



New Austroads publications

High Productivity Vehicles and Pavement Economic Impacts: Network Level Assessment Approach – AP-T116/09

Reports on the changing composition and further expected changes of the Australian heavy vehicle fleet and how to achieve maximum economic benefits. It examines the introduction of high productivity vehicles and improved analytical tools to assess their affects on pavement wear and associated economics.

Safety Benefits of Improving Interaction between Heavy Vehicles and the Road System

AP-T119/08 – An analysis of heavy vehicle crash data for New Zealand and all Australian jurisdictions (except ACT) was conducted and is included in this report. The results were used to guide recommendations for revisions to the Austroads Road Safety Audit Checklists and a draft strategy for addressing heavy vehicle safety on major freight routes.

Implementation of National Network Performance Indicators: First Round Results

AP-T122/09 – The five online National Performance Indicators (NPIs) have been designed in a way that all road agencies in Australia and New Zealand can participate in reporting one or more of these online indicators. Included in this report are first round results from all the data received from participating jurisdictions. Other NPI data can also be viewed on the [Austroads website](http://www.austroads.com.au).

Impact of LATM Treatments on Speed and Safety – AP-T123/09

Examines the effectiveness of key Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) treatment types in reducing traffic speeds and the risk of crashes on local roads in Australia. Looks at typical speed reduction estimates at and/or between installed treatments and reports on crash reduction factors.

First National Survey of Australian Bitumens – AP-T124/09

Twenty bitumens from Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales were subjected to a range of test procedures and the results reported. This information will become important as more imported, 'non-traditional' bitumens are used in Australia.

Component Costs in Transport Projects to Ensure the Appropriate Valuing of Safety Effects

AP-T125/09 – Considers the current costing procedures used in determining the relative cost share of safety in project evaluation. Australia currently uses a human capital approach to the valuation of crash costs, while many other developed countries have adopted a willingness to pay approach. Based on a review of literature and a workshop with key stakeholders, both approaches are assessed and recommendations made about future crash costing in Australia.

Guidelines for Assessing Heavy Vehicle Access to Local Roads: Draft for Consultation

AP-R333/09 – Increases in heavy vehicle size and weight can result in high productivity gains that flow through as benefits to the economy and local community. This report examines the impact the use of heavy vehicles could have on local roads and findings from a consultative committee consisting of local government, freight sector and government agencies are included in the report.

Two workshops are being held for further consultation within local government next month, one in Sydney and one in a regional area. For more information or to register your interest in attending a workshop please contact Geoff Anson at geoffanson@geoffanson.com.au

Upcoming publications

The final three parts of the Guide to Road Safety will be available in the next couple of weeks. They are; *Part 4 – Local Government and Community Road Safety*; *Part 6 – Road Safety Audit*; and *Part 8 – Treatment of Crash Locations*. The Guide to Road Transport Planning is also about to be released. Register for [Roadwatch](#) to be advised by email when they are available.

These and more than 500 other Austroads publications are available from the [publications website](#). Austroads publications cover asset management, bridge technology, pavement technology, project delivery, project evaluation, road design, road safety, traffic management and road transport planning. All research and technical reports are available to download for free in PDF. Additionally, members can download all guides for free in PDF.

Feedback

Austroads is always seeking feedback about its publications. Users can provide feedback about the technical content of a publication, the format, layout or style of the publication or whether the publication met expectations. The feedback allows us to develop publications that are relevant and informative, easy to use and that will be recommended to others. There is an electronic feedback form available on the [Austroads publications website](#) that will take a couple of minutes to complete. Feedback is also appreciated about the usability of the publications website, downloading publications, or the ordering and payment process.

World Road Association technical committees

In the last edition of the newsletter we looked at the World Road Association's technical committees for 2008-2012 including two of the four committees which focus on the quality of road infrastructure; D1 and D.3. In this edition we look at what's happening with D.2, Road Pavement.

D.2 Road Pavement, where Austroads is represented by Peter Bryant from Department of Main Roads Queensland. The committee is addressing five strategic issues:

- Reducing road construction time and cost
- Improved maintenance methods
- Road noise mitigation
- Monitoring of innovations
- Climate change.

Five working groups have been established, with each group addressing one of these issues. Major activities include the documentation of pavement treatments and their impact on pavement performance, compilation of legislative requirements and policies for managing noise, and reporting on different techniques for mitigating climate change effects and how to put appropriate techniques into practice. In August 2009, the committee will hold a technical seminar in Cancun, Mexico, on Maintenance Techniques to Improve Pavement Performance.

There are also three sub-committees that fall under D.2 Road Pavement including; Road Surface Characteristics (on which Peter is the English speaking secretary); Flexible and Semi Rigid Pavements; and Concrete Pavements.

Regular reports on these and the other World Road Association technical committees' work are available on the [Austroads website](#). For more information about all the technical committees, the four strategic themes and details of the technical committee representatives, visit the [World Road Association website](#).

100 years of the World Road Association

The World Road Association (PIARC) celebrates its 100th birthday this year. Founded in 1909 the Association is a major international forum which plays a leading role to bring together the international road community to exchange knowledge and techniques on roads and road related transport. The Association has 113 member governments and its membership covers 142 countries throughout six continents. Australia has been an active member of the Association for over 25 years and continues to contribute with enthusiasm. For more information about the Association and plans for its centenary celebrations, visit the website at www.piarc.org/en/

2008 records lowest road deaths in nearly 60 years

Road deaths in Australia for 2008 were the lowest in almost 60 years. There was an 8.7 per cent reduction on 2007 and this was the first major fall in five years. There are now 11 times more vehicles using our roads than in 1949 and the lower figures represent a number of factors including proactive road safety initiatives, greater law enforcement and more care taken by drivers. For more information visit: www.infrastructure.gov.au.

New Zealand also recorded the lowest road deaths in 2008 for the last five years. For more information about New Zealand statistics visit: www.transport.govt.nz

Australian National Road Safety Action Plan 2009 and 2010

The Australian Transport Council has released a safety action plan that highlights measures with the potential to reduce road trauma in Australia within the next few years. The plan also examines issues designed to lay the foundation for longer-term gains. Action items are categorised in four broad areas; safer speeds, safer roads and roadsides, safer vehicles, and safer road users and behaviour. The plan was developed jointly by all Australian jurisdictions, with input from the National Road Safety Strategy Panel which represents a broad range of organisations involved in road safety. It is the final two-year action plan presented under the National Road Safety Strategy 2001-2010. To view the plan visit www.atcouncil.gov.au/documents/pubs/ATC_actionplan0910.pdf

ARRB knowledge sharing

The knowledge sharing workshops for 2009 have been expanded and updated by ARRB and are now available for viewing with dates and more information from the [ARRB website](#). The workshops and explanatory seminars are delivered in association with Austroads using ARRB technical experts, specialist consultants and road authority staff. ARRB provides innovative training solutions for the users of Austroads publications to further develop their skills and knowledge and to provide technical knowledge and guidance on how to best use the information contained within Austroads publications. The workshops and seminars range from one day to five days in duration and are held in all major cities and many regional centres across Australia and New Zealand.

Events in 2009

Austroads Bridge Conference

26 – 30 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 email: douceline.vanarts@nzta.govt.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.

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

The newsletter is developed and distributed every two months.
Contributions for future newsletters are always welcome. Please send via email to the Communications Manager:
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