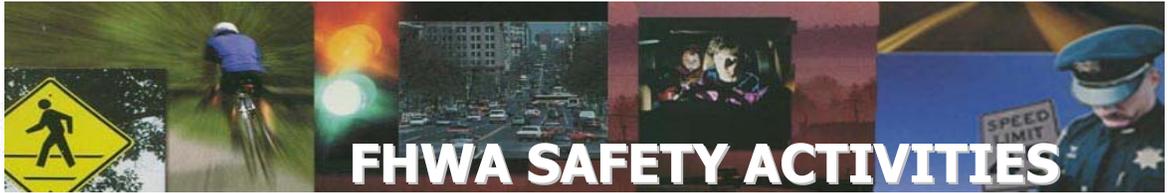




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## FHWA SAFETY ACTIVITIES

### WHAT'S NEW

#### Announcements

#### **You are invited to a videoconference to announce the *Managing Pavement Edge Drop-offs Workshop* (a process to improve Safety and Reduce Tort Liability)**

On Wednesday, November 5, there will be multiple (30 – 60 minute) videoconferences (based by time zone) for FHWA Divisions and Federal Lands. The purpose of the videoconferences is to announce the upcoming February 11, 2004 *Managing Pavement Edge Drop-offs Workshop*. The videoconference will discuss the purpose of the one-day workshop – why you should invite representatives from your State DOT to attend, and how it will address road departures especially on two-lane rural roads. Please contact Harry W. Taylor at [harry.taylor@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:harry.taylor@fhwa.dot.gov) or Frank Julian at [frank.julian@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:frank.julian@fhwa.dot.gov).

#### **Managing Pavement Edge Drop-offs to improve Safety and Reduce Tort Liability Workshop**

On February 11, 2004, FHWA will sponsor a one-day, invitational workshop to discuss pavement treatment options to reduce and prevent crashes caused by unsafe pavement edge drop-offs. It will be held at the Georgia International Convention Center, College Park, Georgia (near the Atlanta Airport). Prominent speakers will present sessions on pavement drop-off issues including problem identification, research, tort liability, maintenance training, and State experiences with using the beveled edge when resurfacing. Participants can expect to become familiar with the pavement drop-off problem and techniques, both existing and those under development. If interested, please contact Harry W. Taylor at [harry.taylor@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:harry.taylor@fhwa.dot.gov) or Frank Julian at [frank.julian@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:frank.julian@fhwa.dot.gov)

#### **National Roadway Safety Awards**

The 2003 National Roadway Safety Awards Press Conference and Recognition Ceremony will be held Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. The program is jointly sponsored by FHWA and Roadway Safety Foundation. FHWA Administrator Mary Peters and Diane Steed, Executive Director, Roadway Safety Foundation, will preside over the ceremony. Of more than 130 nominated projects, the Blue Ribbon Judging panel cited only 11 awards and 2 honorable mention awards. Representatives will be present from each awarded project, including Division Administrators in many cases. Among the list of VIPs expected to attend are one County Executive and one State Transportation Secretary. We are very excited about the overwhelming interest the event has received this year. Post-event details will be provided in the January/February 2004 newsletter. For additional information, contact [kathy.hoffman@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:kathy.hoffman@fhwa.dot.gov).

#### **Interactive Highway Safety Design Model (IHSDM) Training Course is now available**

FHWA is offering a two-day IHSDM training course after the completion of a series of pilot courses. Participants in this training will learn how to use IHSDM software to analyze existing or proposed two-lane rural highway alignments; to interpret IHSDM output to assist in making project design decisions; and to recognize how IHSDM capabilities can be applied throughout the highway design process.



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This course includes instructor presentation and "hands-on" practice with the IHSDM software using a sample roadway created for training purposes. The course is available to federal, state, and local transportation personnel, as well as consultants involved in the planning and design of rural two-lane highways. For information on scheduling a speaker, contact Clayton Chen, Office of Safety, at 202-366-4656 or [clayton.chen@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:clayton.chen@fhwa.dot.gov); or Ray Krammes, Office of Safety Research & Development, at 202-493-3312 or [ray.krammes@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:ray.krammes@fhwa.dot.gov). For information on scheduling the NHI course, contact Danielle Mathis-Lee at 703-235-0528 or [danielle.mathis-lee@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:danielle.mathis-lee@fhwa.dot.gov).

### ***Scan Team Focuses on Traffic Safety Information Systems***

An 11-person Scanning Team returned to the United States on October 19 after a two-week trip to discuss safety information systems with officials in The Netherlands, Germany, and the Australian States of Victoria and New South Wales. The purpose of this international scanning tour was to seek innovative ways to efficiently build, maintain, and utilize information systems concerning crashes, roadway features, traffic flow, drivers, and vehicles to support comprehensive safety programs. Co-chaired by Susan Martinovich of the Nevada DOT and Michael Halladay of the Office of Safety; the Team also included participation by other State DOT officials, FHWA Office of Safety R&D, NHTSA, and representatives of police, county, driver & vehicle registration, academic, and private sector entities. The host countries provided an outstanding array of topics for discussion with the Team, and numerous observations and "opportunities for improvement" to the general practice in the U.S. were highlighted in Team meetings. The Team will finalize the findings and recommendations over the coming weeks and months, and plans to give presentations at a range of venues with a focus on an implementation plan to put many of the findings into use in the U.S.

### **Field Testing Older Road User Guidelines**

Washington State DOT, Arizona DOT, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Governor's Highway Safety Bureau, were selected to field test the impact of applying guidelines from the *Highway Design Handbook for Older Drivers and Pedestrians*. Washington will address pedestrian issues, Arizona will address general issues (signs, signals, pavement markings), and Massachusetts will address work zone issues. The Handbook links older road user characteristics to highway design, operational, and traffic engineering recommendations by addressing specific roadway features. The objective of the program is to evaluate the effectiveness of the FHWA older road user guidelines in providing improved safety, comfort, ease of use, and operations for older road users and all road users. For more information, contact Shirley Thompson at 202-366-2154.

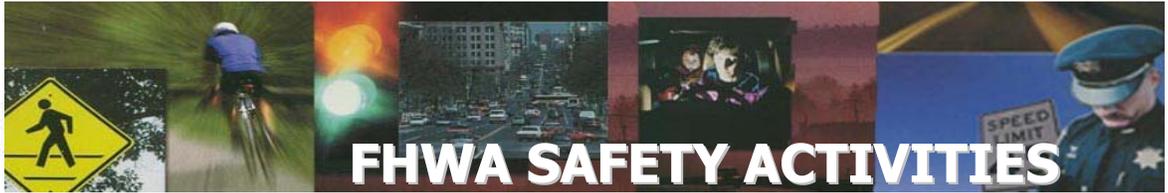
### **AASHTO Lead State Workshop**

A national orientation meeting for States participating in the further implementation of the AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan will be conducted on December 3 and 4 at the Transportation Research Board, Washington DC.

Over 30 States will attend and be a lead State in one of the six safety emphasis areas, and/or assist in the assessment of an Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS). Guides have been developed for each of these six emphasis areas: Run-off-road crashes, Trees in hazardous locations, Head-on collisions, Unsignalized intersection crashes, Aggressive driving and Suspended licenses. Each guide (NCHRP 500 Reports) includes a brief introduction, a general description of the problem, the strategies/countermeasures to address the problem, and a model implementation process. The integrated safety management process (NCHRP Report 501)



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comprises the suggested steps for advancing from crash data to integrated action plans. Together, the guides and management process provide a comprehensive set of tools for managing a coordinated highway safety program. Additional information on the AASHTO Strategic Safety Plan, its implementation, the guides and integrated safety management process is at: <http://safety.transportation.org/about.aspx>.

### Saving Lives – A Vital Goal

**Vision:** Improving Transportation for a Strong America.

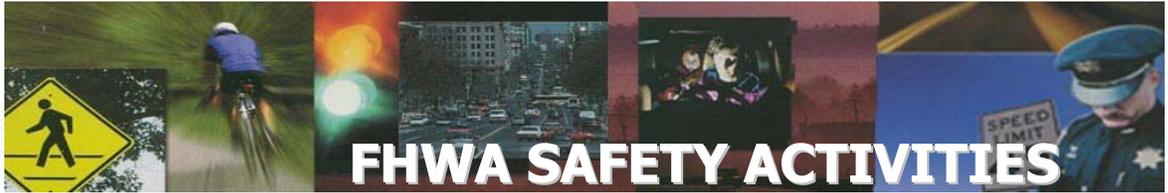
**Goal:** To continually improve highway safety by reducing the number of highway fatalities and injuries including large trucks. Ensuring safe travel on highways is a guiding principle throughout the FHWA.

**Focus:** High-risk areas through technical assistance, research, training, data analysis, and public information as well as through compliance and education. The FHWA is working with safety partners to heighten safety awareness within the highway community, business, industry, and the Public.

**Top Priorities:** Roadway Departure, Intersections, and Pedestrians



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EVENTS AND MEETINGS		
Dates	Location	Event
<b>2003</b>		
November 2 – 5	San Antonio, TX	National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Safety Conference
November 12 – 15	Nashville, TN	American Society of Civil Engineers Conference <a href="http://www.asce.org">www.asce.org</a>
November 18 – December 1	Nationwide	<i>Click It or Ticket</i> Mobilization <a href="http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov">http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov</a>
November 30 – December 4	Indianapolis, IN	National League of Cities
<b>2004</b>		
January 11 - 15, 2004	Washington, DC	Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting <a href="http://gulliver.trb.org/">http://gulliver.trb.org/</a>
January 30 - February 3, 2004	San Antonio, TX	American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) Annual Convention and Traffic Expo <a href="http://www.atssa.com">www.atssa.com</a>
February 11, 2004	Atlanta, GA	Managing Pavement Edge Drop-offs to improve Safety and Reduce Tort Liability
April 4 - 9, 2004	Orlando, FL	National Association of County Engineers (NACE) <a href="http://www.countyengineers.org">www.countyengineers.org</a>
April 4 - 10, 2004	Nationwide	National Work Zone Awareness Week
April 22 - 23, 2004	Washington, DC	George Washington University, AASHTO/AGC/ARTBA Task Force 13 - Standardization of Highway and Bridge Hardware
May 17-19, 2004	Madison, WI	University of Wisconsin, National Highway Visibility (NHV) Conference <a href="http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/nhv">http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/nhv</a>

**For a complete listing of FHWA Safety Programs and Resources**

**Visit our website at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov>**