

Bulgaria's NSPIT joins ESTA

Bulgaria's heavy transport association has joined ESTA as our expansion in Eastern Europe continues. NSPIT - the Bulgarian Association for the Transportation of Oversized Cargoes - was formed three years ago as part of the industry's attempts to update the country's regulations governing heavy transport.

To date, the core of NSPIT's members are transportation firms and freight forwarders, although they have also signed up a crane company.

NSPIT hopes that joining will increase ESTA's influence in the Balkans and also make ESTA itself stronger

"The more countries that are represented in ESTA, the better our concerns will be heard, both in Brussels and by our national governments," said Mladen Ganchev, chairman of NSPIT's board and manager of Bulgarian heavy transport company Holleman.

He added: "Our goal at NSPIT is to change many aspects in the law and regulations in Bulgaria, as they are over 20 years old and do not correspond to the modern rules and equipment.

"In addition, we want to see the introduction of annual permits as they do not exist at the moment at all in Bulgaria, and we also need to create clear rules for escort services. At the moment everybody can perform an escort with any kind of car and equipment."

Ganchev said: "We need ESTA's international support and expertise and we will provide our local knowledge and know-how to support their activity in the Balkans.

"I am sure that only by working together - local organizations like ours on one side and ESTA from a European perspective on the other - will we improve the rules in Europe as a whole."