



NEW AUSTROADS PUBLICATIONS

Austroads Guide to Road Safety completed

The nine part Austroads Guide to Road Safety is now complete with the recent publication of the remaining three parts. The new Guide provides information for road authorities about a range of road safety issues based around the *Safe System* philosophy. A *Safe System* emphasises the way different elements of the road system combine and interact with human behaviour to produce an overall effect on road trauma. The *Safe System* accepts humans using roads will make mistakes and has a strong focus on vehicle safety, infrastructure design and safe speeds to minimise the chances of a crash or, in the event of a crash, the severity of injury. The newly published parts are:

Guide to Road Safety Part 4: Local Government and Community Road Safety

Local government has an important role to play in road safety. Part 4 of the Austroads Guide to Road Safety provides an overview of how local government and community road safety programs are structured in Australia and New Zealand, what types of activity they involve, and how they contribute to road safety outcomes. It outlines the road safety responsibilities of local government, and describes the advantages of working closely with the community in meeting those responsibilities and extending beyond the necessary minimum in road safety. The growing importance of capacity building, social capital and social networking in the delivery of government services and their particular relevance to local road safety are discussed. It includes development and funding of local road safety strategies, mobilising resources, and evaluation and review. Case studies of various strategy plans are presented along with examples of road safety activities. Communication and reporting are also dealt with. The Appendix contains a list of resources which are likely to prove useful for local government and community road safety programs.

Guide to Road Safety Part 6: Road Safety Audit

Austroads previously published an Austroads *Road Safety Audit* guide which was one of its most popular publications. The new Guide to Road Safety Part 6: Road Safety Audit is a revised and updated version of the earlier publication. It provides a comprehensive introduction to the road safety audit process. Easy to read and implement, the guide is suitable for use by any person with a responsibility for, or an interest in, road safety.

Designed for use by road safety and traffic engineers, police, academics, local, provincial, state and national government officers, clients, students, researchers, consultants and many others, the guide provides both a comprehensive overview to, and application of, the road safety audit process.

Clear details of the audit process are provided, together with a number of audit case studies. The guide includes chapters on legal liability, costs and benefits, the audit process, safety principles and technical issues which need to be considered in road safety engineering.

The guide includes updated checklists for use in assessing road designs and inspecting project sites at the different stages of a project's development. These checklists may be printed off from the electronic version of the guide for use in the field.

Guide to Road Safety Part 8: Treatment of Crash Locations

Treatment of Crash Locations is the final part of the recently completed Austroads Guide to Road Safety and complements *Part 6: Road Safety Audit*. It contains practical, hands-on advice to help practitioners in road authorities investigate and treat locations on the road system which are experiencing crashes. By effectively treating these locations, through the application of effective engineering solutions, the number and severity of crashes can be reduced.

The treatment of crash locations and the process of road safety audit both involve the application of road safety engineering knowledge and experience to make roads safer – both before and after crashes occur. *Treatment of Crash Locations* explains the step-by-step process of how to identify crash locations, diagnose the crash problem and its causes, how to select countermeasures which target the problem, design a safe remedial treatment and establish its cost-effectiveness. The guide also provides information on sources of road crash data and how engineering improvements fit into an overall road safety strategy.

Guide to Asset Management – two new parts published

Two new parts to the Austroads Guide to Asset Management have recently been published. Seven parts of the sixteen part guide are now available. The remaining parts will become available over the next few months. To be notified of their release, register through the publications website to receive RoadWatch. The recently published parts are:

Guide to Asset Management Part 3: Asset Strategies

Part 3 of the Austroads Guide to Asset Management: Asset Strategies provides guidance on the frameworks and principles of asset strategies. Asset strategies articulate the proposed management of the capacity, condition and use of road system assets to achieve the level of road system performance which is acceptable, affordable and sustainable to meet the needs of stakeholders and the community. Part 3 aims to assist road agencies in developing performance-driven asset management strategies which achieve community-driven outcomes. The Guide presents an integrated strategy framework comprising: an overarching road system management strategy, a road investment strategy, an infrastructure preservation strategy and road use management strategies.

Guide to Asset Management Part 4: Program Development and Implementation

Part 4 of the Guide to Asset Management gives practitioners guidance for decision making on good practice asset management at a network level for program development and implementation. Program development involves identifying asset requirements, setting appropriate levels of service for maintenance intervention in developing a maintenance works program, the development of a total needs program and its evaluation, selection of maintenance treatment and capital works options and the process of prioritisation and optimisation of the programmed works to ensure best value for money. Program implementation covers developing appropriate delivery arrangements of the works program and includes public reporting and information dissemination about the program and the media used achieve this.

Accessing Austroads publications

All Austroads publications are available in PDF and hardcopy through the Austroads website www.austroads.com.au

Technical Reports released:

Recently released technical reports from Austroads include:

- Impacts of PBS Pavement Vertical Loading Standards at Network Level Tasks 1 and 2: Final report (AP-T117/09)
- Gisborne Sprayed Seal Binder Trial (AP-T126/09)
- Ball Penetration Test – Stage 2: Field Validation (AP-T127/09)
- Comparison of the US and Australian Long Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) Data on Asphalt Pavements (AP-T128/09)
- Measuring Heavy Vehicle Wheel Loads Dynamically (AP-T129/09)

All these and other Austroads technical reports are available free as PDF from the Austroads website. They may also be purchased in hard copy through the website.

AUSTROADS MARCH COUNCIL MEETING

Austrroads Council met in Canberra on 2 April 2009. A communiqué from the meeting is available on the Austrroads website.

Strategic priorities – The Council reviewed the current strategic priorities and confirmed their continued application. They are:

- Asset management
- Capability
- Freight management
- Network optimisation
- Registration and licensing
- Road safety
- Technology

Future work program – The Council gave preliminary approval to the proposed work program for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12. The total proposed work program expenditure for 2009-10 is approximately \$9.6m. Details of the projects which received preliminary approval are available on the Austrroads website.

Austrroads Guides – The completion of the new Austrroads guides is due by July. A launch event for the new guides is being planned for 1 July at ARRB in Melbourne. Procedures for the future updating of the new guides were adopted. Austrroads members reaffirmed their commitment to adopt Austrroads guides in place of jurisdictional documentation.

Dedicated Short Range Communication – An update was provided on progress and the proposed governance structure and resourcing requirements for the management of cooperative ITS 5.9 implementation.

Performance based standards scheme – An update was also provided on progress of the performance based standards scheme (PBS). The NTC has led the review of PBS and is preparing a regulatory impact statement and model legislation to be submitted to ATC later this year. Guidelines are currently being developed by jurisdictions.

Austrroads Local Government Agreement – A new local agreement between Austrroads, ALGA and IPWEA was endorsed. It replaces the current agreement which is due to expire in June 2009.

Austrroads legal structure – Austrroads is to move from an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee to comply with the requirements of the NSW Department of Fair Trading. The Council considered a draft constitution for the new structure and the required actions for the transition. It is expected that the new structure will come into operation in mid 2009.

Road Research Register

At the request of Austrroads, ARRB has developed a searchable online database of road-related research projects. Two of the benefits from making project data accessible in a single resource are minimising project duplication and possible collaborative research ventures. Data has been supplied by the majority of state and territory road authorities as well as Austrroads and BITRE. Data from New Zealand will be added shortly. The web address is www.roadresearch.com.au

WORLD ROAD ASSOCIATION (PIARC) NEWS

New secondment to secretariat – Jeremy Kaltenrieder from Main Roads WA has commenced a secondment with the World Road Association secretariat in Paris. He replaces Michelle Baran from DTMRQ. The subsequent secondment will be from VicRoads.

Joint Austroads/World Road Association meeting held in Kalgoorlie WA – Australia hosted World Road Association technical committee D1 – Management of Road Infrastructure Assets in Kalgoorlie on 30 March to 2 April. The focus of the work of the committee is to improve the quality of road infrastructure through the effective management of assets in accordance with road user expectations. The Austroads Asset task force made several interesting presentations including information relating to the work being undertaken by the Asset task force, the role of Austroads, prioritising long term asset management needs and using asset valuation. The meeting participants shared best practice methodologies from around the world. The group saw first hand in the Kalgoorlie/Boulder area some of the unique road infrastructure issues faced in Australia.

COMING EVENTS

Austroads Bridge Conference

26 – 29 May 2009, Auckland, New Zealand

Austroads bridge conferences are held every two or three years, bringing together professionals with an interest in bridge engineering to investigate the progress and future directions for bridge engineering both nationally and internationally. The conferences are relevant for anyone involved in bridge engineering, including asset managers, technical staff, contractors, suppliers and consultants.

The 2009 conference is being hosted by the NZ Transport Agency. It will be held in Auckland, New Zealand from 26 until 29 May 2009. This will be the first time the Austroads Bridge conference has been held in New Zealand. It will coincide with the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Auckland Harbour Bridge on 30 May. The theme of the 2009 conference focuses on the important role of bridges within the transport network.

The 2009 conference aims to promote discussion on contemporary bridge engineering and management issues and initiatives; showcase innovation, progress and new directions in bridge engineering, management, research and training; facilitate collaboration and information sharing by bringing together bridge engineering and management practitioners; and encourage young engineers to participate through attendance as well as presenting papers.

This conference is an ideal opportunity to share information, explore opportunities, and investigate progress and future directions in bridge engineering and management. For more information visit: www.austroads2009.co.nz/

Australian Institute of Traffic Planning and Management Incorporated (AITPM) Conference

5 – 7 August 2009, Adelaide

The aim of the AITPM's 2009 national conference in Adelaide is to explore the notion of 'Traffic Beyond Tomorrow' and for traffic practitioners to explore the challenges and the opportunities that this may bring by considering hypothetical scenarios. For more information visit www.aitpm.org.au/conf-upcoming.html

International Public Works Conference

6 – 10 September 2009, Melbourne

The IPWEA conference is held every two years. The theme for the 2009 conference is 'Global Issues, Local Solutions - Delivering for the Next Generation'. Public Works engineers from around the world are at the forefront in dealing with such challenges as sustainable management of infrastructure, skills shortage and climate change. This gathering will present a real opportunity to pool knowledge and share experiences in these critical areas as well as present an opportunity to foster cultural exchange and friendships. Visit the IPWEA conference website for more information and to register an interest in attending <http://www.alloccasionsgroup.com/IPWEA>

REAAA Conference

23 – 26 September 2009, Incheon City, Korea

The 13th Conference of the Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia (REAAA) will be held in Incheon Korea. The Conference will coincide with the 8th Heads of Road Authorities (HORA) Meeting, REAAA Governing Council Meetings, the International Road & Traffic Exhibition 2009 (ROTEX 2009) and PIARC Council Meeting 2009. The Conference will provide a forum for all those involved in road policy, technology, management and administration in and beyond the region to share knowledge and experiences and build on current professional networks or establish new networks. A key element of the Conference will be a series of technical sessions where speakers from all over the world will have the opportunity to present the results of current research projects, details of recent projects of interest and experiences gained from the application of research findings and implementation of road and traffic engineering facilities. For more information email conference@reaaakorea2009.com or visit reaaa@po.jaring.my

The Australian Chapter of the REAAA is proposing to coordinate a delegation to attend the Conference with a brief study tour in Korea following the Conference. If you are interested in participating email to austroads@austrroads.com.au

Australasian Road Safety Conference

11 – 13 November 2009, Sydney

The 2009 Australasian Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference will be held in Sydney. The conference provides a forum for the exchange of information about current and future road safety initiatives. It will bring together leading local and international road safety experts over three days of presentations, workshops and keynote addresses. In addition, the first Intelligent Speed Adaptation Conference, a one day event, will be held in conjunction with the national conference on 10 November 2009.

More information is available from: www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/2009_conference.html

World Road Association – Winter Roads Congress

8 – 11 February 2010, Québec, Canada.

This is the thirteenth Winter Roads Congress run by the World Road Association (PIARC). The theme is: Sustainable Winter Service for Road Users. Sustainable Winter Service begins with taking a customer and road user's orientation regarding requirements and levels of service, and includes winter weather and transportation system impacts, information services, decision support systems, the full range of mitigation techniques and technologies, actual operations in multiple climatic and social settings, and the impacts (environmental, social, economic) of the operations. Sustainability also includes planning and management of the entire system, along with its performance (cost-benefit) and evolution, in relation to both society and the environment. More information about the Congress is available at <http://www.aipcrquebec2010.org/content/view/11/20/lang,english/>

The newsletter is developed and distributed every two months.

Contributions for future newsletters are always welcome. Please send via email to the Communications Manager at:

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