

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Nr. 2

April 3, 2019



20-21 March 2019, International Road Safety Conference, Bucharest

The conference aims to provide participants a framework for the exchange of good practices and experiences to promote and accelerate the implementation of effective solutions in various areas of road safety, including digitalisation and innovation, reduction of serious injuries, speed management and infrastructure safety.

[More information](#)



State funding for transport fuel from waste products

An Australian-first trial using 100 per cent renewable diesel to fuel a Scania test engine is up and running thanks to the state government's Advance Queensland Industry Attraction Fund.

Southern Oil's Advanced Biofuels Pilot Plant at Yarwun, near Gladstone, is pioneering the refining of renewable diesel fuel made from waste plastic, old vehicle tyres, agriculture and forestry waste, and biosolids.

[More information](#)



Motorists lost when it comes to mobile phone driving laws

Almost half of drivers who admit to using a mobile phone behind the wheel are doing so for navigational purposes, a new survey suggests.

[More information](#)



Vulnerable road user campaign launched in Scotland

With the arrival of spring, pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists in Scotland are being encouraged to take extra care on the roads.

A week-long campaign, organised by Police Scotland and launched in March, is looking to highlight that vulnerable road users account for 29% of road deaths in Scotland.

[More information](#)



Transport ministers call on industry to become leaders in gender equality

Ministers seek to drive positive change for women in the transport industry. Ministers across the Department for Transport (DfT) have written to industry leaders calling on them to take action to increase the availability of opportunities across the sector to women.

[More information](#)



Seatbelt checks taking place across the UK

With police forces across the UK participating in a Europe-wide seatbelt enforcement campaign organised by TISPOL, drivers are being urged to ensure their passengers 'buckle up' on every journey. Anyone found not wearing a seatbelt will be issued with a £100 penalty for non-compliance.

[More information](#)



Could ban on electric scooters be set to end?

The Government is contemplating allowing electric scooters on UK roads. Under current UK law, it is illegal to use a powered transporter – such as an electric scooter – on a public road or other prohibited space, including pavements and cycle lanes.

[More information](#)



Scheuer launches financial assistance programme for drones and air taxis: "Out of the laboratory up in the air"

Federal Minister of Transport Andreas Scheuer is launching a new financial assistance programme for the development and trialling of drones and air taxis.

[More information](#)



Road safety strategy for the United Nations and its personnel: a partnership for safer journeys

The Road safety strategy for the United Nations and its personnel: a partnership for safer journeys, released in February 2019 following a two-year interagency consultation process, provides guidance to all United Nations organizations on ways to reduce the number of road traffic crashes involving United Nations personnel and vehicles.

[More information](#)



Fifth UN Global Road Safety Week 2019 Leadership for road safety

The UN Road Safety Collaboration is pleased to announce the theme of the 5th UN Global Road Safety Week: “leadership for road safety.” Enlightened leaders are able to provide a vision of what the future might look like and to mobilize action to achieve this: Stronger leadership is needed to advance road safety in countries and communities worldwide.

[More information](#)



Launch of the UN Road Safety Strategy

Road traffic crashes have a dramatically transformative impact on people’s lives. Road traffic crashes are ubiquitous yet invisible. Most of the time deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes remain almost invisible to society at large. They are a hidden epidemic.

The UN Road Safety Strategy was launched 28 February in New York and Geneva. More than 250 participants from the UN-system, Member States, civil society, philanthropic organizations, academia and the private sector attended the launch at the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

[More information](#)



ITF work on Gender in Transport

Transport plays an important role in providing access to opportunities for citizens. Good mobility policies aim to bring education and health care, jobs and leisure activities within the reach of as many people as possible. Ultimately, universal access is an important key to societies that leave no one behind and enable all citizens to participate and contribute.

[Read more](#)



Updated Euro NCAP tests reveal advances in traffic sign recognition technology

Euro NCAP data from 2018 show that camera-based traffic sign recognition systems have advanced and were fitted as standard equipment to nearly all new vehicle models tested in 2018. Most of these systems are now able to function under conditional circumstances such as when a lower limit applies in rainy conditions e.g. on French motorways.

[More information](#)



Longer, safer lorry cabs permitted two years earlier

Lorries with potentially safer and more aerodynamic cabs could be on European roads as early as next year, following an EU agreement to bring forward new rules on the maximum dimensions of heavy goods vehicles.

[More information](#)



EU Reforms on Road Infrastructure Safety Management, 2019

The European Council reached a provisional agreement with the European Parliament on a proposal to strengthen road infrastructure management to reduce road fatalities and serious injuries.

[More information](#)



RSA and Applegreen Urge Drivers to STOP, SIP, SLEEP This St Patrick's Weekend

The Road Safety Authority (RSA) and Applegreen have teamed up again to help drivers to combat the effects of driver fatigue over St Patricks Bank Holiday Weekend by providing free cups of coffee to drivers between 2pm and 8pm on Friday 16 March and Monday 19 March. Simply say 'RSA' to the till operator to avail of a free coffee.

[More information](#)



Austrian Road Safety Board calls for speed limit of 30 km/h in cities

The Austrian Road Safety Board (Kuratorium für Verkehrssicherheit - KFV) has proposed a range of measures to prevent accidents and to improve conditions on the road network. Their main response has been to call for stricter speed limits: a number of Austrian cities have already put in place and enforce a general speed limit of 30 km/h in their area. The KFV is now calling for the expansion of a city-wide speed limit of 30 km/h to all cities in Austria.

[More information](#)



New high-tech pedestrian crossing design to improve safety

A new experimental crossing has been designed to help prevent accidents between pedestrians and drivers at pedestrian crossings. It is thought that both pedestrians and drivers are now less aware of one another than ever before thanks to smartphones and in-car infotainment systems.

[More information](#)



Portugal Ciclável 2030: a long-term plan to foster cycling mobility

The Portuguese government plans to invest 300 million euro by 2030 in the construction of new bike lanes, linking already existing ones, in order to encourage the use of bicycles at the expense of cars, as announced by the Minister of the Environment, Mr John Matos Fernandes.

[More information](#)



Singapore wants self-driving cars to help its aging society

It may look like a giant robotic bug but the MooAV could be the car of the future. Made by startup MooVita, it's one of dozens of autonomous vehicles being put to the test at a special centre in Singapore that aims to advance the development of self-driving car technology.

[More information](#)

ROAD SAFETY IN THE MEDIA

Research on Female Crash Dummy Receives EU Award

It took 10 years to get funding for research on a female crash dummy, and several more to develop a prototype. The VTI researcher, Astrid Linder's comprehensive and hard work has paid off and won her a prestigious European transport research award.

[More information](#)

Size? x adidas Nite Jogger "Road Safety" Features High Visibility Colors And Details

The adidas Nite Jogger is a shoe that's all about being seen. Inspired by the bright visibility-maximizing attire that's worn by construction workers, first responders, and crossing guards, the colorway combines fluorescent orange, green, and yellow tones with a healthy dose of reflective accents to ensure that the wearer stands out no matter where they may go.

[More information](#)

Belt up. Live on

A New Zealand campaign. Every year, around 90 New Zealanders die in crashes while not wearing their seatbelt. 30% could have survived had they belted up. They'd have been injured, but alive.

[More information](#)

Quebec judge gives 4-year sentence to driver who was texting before fatal crash

A Quebec man convicted of killing another driver and injuring two teenagers while texting at the wheel has been sentenced to four years in prison. Martin Carrières, 39, had exchanged more than 30 text messages while driving on a poorly lit road in March 2012.

[More information](#)

...AND THE ZOMBIE MODE DOES EXIST



Israeli city installs LED 'zombie traffic lights' to force pedestrians to look up from their smartphones

Stoplights embedded at crosswalk as part of a road safety initiative in Tel Aviv.

An Israeli city has installed LED

'zombie traffic lights' in the hope it will force pedestrians to look up from their smartphones while crossing the road.

Officials in Tel Aviv embedded the stoplights in the ground at a busy crosswalk as part of a bid to improve road safety.

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