

National Technical University of Athens ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

February 2007

1. EU Road Safety Regional Differences

The <u>Eurostat</u> issued the yearly update of the road safety regional differences demonstrating that not only the three EU regions with the lowest road safety performance are Greek but also that 7 Greek regions are among the 10 EU regions with the lowest road safety performance.



2. Wider seat belt use could save up to 1 in 5 drivers' lives

In February 2007, ETSC published the PIN Flash. Seat belt wearing in the front seats of cars varies among European countries from less than 70% to more than 95%. The ranking showed that France, Germany and Malta reach rates of over 95% seat belt use among front seat occupants. Also Sweden, Norway, the U.K. and the Netherlands showed good



levels of 90% and higher. In Hungary, Italy and Belgium, on the other hand, rates were only around 70%, while no rates at all were available from Greece, Lithuania and Slovakia leaving room to assume even lower usage.

3. Directive on Road Infrastructure Safety Management

The <u>European Commission</u> has recently adopted the proposal for a Directive on Road Safety Infrastructure Management dealing with a package of instruments ensuring that safety is integrated in all phases of planning, design and operation of road infrastructure.



4. Forthcoming Road Safety Conferences

An interesting inventory of the forthcoming international Road Safety related Conferences can be found in the Events section of the European Road Safety Observatory.

