



## NTUA Road Safety Update - February 2015



### ERF / NTUA / HITE - Road Infrastructure Safety Equipment Technical Conference - Athens 2015



More than 200 road infrastructure safety experts and stakeholders have attended the 2-day Technical Conference on 'Current Advances in Road Infrastructure Safety Equipment' organised by the European Union Road Federation (ERF), in cooperation with the Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers (HITE) and the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), that took place on 12-13 February 2015, in the Acropolis Museum, Athens. [LINK](#)

The first day of the Technical Conference was dedicated to European and Greek policies and legislation with respect to road infrastructure safety, with the second focusing more on European standards and their implementation in Greece, together with good practices for road infrastructure safety equipment. Technical sessions focused on **road restraint systems, horizontal and vertical signage, work-zones, passive support and maintenance**. All presentations are now available. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentation concerned 'Management of Road Infrastructure Safety' [LINK](#)

### NTUA / HITE - 6th Pan-hellenic Road Safety Conference, Athens 2015



The National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) and the Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers are organising the 6th Pan-hellenic Conference on Road Safety, which will take place in **Athens, on 12-13 March 2015** (Amphitheater of Ministry of Infrastructure). The main objectives of the conference are to explore and assess the level of road safety in the country and the efforts and innovations implemented to improve the road safety of drivers, vehicles and pedestrians in Greece. [LINK](#)

The draft final programme is now available. [LINK](#)

### EP - Cross-border enforcement of traffic rules possible in EU 2015



On Wednesday, February 11th, 2015 the European Parliament plenary overwhelmingly adopted Spanish MEP's Ayala Sender's report on cross-border exchange of information on road safety related traffic offences, based on the European Commissions' updated rules to tackle traffic offences committed abroad. These rules will allow **Member States to exchange information in order to identify EU drivers who commit traffic offences abroad**, including the four "big killers" that cause 75% of road fatalities: speeding, running traffic lights, failure to use seatbelts and drunk driving. These rules will apply to all EU Member States. [LINK](#)

### ERF Towards safer work zones 2015



A Report titled 'Towards Safer Work Zones' has been released by the European Union Road Federation (ERF). The ERF's dedicated Working Group, carried out a focused research on **national guidelines, legislations and cases regarding equipment deployed in road work zones**, in order to detect best practices, identify improvements and produce performance guidelines adapted to the state of the art. This Report focuses on the TEN-T road network and examined the approach, activity and termination areas in mobile, short and long term work zones, current practices and the equipment used throughout the European countries. [LINK](#)

### FEMA - 4th European Motorcyclists' Forum - Brussels 2015



The 4th European Motorcyclists Forum, organised by the Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations (FEMA), hosted by the European Parliament members Inés Ayala-Sender (S&D), and Wim van de Camp (EPP), Transport Committee Vice-Chairman Dominique Riquet (ALDE) took place in Brussels, on 2-3 February 2015. This year's Forum focused on the question **"How to tackle motorcycle safety challenges for the next decade?"**

After a series of presentations and discussions on the 2nd of February the second day was used to obtain views on the outcomes of the EU co-financed project RIDERSCAN- A European Scanning Tour for Motorcycle Safety, including the state of the art of motorcycle safety knowledge, access to powered two wheelers, the traffic and road environment, and how to convey safety messages to riding community, in order to set up a result-based PTW safety strategy. Subsequently, the Debate-Session in the Parliament took place in the morning of Tuesday 3rd of February and further expand on motorcycling safety in the context of the mid-term evaluation of Commission road safety policy orientations 2011-2020. [LINK](#)

### FEHRL Infrastructure Research Meeting - Brussels 2015



The Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories (FEHRL) organises the FEHRL Infrastructure Research Meeting (FIRM15), which will take place in **Brussels, on 22-23 April 2015**. This key event, will gather some 120 transport infrastructure innovation and research experts, including European and national policy makers, leading industry, standardisation agencies, SME's and the media. [LINK](#)

With the theme of "Innovative maintenance of Transport Infrastructure. Faster, cheaper, more reliable, safer, greener", FIRM15 will feature multiple information sessions on the following themes:

- Infrastructure level: Engineering and technical solutions
- System level: operations including monitoring inspections
- Governance level: management and financial issues

### SAFER/STA/NHTSA - International Conference on Enhanced Safety of Vehicles 2015



The 24th International Technical Conference on the Enhanced Safety of Vehicles (ESV) organised by the Swedish Transport Administration and the SAFER Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre will take place in **Gothenburg, Sweden, on June 8-11, 2015**. The ESV conference is internationally focused on vehicle safety and is supported by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and many other participating Governments across North America, Europe and Asia-Pacific regions. [LINK](#)

### Attiki Odos awarded European Excellence in Road Safety 2015



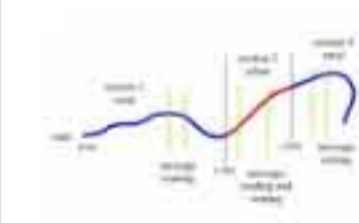
Attikes Diadromes, the Operator of "Attiki Odos" Athens Ring Road Motorway, was among the five organisations to receive the **2015 Excellence in Road Safety Award** from Violeta Bulc, the EU's Commissioner for Transport, at a ceremony in Brussels. This Award, also known as the Charter Award recognises the most innovative practices carried out in the framework of the European Road Safety Charter. The objective of such an award is to recognise the hard work of organisations that engage in road safety, and to inspire others to do so as well. The winners were selected from some 2.200 signatories of the Road Safety Charter following an evaluation made by the European Commission. [LINK](#)

### Comparative analysis of factors affecting driving under the influence of alcohol of car drivers and motorcyclists 2014



A Diploma Thesis titled 'Comparative analysis of factors affecting driving under the influence of alcohol of car drivers and motorcyclists' was presented by Dimitra Arvaniti in January 2014. The aim of this diploma thesis is to examine the factors affecting driving under the influence of alcohol of car drivers and motorcycles. To achieve this goal, the responses of a representative sample of Greek drivers of cars and motorcyclists are examined from the **pan-European research SARTRE 4** and are analyzed by the development of logistic regression models. The application of the models revealed that the factors affecting driving under the influence of alcohol are six for car drivers and seven for motorcyclists, four of which are common. The common parameters are: age, their opinion on whether most of their friends would be driving under the influence of alcohol, their opinion on whether a person is capable of driving carefully in case of consumption alcohol and their education level. Additional factors for car drivers are their view on the legal limit of alcohol consumption and their gender, and for motorcyclists it is their view on how dangerous driving under the influence of drugs is. [LINK](#)

### Impact of texting on young drivers' behaviour and safety in urban and rural roads through a simulation experiment - 2014



A paper titled 'Impact of texting on young drivers' behaviour and safety in urban and rural roads through a simulation experiment' co-authored by George Yannis, Alexandra Laiou, Panagiotis Papanantoniou and Charalambos Christoforou is now published in Journal of Safety Research. A driving simulator experiment was carried out in which 34 young participants drove in different driving scenarios; specifically, driving in good weather, in raining conditions, in daylight and in night were examined. Lognormal regression methods were used to investigate the influence of texting as well as various other parameters on the mean speed and mean reaction time. Binary logistic methods were used to investigate the influence of texting use as well as various other parameters in the probability of an accident. It appears that texting leads to statistically significant decrease of the mean speed and increase of the mean reaction time in urban and rural road environment. Simultaneously, **it leads to an increased accident probability due to driver distraction and delayed reaction at the moment of the incident**. It appeared that drivers using mobile phones with a touch screen present different driving behavior with respect to their speed, however, they had an even higher probability of being involved in an accident. [DOI](#)

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](http://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.