

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0106/03
by Luciano Caveri (ELDR)
to the Commission

Subject: Fire in the Mont Blanc tunnel

While the French judiciary continues its enquiry into the notorious fire which caused the deaths of 39 people in the Mont Blanc tunnel on 24 March 1999, great concern has been aroused by the news that there may have been a defect in the Volvo lorry which caught fire inside the tunnel and triggered the tragedy. Suspicions centre on a construction fault on a certain model of lorry, which is said to result in the lorry catching fire in the event of a cigarette end entering the air intake. Does the Commission have any information on this matter?