



Report from the First SAVE ME Project Workshop
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Held at the Istituto Superiore Antincendi, Roma

March 3rd 2010



Introduction

The SAVE ME consortium organised an international workshop on Transport Emergencies forming part of the first SAVE ME project workshop. The workshop followed on from the second project meeting, both events being hosted at the excellent facilities of the Italian Fire Service, the 'Istituto Superiore Antincendi', in Roma on March 3rd 2010.

The workshop was very well attended with over 200 delegates registering from across Europe (*see front page and picture, below*), and was supported throughout the day by members of the Italian Fire Brigade and the SAVE ME consortium.



Delegate packs were prepared with copies of presentations from the workshop, a variety of information literature about the SAVE ME project, including the project leaflet, first project newsletter including information about the project website (<http://www.save-me.eu/>) which is now live.

Proceedings, presentations and video footage from the workshop have been made available for download on the CNVVF website, which can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.vigilfuoco.it/notiziario/notizia.asp?codnews=9393>

Workshop Agenda

The agenda for the day was divided into three specific sessions:

Session 1

The opening session in the morning covered existing response strategies and policies for emergency situations. The workshop was opened with a keynote presentation given by Ing. Antonio Gambardella, Chief of the Interior Ministry of National Fire-Corps for Italy, who commented on the work being undertaken in the SAVE ME project, and how the knowledge and output of the project will be critical for the emergency services.

Delegates were then provided with presentations from a variety of European organisations involved in transport safety including the Gotthard Road Tunnel, Nexus (Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Executive), the British Transport Police and the Italian National Autonomous Road Corporation. The presentations covered a diverse range of safety-related topics from a number of perspectives, and it was very interesting to learn about the different strategies employed by different organisations, particularly where cross-border working required collaboration between different countries.

The first session closed with an official announcement on new national regulations for tunnel safety from Ing. Antonio Valente, of ANAS SpA (managing company of the Italian National Autonomous Road Corporation).

Session 2

The second session focussed on improving the self-rescue practices of travellers, identifying how each individual can take responsibility for their own safety but also where technological solutions can be implemented.

This session included presentations from members of the SAVE ME consortium, including one from Prof. Phil Blythe on the SAVE ME project, and another from Ing. Stefano Marsella on how the needs of travellers with specific needs (such as mobility, language or cognitive issues) can be addressed.

The morning sessions were then summarised by Ing. Uberto Delprato.

Session 3

The final session in the afternoon focussed specifically on the SAVE ME project with a dedicated discussion of some of the key aspects within the project.

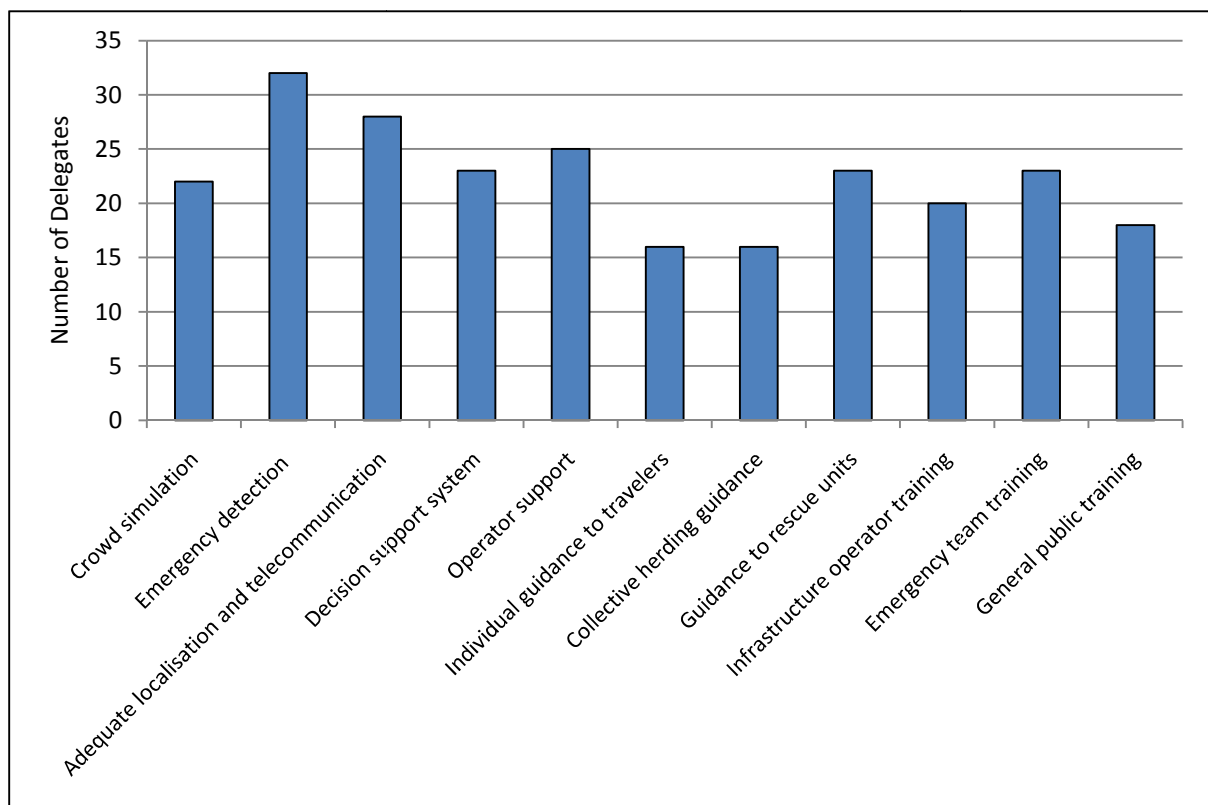
Here, delegates were presented with an outline of the SAVE ME Use Cases by Dr. Mary Panou, before being given a real-time demonstration of the virtual 3D simulated environment of Monument Metro station by George Danner.

Finally, the key technological components of the SAVE ME project, the System Architecture and Decision Support System, were presented to the audience by Dr. Georgios Petkos, before Prof. Phil Blythe wrapped-up the workshop, thanking all the speakers for their excellent presentations and the delegates for their attendance at what was a very interesting day indeed.

Conclusion

The first SAVE ME workshop was a very successful event, attracting a Europe-wide audience with numbers greatly exceeding the average EU workshop. A wide range of presentations were given, covering all aspects of transport emergency situations, from the service providers through to the individual travellers.

Feedback has been excellent and the consortium members are hoping to build upon this workshop by asking delegates to register their interest in future work and output of the SAVE ME project, which will subsequently be used to develop a User Forum. The issues related to SAVE ME were appreciated by the delegates, in particular simulation and Use Cases. The graph below shows how delegates’ preferences are distributed with reference to the presentations given during the workshop, demonstrating the relevance and timeliness of the aspects covered by the SAVE ME project.



Delegates’ preferences from the presentations on SAVE ME topics

Ing. Antonio Gambardella presented Prof. Phil Blythe, co-ordinator of the SAVE ME project, and Ing. Uberto Delprato, who chaired the workshop, with official plaques in recognition of the work being undertaken by the consortium and the contribution to transport safety.

Pictures of members of the SAVE ME consortium presenting during the workshop can be found on the following pages.



Mr. Peter Stout (NEXUS, guest of UNEW) presented in the first morning session on the emergency response strategies of the Tyne and Wear Metro system.

Prof. Phil Blythe (UNEW and SAVE ME project co-ordinator) presented an overview of the SAVE ME project and underlying concepts in the second morning session.



Ing. Stefano Marsella (CNVVF) finished the morning session with a talk about the specific needs of vulnerable users (multilingual, cognitive impairments, mobility impairments) in emergency services.



Ing. Uberto Delprato (IES) oversaw the morning sessions and provided a summary of the key points from the presentations.





Dr. Mary Panou (CERTH/HIT) opened the afternoon session on the SAVE ME project with a discussion on the proposed Use Cases.

Mr. George Danner (Simudyne) presented the simulation component of the SAVE ME project, including a real-time 3D virtual demonstration of Monument Metro Station in the online world 'SecondLife'.



Dr. Georgios Petkos (CERTH/ITI) close the workshop with his presentation on the SAVE ME System Architecture and Decision Support System.



All presenters from the SAVE ME consortium in the afternoon session