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# PRESS RELEASE

# Eurasia Tunnel contributes 1.2 billion TL to the economy in one year

- Eurasia Tunnel, the only road connecting Asia and Europe under the seabed, contributed 1.2 billion TL to the drivers and the economy taking into account the costs related to time, fuel, emission and accidents in the first year of its operation.
- According to the analysis on the first operating year of the Eurasia Tunnel, the drivers who used the tunnel in 2017 saved 23 million hours that is equivalent to 895 million TL, 30,000 tons of fuel that is equivalent to 286 million TL, 18.000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> that is equivalent to 23 million TL, 109 million vehicle/km that is equivalent to 6.9 million TL in accident costs.

The results of first operating year of the Eurasia Tunnel have been announced. According to the analysis based on the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality data, the tunnel made significant contributions to drivers and the economy. According to the calculations on the Atatürk Airport-Kozyatağı Corridor, last year the Tunnel provided savings of 23 million hours that is equivalent to 895 million TL, 30,000 tons of fuel that is equivalent to 286 million TL, 18.000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> that is equivalent to 23 million TL, 109 million vehicle/km that is equivalent to 6.9 million TL in accident costs. Eurasia Tunnel completed 2017 with 15.6 million vehicles and its contribution to the economy reached 1.2 billion TL in total. In two-way daily trips, the drivers saved 17.72 TL in fuel and 25 TL in time.

Other highlights of Eurasia Tunnel operation in 2017:

# DRIVING HABITS CHANGES

- From December 22, 2016 to December 31, 2017, a total of 15.6 million vehicles crossed through the Eurasia Tunnel.
- Since the opening, 1.8 million vehicles with different plate numbers have experienced Eurasia Tunnel for their intercontinental trip.
- Mainly the Class 1 vehicles (automobiles) used the tunnel. 94.6% of the vehicles were in the Class 1 and 5.4% in the Class 2 (minibus).
- More than 100% increase in daily vehicle numbers since the tunnel has been opened.
- Tunnel preference rates of vehicles was 52% towards Asia, 48% towards Europe.
- The maximum number of vehicles reached in one day was 65.875 vehicles on 15 October 2017.

# AVERAGE RESPONS TIME IN ACCIDENTS IS 2 MINUTES

• Response to vehicles in cases of breakdowns, lack of fuel or accidents was carried out in 12 minutes and 12 seconds in average and traffic flow returned to normal in 12 minutes and 3 seconds in average. These times are well below the averages of similar projects in the world.



- A survey carried among the people who experienced any cases such as breakdowns or accidents revealed that the satisfaction rate of the drivers from the services provided by the management was 98%.
- Call center answered about 100.000 calls in one year.

## **CARBON EMISSIONS REDUCED 22 PERCENT**

- Measurements of air quality carried out in the tunnel region during 10 months before the operations and 10 months after openings documented a reduction of 32% in the particulate matter ratio and 22% in the carbon concentration.
- Eurasia Tunnel Operation and Maintenance Building is awarded LEED Gold Certificates in environmental friendly green building status with points it collected in key chapters such as 35% water saving, 22% energy saving, 50% recycled material usage, bicycle park, sustainable landscape plan and green education support.

## SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT

- A total of 3.3 million TL of tolls collected from December 22, 2016 to January 3, 2017 was donated to the Prime Ministry Social Assistance and Solidarity Fund.
- In the European side, the pedestrian band between the city and sea has been increased from 55m to 277m, easing the access of Istanbul residents to the coast.
- As part of the improvement of the coastal park 11,642 new trees have been planted, access to the park has been eased with pedestrian overpasses and crossings in line with the standards for the disabled, 2.7km of bicycle path and pedestrian paths have been constructed, playgrounds and exercise areas have been renovated. The number of playgrounds have been increased 100% and the number of trees have been increased about 400%.

#### EURASIA TUNNEL MUSEUM IS FOCUS OF INTEREST

• More than 1000 people visited the Eurasia Tunnel Museum. Visitors can learn about the Eurasia Tunnel construction in the museum environment created with state-of-the-art digital exhibition elements.

#### 3 NEW AWARDS IN 2017

Eurasia Tunnel has received 3 new awards in 2017, after previously receiving the most prestigious finance and tunnel business awards including Project of the Year award by ITA, one of the world's most prestigious financial and tunnel-building awards, the Best Environmental and Social Applications Award by European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the Best Global Tunnel Project Award by ENR.

- International Road Federation (IRF) 2017 Global Achievement Award in Construction Methodology
- Korean Society of Civil Engineers (KSCE) "2017 Building Prize of the Year" in Golden Category.
- Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) of the United States "Engineering Lighting Award 2017"