

# TR NEWS

## Blueprints to Improve Highway Safety

- New Manual Drives Advances
- State Plans Deliver Results
- Working Toward Zero Deaths
- Objective Evidence About Drivers
- Certifying Safety Professionals



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# TR NEWS

NUMBER 282

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER 2012

## BLUEPRINTS TO IMPROVE HIGHWAY SAFETY

### 3 INTRODUCTION

#### Creating Our Safety Future

*Ezra Hauer*

Articles in this issue describe new tools and initiatives for evidence-based decision making about road safety; professional training and accreditation, however, are needed for engineers and planners to deliver evidence-based measures, notes the author, a distinguished highway safety researcher.

### 4 The *Highway Safety Manual*: Improving Methods and Results

*John C. Milton*

The *Highway Safety Manual*, created to reduce fatal and serious crashes on the nation's highways, represents a dedicated effort to drive the science of safety into practical use and to integrate safety into every highway project, program, and activity. The author reviews the basic concepts, software tools, supporting documents, ongoing research, training, implementation, and upcoming revisions.

#### 10 Safety Analyst: Software Tools for Safety Analysis of Specific Highway Sites

*Douglas W. Harwood and Darren J. Torbic*

#### 11 The Interactive Highway Safety Design Model

*Clayton Chen*

#### 12 Roadside Safety Analysis Program, Version 3: Upgrading a Tool for Roadside Safety Design

*Malcolm H. Ray, Christine E. Carrigan, and Chuck Plaxico*

#### 15 Road Safety Management Tool Assists State and Local Engineers

*Peter Kissinger*

### 16 The Strategic Approach to Traffic Safety: Evolution and Synergies

*Pamela Beer, Lorrie Laing, and Jennifer Warren*

Data-driven, systemwide, multimodal, collaborative, and comprehensive, states' strategic highway safety plans—required by federal law—advance a decision-making process that builds on the strengths of all safety partners and that targets resources to the greatest opportunities for safety improvements. The authors trace the development, applications, effects, and successes of the plans.

#### 18 Reaching Greater Heights: Improving Roadway Data Practices for Enhanced Safety Decisions

*Michael S. Griffith*

### 22 Toward Zero Deaths: A National Strategy for Highway Safety

*Thomas K. Sorel and Troy E. Costales*

The Toward Zero Deaths National Strategy on Highway Safety aims to unite the multidisciplinary efforts of agencies and organizations to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on roadways by building on and aggressively implementing programs that have proved effective. The authors present the strategy's vision and development, areas of focus, implementation time frames, outreach and communications, and more.

#### 26 Changing the "Do As I Say, Not As I Do" Safety Culture

*Peter Kissinger*

### 30 The SHRP 2 Naturalistic Driving Study: Addressing Driver Performance and Behavior in Traffic Safety

*Kenneth L. Campbell*

The Second Strategic Highway Research Program is conducting the largest-ever naturalistic driving study at six sites. The high-technology program will support a comprehensive assessment of how driver behavior and performance interact with roadway, environmental, vehicular, and human factors and how these interactions affect collision risk. The information will support new and improved countermeasures to prevent traffic collisions and injuries.

#### 36 Rapid Renewal, Accelerated Construction Schedules, and Worker Fatigue

*J. Elizabeth Jackson and Tom Sanquist*



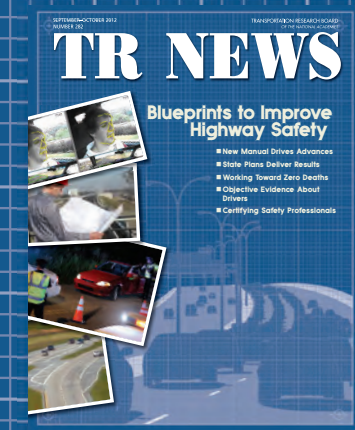
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COVER: Promising new research-based blueprints are in place to improve highway safety throughout the nation.

# TR NEWS

features articles on innovative and timely research and development activities in all modes of transportation. Brief news items of interest to the transportation community are also included, along with profiles of transportation professionals, meeting announcements, summaries of new publications, and news of Transportation Research Board activities.

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## 37 POINT OF VIEW Road Safety Capacity Building: Working Toward Comprehensive Certification *Susan Herbel and Frank Gross*

On-the-job training and continuing education are particularly important in road safety because knowledge and tools are rapidly evolving, the authors note, adding that safety professionals also must learn how to practice interdisciplinary collaboration. A comprehensive educational program therefore is needed to prepare, recruit, retain, and certify a skilled, analytical, and multidisciplinary workforce of road safety professionals.

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Chip Seals for Improved Pavement Preservation: North Carolina's Approach  
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## COMING NEXT ISSUE



The National Cooperative Highway Research Program is celebrating its 50th anniversary and the Transit Cooperative Research Program its 20th in 2012; in addition, the Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis (IDEA) Program is completing its 20th year. This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, which established the practice of urban transportation planning. Articles in the November–December TR News commemorate these significant milestones—including history, highlights, legacy, accomplishments, and ongoing prospects and endeavors.