

# NEWSLETTER



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August 2004

CELTIC ROADS GROUP LTD

## The Dundalk Western Bypass PPP Scheme

### CRG Introduces Eazy Pass to the M1 Motorway

CRG's M1 toll facility has now introduced the Eazy Pass electronic toll collection service. From Mid August CRG M1 customers have been able to use their Eazy Pass tag to pay the toll fares at the M1 Mainline toll plaza.

Antonio Núñez, General Manager of CRG said: "We are very pleased to have Eazy Pass ETC service at the M1 Plaza. And we look forward to providing ETC across all the lanes shortly."



Today there are over 60,000 Eazy Pass tags issued to customers and now with M1 customers able to benefit from using the same Eazy Pass system for M1, West Link and East Link plazas, customer levels are expected to grow significantly.

Already the M1 motorway has become the preferred route not only for Belfast, Newry and Dundalk southbound travellers but it is also attracting traffic from Derry, Donegal and the border counties.

The M1 motorway links Dundalk with Dublin Airport. Traffic experts estimate that a journey via the M1 saves up to 30 minutes with top-class motorway driving conditions, on a north-south journey. The introduction of Eazy Pass will further enhance the experience for customers using the motorway. Initially Eazy Pass will be available in a single northbound and southbound lane.

Eazy Pass has plans to engage with the operators of all new toll plazas developed under the national development plan with a view to provide the Eazy Pass service nationwide.

According to Mr Foley, General Manager Eazy Pass "It is essential for the success of electronic tolling in this country that customers are provided with a single electronic tag as a means of paying their toll fare across all plazas in the State".

Electronic tolling is now mandated by the National Roads Authority for all future toll projects.



# Construction Progress

Following on from our newsletter in May of this year, the construction works on the Dundalk Western By-Pass have progressed well. Our construction contractor who is a joint venture company between Ireland's and Europe's foremost civil engineering contractors Ascon Ltd., Dragados and Edmund Nuttall Ltd. have taken full advantage of the favourable weather conditions which allowed them to make significant progress. We are now, six months into the construction phase of the Dundalk Western By-Pass. Progress is on target to deliver it's completion in Feb 2006. Below we give a brief update on construction progress by location.



Reinforced Earth Abutments under Construction at Scotch Green Road Underbridge

## Structures

Most structures comprise of steel piled foundations with reinforced earth abutments and precast concrete decks. Notably, construction has commenced on the following structures:

- Littlemills/Knockbridge Road Underbridge
- Carrickmacross Road Underbridge
- Castletown River Underbridge
- Kilcurry River Underbridge
- Scotch Green Underbridge
- Ballynahattin Rail Bridge under the existing Dublin Belfast railway near Ballymascanlon
- 10 No. Stream Culverts (either concrete pipe or concrete box)

## Side road Construction

Side road construction along the motorway corridor is progressing with the following roads under construction at present:

Littlemills Road (along the original road line)

Carrickmacross Road (adjacent to the original road line)

Grey Acre Road (adjacent to the original road line)

Tateetra Road (along the original road line)

Bridge Construction at the New Alignment of Carrickmacross Road



## Works on the Existing M1 Motorway (Between Julianstown to Dundalk)

In addition to the new construction works CRGD will also carry out improvement works to the existing M1 motorway which CRGD also operate and maintain. These works are scheduled to commence in September 2004. The works include the following improvements:

- Installation of a new Emergency Telephone System along the full length of the motorway and the decommissioning of the original emergency telephone system on the Dunleer By-pass.
- Upgrading of the existing Safety Barrier along the motorway verges (where required).
- Installation of Environmental (noise) Barriers at pre-determined locations.

Installation of an Electronic Toll Collection System at the Drogheda Toll Plaza.

# Construction Progress

## Traffic Management & Temporary Diversions

A temporary diversion of the N53 (Castleblaney Road) was put in place in early July and traffic is now running on the temporary diversion without any delays. Construction of the new N53 (Castleblaney Road) overbridge is due to commence in September.

Traffic will be reduced to a single alternate lane on the Knockbridge (Littlemills) Road for a two month period starting in late August. Very minor disruption to traffic is expected.

The Old Ardee Road is scheduled for closure in early October 2004 and will re-open in Early May 2005. A temporary local diversion will be set up and sign posted.

Other temporary traffic measures will be required on Tateetra Road.

Temporary Road Diversion at Castleblaney Road (N53)



It is planned to have all these works completed in February 2005.

## Safety and Quality

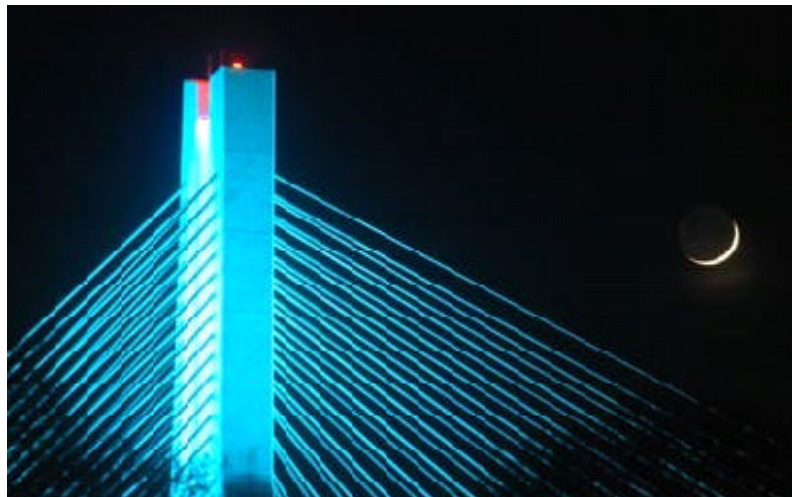
CRG M1 are continuously monitoring the quality of the works during the construction period. CRG M1 and their contractors have implemented compressive quality procedures to ensure that the roadworks are completed and delivered to the highest standards. A dedicated team monitor the works as the construction proceed. It is the intention of CRG M1 to carry out the road works safely and efficiently. Safety is continuously assessed during the construction works to ensure the well-being of both the construction team and the public.



The Speed of Light Project is making a good progress

## Sign up soon for the 20% Discounts

CRG is offering 20% discount on all Eazy Pass transactions at the M1 plaza until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004. This discount will apply to all classes of vehicle using Eazy Pass at the CRG M1 plaza.



**To obtain an Eazy Pass Account could not be easier**

**Simply apply on line to [www.eazypass.ie](http://www.eazypass.ie)**

**or Call 1890 67 67 68**

**Northern Ireland Customers can call 00 353 1 802 52 50**

**Hot Line: +353 (0)41 982 9820/21**

**Fax: +353 (0)41 982 9824**

**E-mail: [info@crgm1.ie](mailto:info@crgm1.ie)**

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