



NEWS RELEASE

New International Standard for Road Safety Management for Employers

4th October, Brussels – “The publication of the new ISO 39001:2012 standard is a welcomed and much-needed development. We are happy to see that employers in SMEs, large-sized companies and public authorities now have a clear set of guidelines to help them improve road safety management,” said Antonio Avenoso, ETSC¹ Executive Director. “Adoption of the new standard provides employers not only with a quality label, but it also shows they are responsible actors in their community as a whole on reducing road risk,” Mr. Avenoso added.

The ISO 39001:2012 standard requirements enable organisations that interact with road traffic to implement a management system that allows them to reduce the number of road deaths and serious injuries in collisions which they can influence. The standard can be adopted by a public authority or company and can also be used to cover transport services contracted in the supply chain. Any player with an influence on road safety should be able to use the standard as guidance in its efforts of contributing to safe road traffic.

“ETSC’s driving for work PRAISE project² advocated that investing in work-related road safety provides a sound business case. Moreover, occupational health and safety, of which road safety is an inseparable component, has to cover more than just the core business of a company. The new ISO standard on road traffic safety management is a great tool for even more employers, whether public or private, to take up the challenge,” said Ellen Townsend, ETSC Policy Director. One opportunity is for road safety considerations to be included as key criteria in public and private procurement tenders and contracts. By integrating this requirement other benefits, such as saving time and becoming more efficient, can be reaped. Large employers either public or private can influence policies in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) when they subcontract out work further along the supply chain by insisting that subcontractors adopt the same conditions and standards in relation to driving for work.

ETSC also strongly encourages the EU and governments to support the new Standard. They should set an example by adopting it themselves to increase the safety of their own employees. They should also encourage private sector employers through incentives to adopt the new Standard.

Background

The PRAISE project handbook, detailing methods and good practice examples on how to tackle topical areas of work-related road safety can be found here:

<http://www.etsc.eu/PRAISE-publications.php>

More information about the ISO 39001:2012 standard, and the full text of its requirements, can be found here:

http://www.iso.org/iso/home/store/catalogue_tc/catalogue_detail.htm?csnumber=44958

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¹ ETSC is a Brussels-based independent non-profit making organisation dedicated to reducing the numbers of deaths and injuries in transport in Europe. The ETSC seeks to identify and promote research-based measures with a high safety potential. It brings together 45 national and international organisations concerned with transport safety from across Europe. www.etsc.eu

² "Preventing Road Accidents and Injuries for the Safety of Employees" (PRAISE) was a three-year project aiming to increase road safety in the work context. The goal of the project was to "praise" good practices in order to help employers secure high road safety standards for their employees. PRAISE was co-funded by the European Commission, the German Road Safety Council, the Fundacion MAPFRE and the Swiss Council for Accident Prevention (bfu). For more information, please visit <http://www.etsc.eu/PRAISE.php>