

COMISSÃO DE OBRAS PÚBLICAS, TRANSPORTES E COMUNICAÇÕES

SUBCOMISSÃO DE SEGURANÇA RODOVIÁRIA

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VIA VERDE

The *Via Verde* is an automatic toll payment system that is used in Portugal since 1991. By 1995, all motorway and bridge tolls in the country had this system installed.

When users pass by the *via verde* exclusive lane, a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag, which is stuck to the windscreen of the car, transmits information related to the user identifier and the toll sum is directly deducted from the user's bank account. If the tag is invalid (or inexistent) or if the vehicle class (as detected by the lane electronic sensors) does not correspond to the class registered in the tag, the offender's vehicle is photographed and legal proceedings are carried out.

This system allows a very good traffic flow: *via verde* lanes have a speed limit of 40 to 60 km/h; however it has been proved that the system can properly work with speed limits higher than 200 km/h.

Currently under analysis is the automatic charge by a vehicle portal monitoring system, without tolls, which will detect users driving at a speed of up to 200 km/h.

SPECIAL TRAFFIC UNIT OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN GUARD (GNR)

The Traffic Unit, as a **Special Traffic Unit**, is responsible for monitoring compliance with the legal and regulatory provisions on land traffic and road transport in the mainland territory. This unit is particularly responsible for:

-Maintaining order and respect for the law in Portuguese roads, by discouraging, avoiding and repressing mainly infractions that endanger road users.

-Protecting people and assets in case of traffic accidents, by supporting and helping drivers in all situations that need assistance.



The new Highway Code establishes the prompt payment of traffic fines, and the GNR, due to its Traffic Unit, presents the highest sums.