio and the Mille Miglia, which have become distinguishing events of the brand of Italy and of the Automobile Club d’Italia. I hope we can also show to the FIA family what we are doing with our programmes for young motor sport enthusiasts: ACI Team Italia Rallying and Racing and the Kart in Piazza in karting, just to highlight the recent ones.”

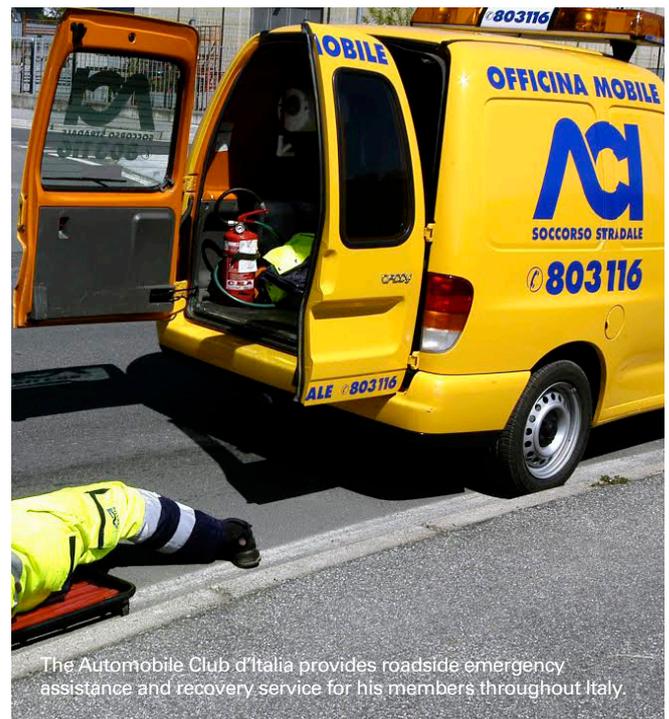
The mention of current programmes begs a question regarding the current health of motor sport in Italy. The country has heritage in abundance but is motor sport still growing?

“Such a rich heritage must be cultivated and I like to think that we’ve never rested on our laurels,” says Sticchi Damiani. “ACI has constantly supported the evolution of motor sport and of the automobile since its foundation, from 2,229 vehicles circulating in the early 19th century to the over 34 million today. ACI now has 1.2 million members, including approximately 36,000 sport licence holders. We have 106 provincial automobile clubs, 480 insurance agencies, 18 subsidiary companies, 10,000 staff and two call centres. We cater for 600,000 breakdown interventions every year from 960 breakdown rescue centres with 3,700 tow trucks.

“In sport we have 10 FIA homologated circuits, 67 kart circuits, including 12 CIK homologated ones and an average of 800 events entered each year into the national calendar,” he adds. “ACI is now the largest independent citizens’ association in Italy, representing motor sport, mobility and tourism in front of national and international institutions.”

The Italian passion for motor sport is rooted in the traditional disciplines of circuit racing and rallying but the ACI President says that club is always seeking to innovate and in recent times has actively pursued the development of lowcost motor sport in a bid to counter the effects of economic downturn and also to legitimise events that would otherwise not fall under the ASN’s aegis. “Rallying, circuit racing and karting are still the most popular disciplines in Italy, together with historic racing.” he says. “Along with our dedication to providing value in the Italian championships, for the benefit of our stakeholders, drivers, manufacturers, organisers and spectators, we are also deeply

“ ACI IS NOW THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATION IN ITALY, REPRESENTING MOTOR SPORT, MOBILITY AND TOURISM ISSUES ”



The Automobile Club d’Italia provides roadside emergency assistance and recovery service for his members throughout Italy.



The final stage of the 2013 tour of Kart in Piazza (karting in city squares) took place in the Italian city of Lecce.



ACI President Angelo Sticchi Damiani and CONI President Giovanni Malago' at the presentation of the 2015 ACITeam Italia project in Rome.

“ WE ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN GROWING LOW-COST MOTOR SPORT - TO BRING UNAUTHORISED EVENTS UNDER THE ASN UMBRELLA ”

involved in growing low-cost motor sport activities – mostly slalom and off-road events – in order to bring unauthorised events under the ASN umbrella. That activity is performed in close cooperation with the Ministry of Transport, the Italian CONI, and the local authorities.

“ACI strongly believes in the importance of education and training in road and sport driving. We are therefore actively involved in training, both teachers and students, on road safety in schools.” he continues. “That commitment entails hundreds of safe driving courses held every year all over the country and also at the Safe Driving Centre based at the Vallelunga circuit.

“Giving support and guidance to young people is certainly one of our major activities; there is no future if we do not invest in young people. Therefore we will continue to pursue the strategic objective of supporting and guiding young drivers. As I mentioned, we have two projects focused on this area: ACI Team Italia Rally and Racing, and these have been designed to grow, educate, train, support and guide young talented drivers. This programme has been financially supported by the Federation since 2014. Safety training for officials is also a key activity for us and we are working on attracting a new generation of officials.”

Another key element of ACI's dedication to the next generation of racers is the national FIA Formula 4 championship, which when launched in 2014 was the first of its kind in the world.

“I'm very glad that our ASN was the first to support the FIA initiative to attract young talented drivers to participate in the Formula categories,” says Sticchi Damiani. “In line with this objective, the Automobile Club of Italy has been dedicating all its efforts, since 2013, to developing the new FIA F4 national championship and helped launch this FIA project also for the benefit of all the ASNs that wished to organise their own national championships. All this could not have been achieved without the support we received from the FIA and from Jean Todt.

“It was quite difficult convincing manufacturers, teams and drivers that F4 was a real product, that it could be the start of the road from karting to F1,” he adds. “Taking that into consideration, we chose to rely on the experience and talent of an experienced Italian karting promoter for our F4 championship and it has been a great success over the past two seasons. Now we have to deal with competition from other F4 championships but that's part of the game!”

The F4 championship in Italy is somewhat fortunate in having a rich feed of talent from the country's vibrant karting scene. Italy has long been a hotbed of karting activity though Sticchi Damiani feels that the discipline too needs an overhaul.

“The management and development of karting should involve the differentiation of the top level from the base karting, and a structure should be built for the supervision and ruling of the two areas along with their different types of users, philosophy and approach. Costs must also be reduced and categories simplified.”

Beyond circuit racing, Sticchi Damiani says disciplines such as rallying and historic events are in good health.

“We are doing quite well despite the recent years of strong market turbulence and the tense social and political relations which have led to decreased interest in the values of motor sport culture in general and to a drastic reduction of sports programmes by manufacturers,” he says. “Organising competitions outside the rules issued by the ASNs is another critical issue and it's the result of the economic crisis and rising costs for organisers. However we've been growing an experienced staff and new electronic channels to reach out to stakeholders and offer them the best services. “I may say motor sport in Italy is quite healthy at the moment, with 751 events already entered in the 2016 national calendar: 203 karting races 141 rallies, 143 historic events (in all disciplines), not to mention 103 slaloms and many more, with drifting, off-road, formula challenge and alternative energies all represented.”

As he mentioned, however, ACI is determined not to rest on

its laurels and for the future Sticchi Damiani says the club will continue to focus on youth development in particular. “Provided there is a complete economic recovery, our idea for motor sport development would ideally focus on more investment in young people and also in their parents, in terms of pure motor sport and of motor sport values,” he says. “Sportsmanship, respect, loyalty and safety are the key assets with which we should base a solid future. The alternative energies competitions represent

another relevant key issue for the future and we believe these will parallel the growth of alternative energies vehicles for road use, to challenge the climatic changes and the environment pollution. On the other hand, we strongly believe in regulations simplification to adhere to local ASN scenarios and to assure equal opportunities to the FIA global family.”



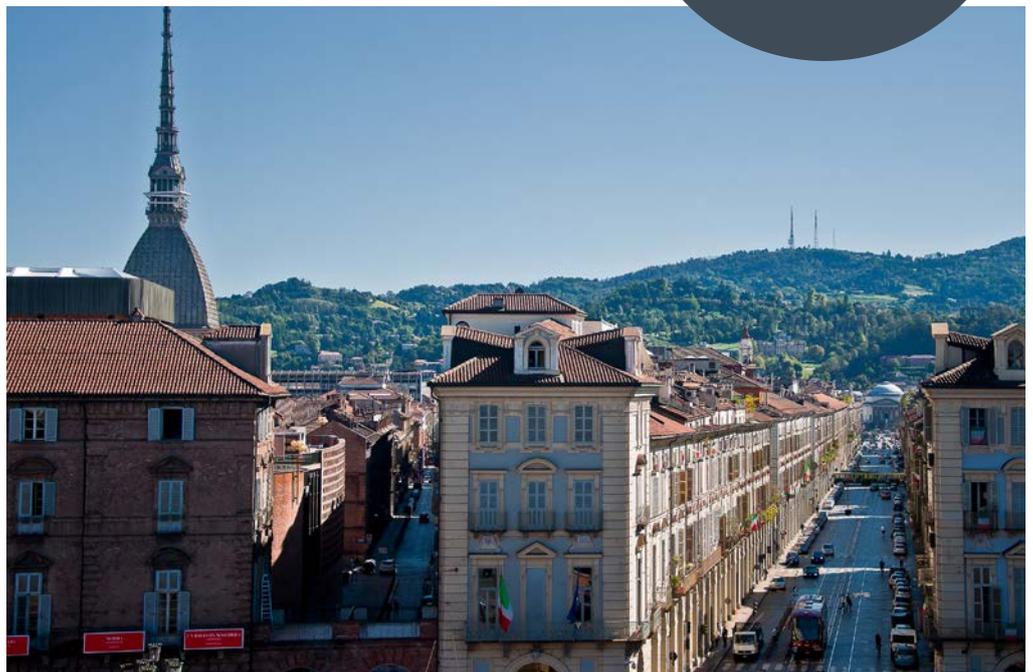
The historic Centro Lingotto and previous Fiat industrial building in Turin will be host to the FIA Sport Conference in June 2016. All further details to be unveiled soon!

SAVE THE DATE!

FIA SPORT CONFERENCE 2016
21-23 JUNE - TURIN

We look forward to seeing you there!

FIA family members are set to get a first-hand taste of the depth of the club's sporting heritage next summer, when ACI will host the fourth FIA Sport Conference in one of motoring's most significant cities – Turin.



Vienna Hofburg (Imperial Castle) –
Venue for the 2016 FIA Annual
General Assembly and Prize-Giving





TRADITION MEETS MODERNITY

One of the world's oldest motoring clubs and a founder member of the FIA, Austria's ÖAMTC will next year celebrate its 120th anniversary, during which time it will welcome the FIA Annual General Assembly and Prize-Giving to Vienna. And according to its President, Werner Kraus, the club's longevity can be attributed to two qualities – member focus and a comprehensive, constantly updated service offering.



ÖAMTC already hosted several FIA meetings, including the 2013 Spring Meeting in Vienna.



The early years of the motoring saw the foundation of numerous enthusiasts' clubs, the excitement associated with the new technology leading to a heady rush to band together in salons across Europe. Many such clubs died away as the initial thrill gave way to the apparently mundane necessity of formulating charters, appointing boards and officials and representing the rights of the nascent motoring class.

A few persevered, however, in the process becoming the powerhouses of motoring culture, a movement that eventually gave rise to the FIA itself.

One such organisation is Austria's ÖAMTC. The club was founded in 1896 and as such 2016 sees the club celebrate its 120th anniversary.

It is fitting then that in such a landmark year one of the world's oldest motoring organisations, which is also a founding member of the FIA, should be chosen to host the 2016 FIA Annual General Assembly and the gala Prize-Giving ceremony.

It's an event club President Werner Kraus is looking forward to.

"Our 120th anniversary will be marked by several events throughout the year – the ÖAMTC headquarters will move into a new building, offering for the first time in its history a 'common roof' for all employees in Vienna, a symposium on the national rescue services, and many more," he says. "Of course, the end of the celebrations will be marked by the FIA General Assembly taking place in December.

"I think it will be an event combining Viennese tradition and history, Austrian hospitality and the not so well known modern side of Austria. All events will take place in the historic city, with short walking distances between each. It will be a unique experience of pre-Christmas time and the magic associated with that in Vienna."

One hundred and twenty years of club life is a remarkable number and Kraus is mindful of the wealth of heritage that lies at the heart of the organisation.

"The ÖAMTC is a founding member of FIA and AIT. The foundation of ÖAMTC brought together two different organisations, one was a touring and cyclist club and the other

“ IT WILL BE AN EVENT COMBINING VIENNESE TRADITION AND HISTORY ”



ÖAMTC Werner Kraus: "since its founding the ÖAMTC has been able to grow and increase its membership every year"

one was a club for car enthusiasts organising the first motor sports events in Austria. These two organisations merged after World War II and then developed into the number one roadside assistance organisation in Austria. Over the last five years the ÖAMTC has developed into a mobility club taking care of every kind of mobility used by its members. Since its funding the ÖAMTC has been able to grow and increase its membership every year.”

That membership now numbers 2 million, spread across the ÖAMTC’s seven federal organisations.

“The club has a strong unified service offer and market presence,” says Kraus. “Ninety-nine per cent of all roadside assistance services are rendered by ÖAMTC road patrols (all employed by ÖAMTC).

“We this year reach the magic number of 2 million ‘paying’ members, with more than 1.3m of them signed up for the assistance booklet, a premium membership product covering roadside assistance abroad, personal services etc,” he adds. “On top of that the ÖAMTC has 600,000 child members aged 0 -19, who receive ÖAMTC membership free of charge.”

As Kraus mentions the club now takes care of “every kind of mobility” and represents the interests of motorists across the gamut of motoring concerns and currently the club is spearheading action on a number of fronts.

“The major issues at the moment for ÖAMTC are implementation of the My Car, My Data campaign in Austria, as well as providing consumer information on developments relating to the Volkswagen scandal,” he says. “We are also raising awareness of and fighting against Europe-wide road pricing. I’d also mention that we are busy implementing new on-line services and working towards the full digitisation of ÖAMTC’s traditional services, with the aim to have the truly connected member by 2020.”

The club’s advocacy activity naturally extends to the realm of road safety and the ÖAMTC is busy in a number of areas in this regard.

“We recently created an app for children, getting them to learn the traffic rules associated with biking via a game,” explains the club’s President. “This was done in the frame of the FIA Region I European Traffic Education contest, which was hosted in September 2015 by the ÖAMTC. At present we also have a TV campaign called ‘Make Yourself Visible’. This awareness raising campaign was launched in 2014 and received FIA Funding as an M-project. The campaign was re-launched in December 2015 via the national broadcasting organisation. Elsewhere, the ÖAMTC offers various road safety training projects for children from 5 to 10 such as ‘kleines Straßen 1x1’, ‘Hello car’ etc for schools and kindergartens. We are also involved in the distribution of safety vests free of charge to children.”

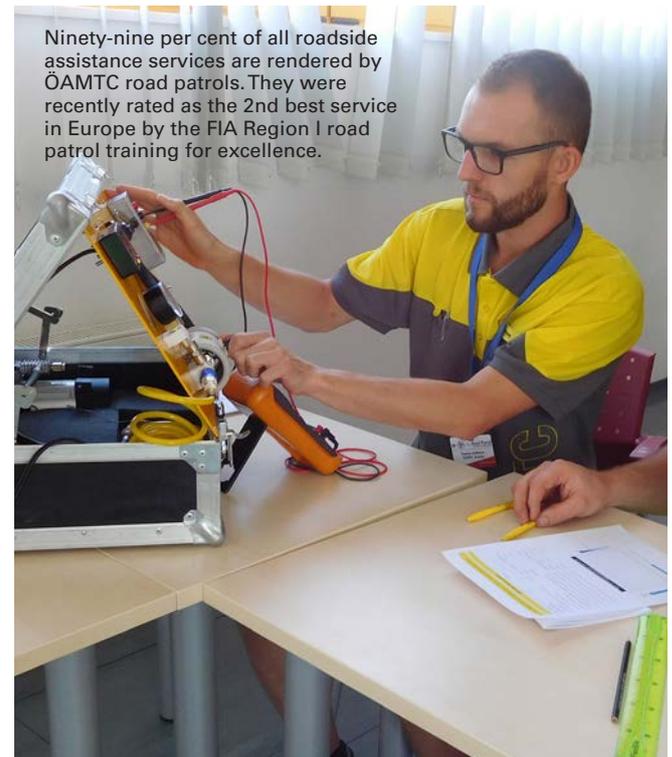
However, despite the club’s pro-active stance on road safety, Kraus says the problem is worsening.

“Unfortunately the number of road accidents and fatalities increased in 2015,” he says. “In order to reach the ambitious goal of the UN for 2020 of the reduction of 50 per cent of the number of fatalities based on the figures of 2010 in Austria, it will need a strong effort.”

The concerns of motorists do not solely rest with safety initiatives, however, and the ÖAMTC President points to a number of pressing issues that he believes are occupying the minds of club members.

“Presently, I think the major concerns for members are the present economic and political situation in Europe, the

“ THE CLUB HAS A STRONG UNIFIED SERVICE OFFER AND MARKET PRESENCE ”

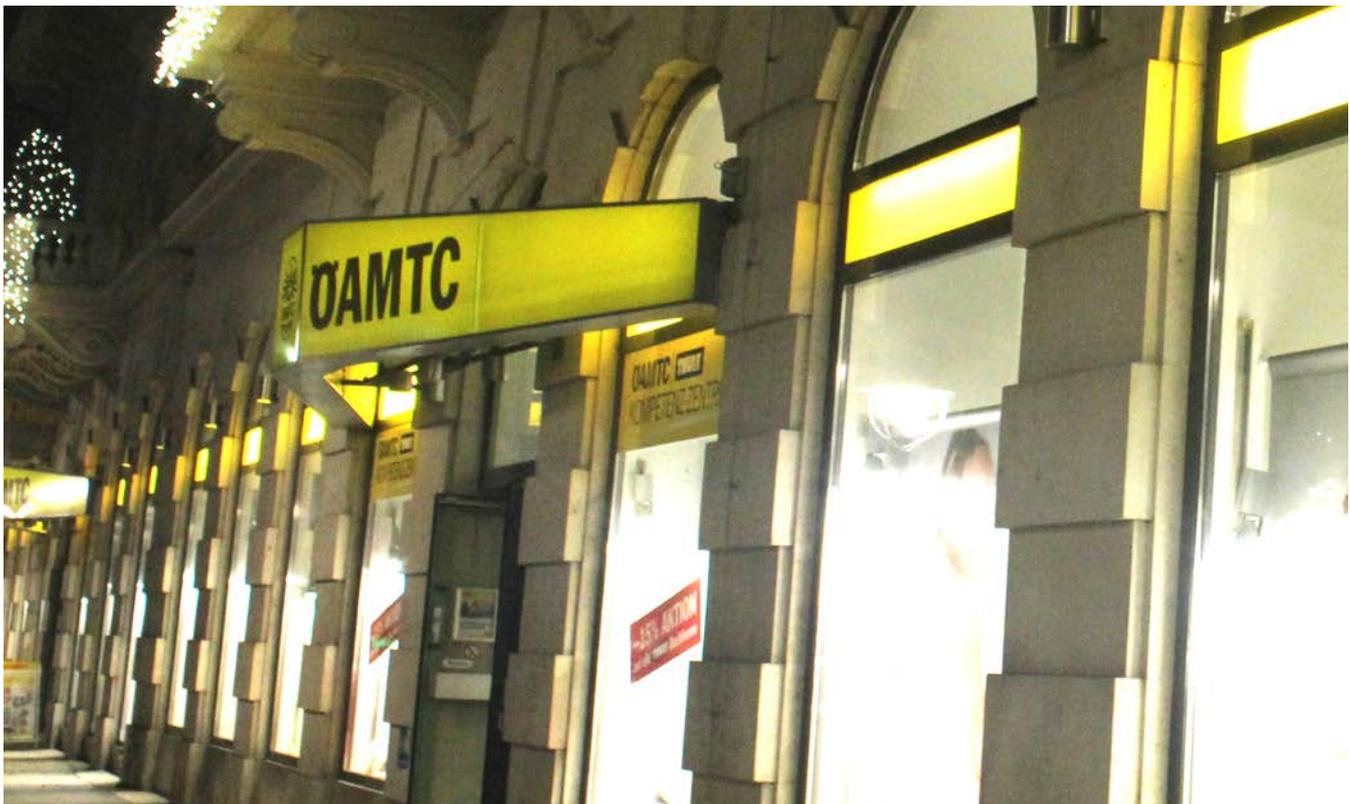


Ninety-nine per cent of all roadside assistance services are rendered by ÖAMTC road patrols. They were recently rated as the 2nd best service in Europe by the FIA Region I road patrol training for excellence.



Participants of the FIA Region I European Traffic Education contest, hosted in September 2015 by the ÖAMTC

“ DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD OF INSTANT ON-LINE SERVICES ARE MONITORED IN ORDER TO BE PREPARED FOR MAJOR CHANGE ”



manipulation of emission data and how we can ensure there are no further tax burdens placed upon motorists,” he says. “Also of importance are access to affordable modes of transport and the possibility of free choice. Finally, I think there is some concern about how can privacy be secured in a connected mobility world.”

The rise of the connected car is being seen as a potential threat by many clubs but so far Kraus believes the ÖAMTC’s member-focused services should inure it against disruptive technologies.

“For the ÖAMTC it has always been the member, i.e. the person, as the focus of the club and not the car. This will not change in the future,” he says. “However the focus on the modes of transport/mobility will change and the ÖAMTC will adapt its service offers accordingly.”

Currently 50 per cent of the club’s income stems from membership and assistance, with the second most important revenue stream being income from fees for technical services rendered at the ÖAMTC’s 110 technical service centers, the sale of commercial goods at ÖAMTC’s technical service centres, and insurance (ÖAMTC sells policies for insurance companies). Further income derives from Road Safety Driver Training Centres, Air rescue services and B2B activities.

It is a model Kraus believes is robust enough to withstand any knocks the future might bring.

“The ÖAMTC believes that its business model is resistant to short-term threats,” he adds. “Nevertheless developments in particular in the field of instant on-line services (e.g. RSA on demand) are constantly monitored in order to be prepared for major changes.”

The recently published FIA Region I initiated Vision 2030 report offers a number of possible solutions for clubs wishing to adapt and Kraus says that the ÖAMTC will employ some of the tactics contained in the study.

“The idea to carry out such a study is a very good one. It will in particular help the smaller clubs to become fit for the future. Out of the 110 recommendations, the ÖAMTC will adopt some as well. It provides a very good map to define one’s own position on the market and most important to define strategic options.”

The willingness to adapt a proven business model should see the ÖAMTC safely through the next phase of its next 120 years and Kraus is sure that motoring will remain a key form of mobility for Austrians in the future.

“Austria’s topography determines specific mobility needs. Remote valleys and rural areas will remain accessible only with a large number of individual cars. Mass transport is already well developed and modernized along the main traffic routes and in larger cities reaching more than 50 per cent of the population.



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“ FOR THE ÖAMTC IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE MEMBER AS THE FOCUS OF THE CLUB AND NOT THE CAR. THIS WILL NOT CHANGE IN THE FUTURE ”

ÖAMTC is continuously investing in its more than 110 technical service centres. The 7th technical centre in Vienna, which will be located at the new headquarters, will be opened in 2016.



Photo: ÖAMTC/Pichler&Traupmann/Tomaselli

Federation Française du Sport Automobile

FFSA honours its champions at gala prize-giving

The Fédération Française du Sport Automobile held its annual prize-giving ceremony on December 14th at Paris' famous 'Cirque d'Hiver. For its traditional prize-giving ceremony the FFSA put on a spectacular show, with the exceptional venue being enlivened by the presence of a number of special guests, including France's State Secretary for Sport Thierry Braillard, FIA President Jean Todt and FFSA President Nicolas Deschaux.

Numerous stars received trophies for their outstanding performances across the 2015 season, while special prizes were distributed to the best of the best.

As such, prestigious FFSA Golden Wheel awards were presented to Sébastien Ogier and Julien Ingrassia in the FIA World Rally Championship and Citroën Racing in the FIA World Touring Car Championship. Finally, a very special tribute was paid to late Formula One driver Jules Bianchi and his family. Commenting on the awards night FFSA President Deschaux said: "Past, present and future met tonight. It has been a long season, with tough moments but also great and hopeful ones."

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Citroën Racing boss Yves Matton (left) and WRC champion co-driver Julien Ingrassia with their FFSA Golden Wheels.

Confederation of Australian Motor Sport



Australian driver Luis Leeds

CAMS reports strong growth in grassroots motor sport in 2015

Grassroots motor sport in Australia has enjoyed a successful year, with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) reporting a third consecutive year of strong growth in affiliated clubs, licence holders, officials and competitive events.

Over 26,000 Australians competed in more than 2,250 motor sport events and CAMS will finish the year with approximately 23,800 licenced competitors (up from 22,250 in 2014 and 20,500 in 2013) and 540 clubs (up from 504 in 2014 and 460 in 2013). With support from the FIA Sport Grants Programme, CAMS' Ricciardo's Racers programme has been successful in promoting junior participation.

Thanks to the popularity of Australian Formula One driver Daniel Ricciardo, over 1,200 young Australians have taken up membership – an increase of 15 per cent. CAMS also debuted its Formula 4 championship in 2015.

After seven rounds, Jordan Lloyd became the inaugural champion. Lloyd recently tested a European Formula 3 car, along with series runner-up Thomas Randle. Fellow Formula 4 racers Zane Goddard and Luis Leeds also tested Formula 4 cars in Britain this month, with Leeds selected to join the Red Bull Junior Team in 2016.

With such growth, 2015 has proven to be a strong year for Australian motor sport participation across all levels.

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Motor Sports Association UK

MSA UK publishes 2016 UK rally safety requirements

A busy first year for the UK Motor Sports Association's RallyFuture campaign to enhance safety in UK stage rallying has culminated in the publication of the 2016 Stage Rally Safety Requirements.

The document, which also apply to Single Venue Stage Rallies, includes reference to the new MSA Rally Media Accreditation scheme, as well as the online MSA Marshals' Training and Accreditation system, due to launch in January.

Supplementing the main document are annexes providing additional tools and templates for organisers. Rob Jones, MSA Chief Executive, said: "The original Stage Rally Safety Requirements, published earlier this year, represented a template for running a stage rally in the UK.

A lot of work has been put in to augment those requirements and produce what I believe is an important document that will help to ensure the sport's future." Primarily, RallyFuture entails implementing 29 recommendations from the Motorsport Event Safety Review (MESR), which was set up by the Scottish Government following the 2014 Jim Clark Rally. The MSA committed to this implementation programme in a staged manner over approximately two years, until early 2017. The 2016 Stage Rally Safety Requirements and more information on the RallyFuture programme can be found at msauk.org/rallyfuture.

CONTACT: TimS@msauk.org







Participants in the Edukarting grassroots project in the Bahamas; funded by the FIA's Sport Grant Programme, it aims to introduce disadvantaged young people to motor sport.

FIA Sport Grant Programme continuing to help clubs at all levels

The FIA's Sport Grant Programme has approved funding of €5.55 million for clubs around the world in 2015, an increase of 20 per cent over the previous year.

The grants will be distributed among 56 clubs to improve their motor sport and organisation infrastructure in 2015 for projects to be undertaken during the 2016 calendar year.

Encouragingly, the majority of funding was attributed to motor sport development (63.7 per cent), followed by safety (33.5 per cent), with the remainder for social responsibility, and ASN structure and management.

Geographically, approximately 33 per cent of the grant funding was for Europe, while roughly 18 per cent went to Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa respectively.

- Some of the highlights of the 2015 funding round for 2016 projects included:
- Cluster training of scrutineers and technical delegates from Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Philippines (training provided by the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport)
- The purchase of an ambulance and extrication equipment in Zambia
- The establishment of a grassroots karting development programme in Albania, with the aim of establishing a national karting championship
- The continuation of the EduKarting grassroots karting project in the Bahamas, targeting the disadvantaged in the community.

Content and training delivery will be managed by the FIA in close cooperation with the RTP network to ensure ASNs worldwide receive the same standard of training and curriculum.

One of the main points of cluster training is the need to "Train the Trainer" – ensuring that the trainee ASNs are left with their own trainers and experts once the education project is complete.

Some further example projects for 2016 include:

- Driver development programmes (including for disadvantaged young people)
- Circuit upgrades
- Formula 4 championship development
- Officials' safety training programmes
- Purchase of timing and communication equipment, as well as ambulances and extrication equipment
- Development of systems for managing events and officials
- Training and development of female officials

Timing for the next funding round (2016) will follow a similar timetable to 2015, with applications for 2017 projects opening early July – clubs are encouraged to begin preparations for their submissions now.

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<http://motoring.iafrica.com/features/1013155.html>

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<http://beta.iol.co.za/motoring/industry-news/cars-spying-on-their-drivers-1958258>

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<http://www.eltis.org/discover/news/new-app-travellers-reduced-mobility-released>

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<http://www.fiafoundation.org/blog/2015/december/fia-foundation-supports-clean-air-work-at-cop21>

MY CAR, MY DATA - NOT BIG BROTHER'S

<http://www.theaa.com/newsroom/news-2015/uk-drivers-want-to-own-the-data-from-their-connected-cars.html>

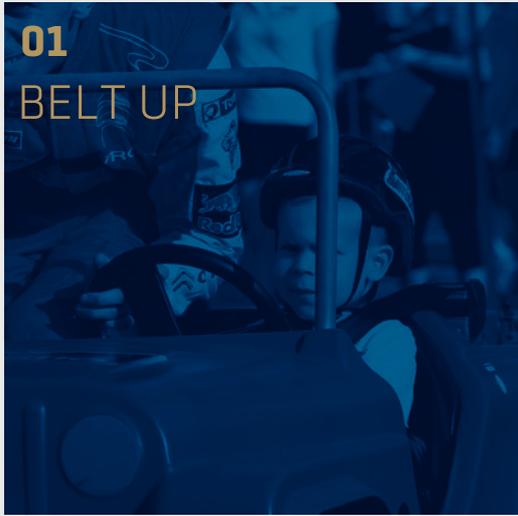
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