

News

RIS COMEX Final Event

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Authors: Mario Kaufmann, viadonau

After more than 6 years the extensive RIS COMEX project was successfully closed by the end of June 2022. On 29th September 2022, the Final Event was organised in Berlin hosted by the German Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport to present and demonstrate the considerable results of this important project.

Mr. Michael Behrendt, Head of Division WS12 Waterway-Infrastructure, welcomed the participants and opened the event followed by inspiring keynote speeches of Mr. Oliver Luksic, Parliamentary State Secretary, and Mr. Kristijan Lezaic, Ports and Inland Navigation Unit of DG-MOVE.

Mr. Mario Kaufmann, RIS COMEX Project Coordinator, and Mr. Ivo ten Broeke, Lead of the Project Management Team, gave an introduction to the project and the achieved results, setting the scene for the excellent demonstrations of the main project achievements, the two common systems called EuRIS and CEERIS.

Mr. Thomas Zwicklhuber, viadonau, and Mr. Jan Gillissen, De Vlaamse Waterweg, demonstrated the EuRIS system which provides actual fairway-, infrastructure-, traffic- and transport related information services including route- and voyage planning, vessel positions and calculation of estimated times of arrival for authorised users serving as a one-stop-shop for the users. EuRIS covers the main waterways of 13 European countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Romania, Serbia and Slovakia. Skippers and other users can at any time collect real-time information and gain insight in the actual traffic situation on their sailing route, waiting times, incidents or disruptions that affect the travel time. They can also share information with others, for example their ETA. This is offered in a protected environment, so that the privacy of all users is guaranteed. The countries will continue their partnership to further develop the platform in the upcoming years, considering the needs and demands of the users.

Ms. Katrin Steindl-Haselbauer, viadonau, supported by Mr. Vedran Bolfek, RGO gave a life demonstration of the common electronic reporting system called CEERIS which is on its way to enable reporting-only-once with single entering of data for all IWT related reporting requirements along 8 countries: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Slovakia. CEERIS will therefore significantly contribute to a reduction of the administrative barriers and reporting burdens within Inland Navigation.



A further extension of CEERIS as well as full integration with other systems is foreseen in order gain even more benefits for the users who are the Reporting Parties (Skippers, Fleet Managers) and the related national Receiving Authorities.

Mr. Nik Delmeire, Coordinator at European IWT Platform, reflected on the presented and demonstrated results and highlighted the clear need to establish and intensify close coordination and cooperation among existing and upcoming important initiatives related to IWT and beyond.

After a short outlook by Mr. Kaufmann highlighting the important next steps, Mr. Christian Forst, Federal Waterways- and Shipping Administration, summarised the impressions of the day and closed the event with inspiring words motivating the consortium to continue the good cooperation.



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