



N03031EN / Per-Erik Nordström 07 Oct 2003

## Scania's third high-level road safety conference Focus on the driver, car-to-truck collisions and a new safety initiative

On 8 October, Scania organises its third high-level road safety conference at Autoworld in central Brussels. Top representatives for the European Union include Commissioners Loyola de Palacio and Erkki Liikanen, as well as more than 400 authority representatives, academia, road safety, industry and road haulage specialists and media representatives.

Scania's President and CEO Leif Östling will open the conference at 15:30, welcoming more than 400 delegates, including Mrs Loyola de Palacio, Commissioner for Energy and Transport and Vice-President of the European Commission and Mr Erkki Liikanen, Commissioner for Enterprise and Society.

The audience includes road safety experts from several countries, R&D specialists, academia, a large number of decision-makers from the EU, governmental and other bodies, truckmakers, transport industry representatives and road haulage associations.

Presentations from the European Commission will include papers on road safety policy and directives related to commercial vehicles.

Driver issues will be covered by representatives for transport operators and haulage organisations, and in workshops before the conference.

Car-to-truck collisions will be discussed in a workshop and during the conference. Scania will launch a new crash-zone concept for trucks that could save up to 900 lives per year in the EU.

The conference also marks the official conclusion of Scania's Young European Truck Driver 2003 initiative. Scania has decided to follow-up this initiative with a new pan-European truck driving competition in 2005.

At a ceremony, Mrs Loyola de Palacio, and Scania's President and CEO, Mr Leif Östling, will highlight the top-three drivers in the competition, Michele Sandri, Italy, Laurens D'Huyvetter, Belgium and Mika Venäläinen, Finland, as role models to other truck drivers and road users all across Europe.