NTUA Road Safety Update - August 2012

National Technical University of Athens
Road Safety Update
August 2012

European Accidentology Conference, Athens 2012

The **European Road Safety Conference on data and knowledge-based policy-making** will be taking place in Athens on 22-23 November 2012. This Conference is organised by the DaCoTA EU co-funded research project and it will be a high level event bringing together key policy-makers with the technical community. The latest developments in EU road safety strategies will be presented together with the latest research findings.
The conference will be held at the famous Acropolis Museum and Conference Centre in central Athens in its state of the art conference hall. Full details, including programme, and registration modalities can be found at the Dacota project website.

Road safety research in Greece, through 31 NTUA Diploma Theses 2012

A review of "Road safety research in Greece through 31 NTUA Diploma Theses" has been published at the honorary Edition for Professor G.Giannopoulos of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. These Diploma Theses were carried out at the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the School of Civil Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens during the period 2000 - 2011 under the supervision of Associate Professor George Yannis and concern seven road safety disciplines: **infrastructure, driver behaviour, driver distraction, pedestrians, weather conditions, economic valuation of road accidents and international comparisons**. The important potential for road safety research at the Greek Technical Universities has been demonstrated.

Transport Research Arena, Athens 2012

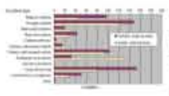
The Proceedings of the fourth Transport Research Arena (TRA) Conference, in Athens, organised by the European Commission and the CEDR, ERTRAC, ERRAC, Hellenic Ministry of Infrastructure are now available LINK. The road safety papers of NTUA concerned:

DOI> Investigating road safety management processes in Europe
DOI> Needs for evidence-based road safety decision making in Europe
DOI> Characteristics and causes of power two wheeler accidents in Europe
DOI> Road safety in Greece
DOI> State-space based analysis and forecasting of macroscopic road safety trends in Greece
DOI> Road Safety Attitudes and Perceptions of Pedestrians in Europe
DOI> Challenges and opportunities for the assessment of the effectiveness of road safety measures
DOI> A review of international sources for road safety measures assessment
DOI> Integrating real-time traffic data in road safety analysis

EU transport in figures 2012

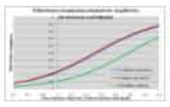
The Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG Move) of the European Commission released the Statistical Pocketbook 2012 'EU Transport in figures'. In this Statistical Pocketbook, key road safety Tables are contained, together with several other Tables on transport statistics, providing **a complete picture of current trends in transport in Europe**. Data on road fatalities for the EU member states and associate countries allow for time series comparisons and country rankings. LINK

Road fatalities by accident type, Greece 2010



According to ELSTAT data, head-on, at angle, rear-end collisions and come-off the road are the most common accident types outside built-up areas. At angle collisions and pedestrian accidents are the most common accident types inside built-up areas. **Accident severity is 4 times higher outside built-up areas**, especially at head-on collisions when a pedestrian is involved.

Impact of texting on young drivers' traffic and safety on motorways by the use of driving simulator 2012



A Diploma Thesis titled 'Impact of texting on young drivers' traffic and safety on motorways by the use of a driving simulator' was presented by Christos Gartzonikas in July 2012. An experimental process on a driving simulator was carried out, in which all the participants drove in different driving scenarios. Lognormal regression methods were used to investigate the influence of text messaging as well as various other parameters on the mean speed and the mean distance from the front vehicle. Binary logistic methods were used to investigate the influence of text messaging as well as various other parameters in the probability of an accident. It appears that **text messaging leads to statistically significant decrease of the mean speed and to increase of the headway** in normal and in specific conditions in motorways and simultaneously leads to an increase of accident's probability, probably due to increased reaction time of the driver in case of an incident.

This Road Safety Update aims to support frequently the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which is gathered, analysed and organised within the research activities of the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens.

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About NRSO

The mission of the NTUA Road Safety Observatory (www.nrso.ntua.gr) is to support the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which are gathered, analysed and organised within the research activities of the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the School of Civil Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens, as well as within co-operations with various national and international road safety organisations.
The NTUA Road Safety Observatory has been developed within the framework of two European Union co-funded research projects, namely SAFETYNET - Development of the European Road Safety Observatory (2004-2009) and DACOTA - Road Safety Data Collection, Transfer and Analysis (2010-2012), with Scientific Responsible for NTUA, Professor George Yannis.