



Catalans' Bridge

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**STARS Project 2010/2011
France**

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Location

- Toulouse, France



Ring road (90km/h)



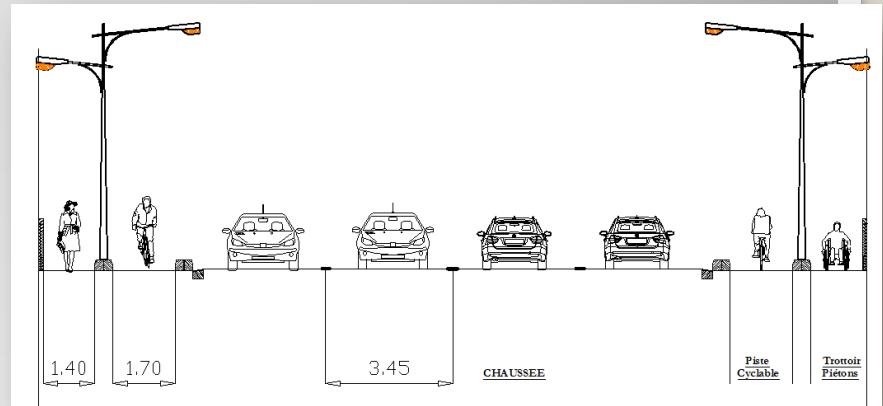
Main streets (50km/h)



Secondary streets (30 – 50km/h)

Description of the bridge

- One of Toulouse's main streets
- Speed limit 50 km/h
- **Description**
 - Early 19th century (2)
 - 257 meters long
 - 22 meters wide
 - 2-lane dual carriageway
 - 2 cycle lanes
 - 2 pedestrian lanes



Why reduce speed

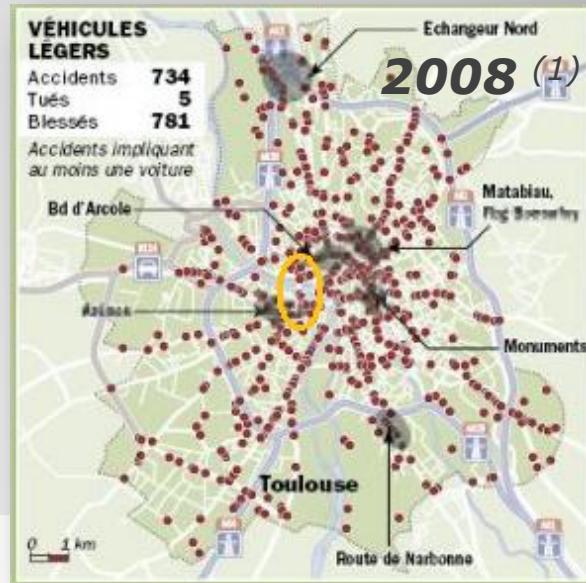
TO
REDUCE
SPEED



- To reduce the number and the severity of accidents
- To develop the social function of public areas
- To reduce air pollution and noise

Accidents in Toulouse

- Figures (1)
 - 14 killed in 2007
 - 9 killed in 2008
- Catalans' Bridge = one of the most dangerous streets in town



Blackspot analysis

- 4 main blackspots



1 – Dangerous bend



2 – Bus stop



3 – Straight road



4 – Cyclists' Safety

How to reduce speed

- There is not one solution to reducing speed, but several ; which could eventually be combined.
- Our four suggestions
 - Optical illusions
 - Creation of a bus lane
 - Warning users of a dangerous bend
 - Awareness billboards

How to reduce speed

- **Optical illusions**

- Reduction of the width of the road
 - Widening the existing centre line and creating wide lines on both sides of the road
 - Road surface marking



How to reduce speed

- **Optical illusions**
 - Illusion of obstacles
 - Perpendicular lines
 - Road surface marking



Illusion of narrowness
or obstacles

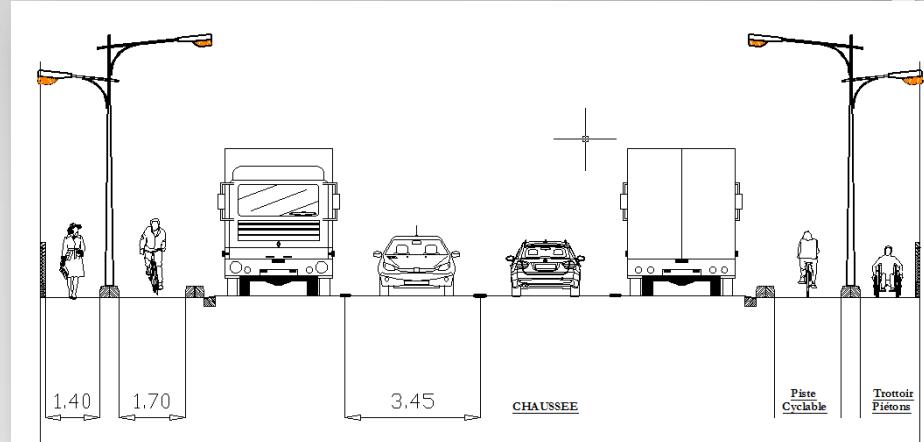
More careful
drivers

Reduction of
speed

How to reduce speed

- **Creation of a bus lane**

- Addition of a bus lane in both directions by removing two car lanes
- Road surface marking



Single-lane dual
carriageway

Homogeneous
circulation

Reduction of
speed

How to reduce speed

- **Warning users of a dangerous bend**
 - Road surface marking design before the bend
 - Reflective paint on the edge of the pavement



Warning of a bend

Drivers more careful

Reduction of speed

How to reduce speed

- Awareness billboards

- Vertical signs
- To increase driver awareness of the dangers of speed
- Punchy slogans on billboards situated at the entrances of the bridge



Billboards



**Increase drivers
awareness**



**Reduction of
speed**

How to succeed

- Building partnerships
- Having strategy and timing schedules
- Evaluating progress
- Overcoming difficulties

Co-working

Best cost/efficiency
solution

SUCCESS

How to succeed

- **Building partnerships**

- University members
- Associations
- Residents and users
- Police
- Local companies
- Local TV and newspapers
- Mairie de Toulouse (town council)



How to succeed

- **Having strategy and timing schedules**
 - 1) Get the support of :
 - Civil engineering professors, INSA headmaster
 - Road Safety Organisation, Road Crash Victim Association, ESTC
 - Police
 - Residents
 - SETRA (Service d'études sur les transports, les routes et leurs aménagements)
 - 2) Elect the best cost/efficiency solution
 - 3) Convince the town council : politicians, urban planners and architects
 - 4) Get the authorizations to implement our project

How to succeed

- **Evaluating progresses**



- Polls about the usefulness of our actions
- Satisfaction polls
- Records of speed before and after implementation

How to succeed

- **Overcoming difficulties**

- Number of actors to be convinced to obtain a permit
 - Traffic, bus and cycles representatives
 - Architects and urban planners
 - Politicians
- Bridge = cultural and historical heritage

Bibliography

- (1) Online local newspaper Ladepeche.fr
Route : La carte des accidents – 21/07/2009
- (2) Online local newspaper Ladepeche.fr
Ponts et merveilles – 07/06/2010

Thank you for your attention

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