

**TRANSPORT OF OVERSIZE/OVERWEIGHT VEHICLES
ALONG THE EGNATIA MOTORWAY. BASIC ELEMENTS OF A
FUTURE PERMIT FEE POLICY.**

A. Kokkalis

Associate Professor, Dpt. of Civil Engineering D.U.Th., 67100, Xanthi, Greece

P. Panetsos

Dr. Civil Engineer, Structures Inspection & Maintenance of Egnatia Odos AE,
57001 Thessaloniki

ABSTRACT

Every year, thousand of overweight/oversize vehicles transport indivisible heavy particles as energy generators or wind turbine propellers, along the Egnatia motorway. The slow pass of the overloaded trucks and overweight vehicles interrupt the motorway regular traffic conditions. More accidents and traffic jams are the consequences for the road users. Deterioration of pavement and bridge decks are the unfavorable effects on the motorway infrastructure. Procedures and engineering check methodologies for issuing permits of vehicles exceeding national weight/width/length/ height limits have been established and used by Egnatia Odos AE involving certain operational costs. Nowadays the toll cost for an oversize/overweight vehicle haulier to cross the Egnatia motorway is the same, 50€, as if it was doing so by a typical heavy good vehicle. This cost is considered unjustifiably low. An additional permit fee is proposed to be established for charging overweight/oversized vehicles for the various impacts and other consequences they may cause.