

NEWS RELEASE

ETSC targeting young drivers through European projects

1 April 2010, Brussels - Young drivers are greatly over-represented in traffic collision statistics¹, with risk factors 2 to 3 times higher than those of more experienced drivers. They represent a greater risk to themselves, their passengers and other road users than other drivers do.

To remedy the worsening situation with young drivers safety record, ETSC is launching two European projects targeting young drivers and students through speed and infrastructure management projects: STARS and R2R.

Students Acting to Reduce Speed (STARS) and Roads to Respect (R2R) will focus on the work of committed young students who will be encouraged to run a local speed management or infrastructure projects aimed at reducing driving speed, and/or to treat high risk infrastructure in road transport with the support of ETSC expertise and its partners across Europe.



Reducing speed through existing and innovative measures is the aim of STARS. STARS is targeting the following countries: Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Romania and Spain (for the first 18 months period)

ETSC will visit over 45 universities across 14 European countries to strengthen knowledge on road safety in universities. An integrated training in Brussels ("the Camp") will be provided to selected students to discuss and develop their knowledge on speed, road infrastructure and road safety in general.

Following the road safety camp, students will work to implement their road safety projects in their home countries. At the end of the project period, the best students will be selected as the winners of these European road safety competitions and a ceremony will be organised in Brussels to celebrate their contribution to road safety.



R2R is designed as a European Campaign for Better Road Safety Engineering. R2R is targeting the following countries Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Poland and Serbia. R2R website is available at <http://www.etsc.eu/R2R.php>

¹ Traffic crashes are the single greatest killer of persons aged 15-24, accounting for 35% of all deaths, or approximately 2500 people annually in recent years' (OECD/ECMT 2006)

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Note to Editors:

The European Transport Safety Council (ETSC) is the International independent non-profit making organisation dedicated to the reduction of the number and severity of transport crashes in Europe. The ETSC seeks to identify and promote research-based measures with a high safety potential. It brings together 42 national and international organisations concerned with transport safety from across Europe. See <http://www.etsc.eu>