

**NRSPP**  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY

**PARTNERSHIP**  
PROGRAM

NRSPP BULLETIN

*Improving Road Safety is Simply Good Business*

## May 2020 Newsletter No. 68

For the most up-to-date news visit [www.nrspp.org.au](http://www.nrspp.org.au)

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the latest newsletter from the National Road Safety Partnership Program (NRSPP). NRSPP is a government-supported, industry-led collaborative network which aims to support Australian businesses and organisations to develop a positive road safety culture and help protect their workers and the public, not only during work hours but also when staff are 'off-duty'.

This edition will cover:

- [NRSPP ACHIEVEMENTS](#)
- [NRSPP NEWS](#)
- [NRSPP MONTHLY FOCUS](#)
- [COVID-19 THOUGHT LEADERSHIP](#)
- [NRSPP BLOG](#)
- [NRSPP #THROWBACKTHURSDAYS](#)
- [NRSPP #DIDYOUKNOW?](#)
- [NRSPP RESOURCES](#)
- [EVENTS](#)
- [USEFUL WEBPAGES](#)

## NRSPP Achievements

- The Austroads funded NRSPP collaborative [Suicide in Road Transport Project](#) has now commenced delivery.
- New NRSPP Case Study [Formula Chemicals: Telematics, Toolboxes and Technology – Formula Chemicals' Three Ts Approach to Road Safety](#) completed
- NRSPP's [first webinar for 2020](#) delivered through Zoom

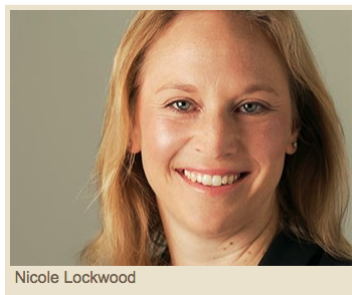


## **NRSP Commences Delivery Of Austroads Collaborative Suicide In Road Transport Project**

The Suicide in Road Transport (SiRT) National Working Group (NWG) has been established by the National Road Safety Partnership Program (NRSP) and Austroads. The NWG brings together associated industry representatives, experts and government to better understand the issue of suicide in road transport and collaboratively identify and explore potential options to address the problem.

[Read More...](#)

---



Nicole Lockwood

## **WA COVID Response Group Puts Focus On Driver Safety**

Western Australia's transport and logistics industry is aiming to help lead the state through the coronavirus Covid-19 crisis through its WA Supply Chain Covid Response Group (SCCRG). Led by the Freight and Logistics Council of WA (FLCWA), the response group covers all aspects of the supply chain including shipping, road, rail, air and workforce to ensure the safety of workers in the freight network and secure the supply of essential goods communities across that state.

[Read More...](#)

---



## **Online Driving Course Delivers Real Life Safety Results**

An online driver training course developed by researchers at The University of Queensland has been shown to reduce speeding and improve driving ability. UQ School of Psychology's Professor Mark Horswill, along with Dr Andrew Hill, Dr Lisa Buckley, and Associate Professor Marcus Watson, developed the program that teaches drivers how to identify hazards earlier to avoid accidents.

[Read More...](#)

---



Temporarily protected bicycle lane on Mollstraße, Berlin. Photo: Paul Zinken/dpa (Photo by Paul ...  
[+] PICTURE ALLIANCE VIA GETTY IMAGES

## **New Zealand First Country To Fund Pop-Up Bike Lanes, Widen Sidewalks During Lockdown**

New Zealand has become the first country to provide funding to make tactical urbanism into official government policy during the coronavirus pandemic. Tactical urbanism can involve many forms of interim improvements to the public realm, including creating or

widening sidewalks and bike lanes with brightly painted concrete blocks and planters.

[Read More...](#)

---



A spokeswoman said the pressure on Uber Eats drivers throughout the coronavirus period has been "immense". JAMES BRICKWOOD

### **'They Cross In Front Of The Car' – Surge In Sydney Food Couriers Raises Safety Concerns**

Food couriers are concerned about the number of new and inexperienced riders on Sydney's roads, with many cyclists signing up to delivery apps for the first time amid increased unemployment. Mr Goncalves said more new cyclists on the road meant a greater chance of an incident occurring between riders.

[Read More...](#)

---



Before: Typical traffic congestion during Thursday evening peak hour in Melbourne. After: Traffic congestion at the same time last Thursday. Data source: HERE Technologies

### **Road Toll Worse Than Last Year Despite COVID-19 Traffic Slump**

A drop in cars on the road may be encouraging some motorists to drive at higher speeds, and panic-buying of alcohol could be leading to increased drink-driving, a leading road safety expert has warned. Victoria's road toll has been higher than for the same period last year despite a drop in traffic due to COVID-19 restrictions.

[Read More...](#)

---



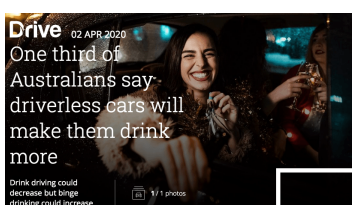
Up to 100 Ambulance Victoria paramedics are in isolation amid concerns some may have been exposed to the coronavirus. PAUL KOTZE

### **Paramedics Off The Road Amid Concerns Of Exposure To COVID-19**

Scores of paramedics are unable to work because of strict safety measures implemented by Ambulance Victoria to protect its staff and the public from exposure to COVID-19. Ambulance Victoria's Executive Director of Clinical Operations Mick Stephenson, has confirmed to The Age that 81 paramedics are currently unavailable but insists that none of its 6000 operational staff have tested positive to coronavirus.

[Read More...](#)

---



**Drive** 02 APR 2020  
One third of Australians say driverless cars will make them drink more

Drink driving could decrease but binge drinking could increase. 1/1 photos

### **One Third Of Australians Say Driverless Cars Will Make Them Drink More**

New research has found one third of Australians would drink more alcohol if they had access to an autonomous (self-driving) car. In a study published on March 2020, researchers from Perth's Curtin University surveyed 1334 Australian adults of legal driving age to ascertain how their access to autonomous vehicles (AVs) could impact their alcohol consumption habits.

[Read More...](#)

---



### **The Australian Road Safety Foundation Announces Winners Of The 9th Annual Australian Road Safety Awards**

The Australian Road Safety Foundation wishes to congratulate the award winners of the 9th Annual Australian Road Safety Awards.

[Read More...](#)

## **NRSPF Monthly Focus**

First there was unprecedented bush fires, then massive hail storms and now a COVID-19 pandemic. During these disasters and disruption organisations are forced to adapt and respond.

How leaders galvanise an organisation, drawing their workforce together and focusing on engaging everyone during this trying journey is reflective of the culture. What we have seen during this period of disruption is not only workers but the community all pulling together. The focus should be embedding these good behaviours in the hopes that they become the norm when things settle down. These situations have been forced on us, let's take advantage of this crisis to strengthen and build a stronger culture.

## **COVID-19 Thought Leadership**



**Where is my mind?**



Our response to Covid-19 has focussed on health and economic concerns. As the conversation turns to easing restrictions, these two factors will again guide decision making. One area where the same clarity of thinking is needed, and that already carries major health and economic costs for our community, is road safety.

The way we have lived our lives in recent weeks has been very different. While we've been hibernating, and the Earth has been healing itself, our interactions with the roads have potentially decreased or changed. I can't remember a time when Australians will have driven so little, and for so long. Footage of city centres around the world has shown normally congested streets bereft of traffic – something many of us may have previously wished for during peak hour frustration.

But what will happen when motorists – and pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists – return to the roads?

[Read More...](#)

1

**Open Road Syndrome: the new road safety virus?**  
27 April 2020

**Introduction**

The COVID-19 crisis has affected every aspect of daily life including road safety.

As the weeks and months have rolled by, traffic volumes and fatal crashes appear to have fallen but adverse driver behaviour such as drink driving and speeding are still a concern, perhaps more so now. At the same time, cars are sitting idle as walking and cycling increase.

This paper looks at the road safety by-products of coronavirus and with an eye towards the future.

**Traffic Volumes down**

One of the by-products of global government restrictions on personal movement has been a reduction in road travel, particularly personal trips in private cars and light vehicles.

Transurban, Australia's largest operator of toll roads, released its March Quarter 2020 Update to the Australia Stock Exchange on 16 April 2020 [1].

Included in the update were figures that showed the decline in average daily traffic (ADT) in each state. Between the weeks commencing 1 March 2020 and 5 April 2020, ADT in Sydney had fallen by 40%, Melbourne 53% and Brisbane 30%.

Large vehicle traffic on the Transurban network also fell but not to the same degree (Sydney 11%, Melbourne 14%, Brisbane 12%), underscoring how important the transport sector has been during the crisis.

On 16 April 2020, the Daily Telegraph said that "data from Transport for NSW shows traffic volumes on the road network across Sydney have fallen by about 55% over the past four weeks" [2].

We look to the release of traffic volume data for regional areas to see if travel on country roads has fallen to the same extent as those in Sydney but for now, make a note of that 55% reduction figure.

World Bank Head of Road Safety, Dr Soames Jide, recently wrote about reducing exposure to crashes and associated road trauma as it relates to reduced global road traffic [3].

**Reducing exposure to road transport.** While lockdowns have had enormous economic and social impacts, the benefits of reduced transport identified during lockdowns are profound and go beyond valuable decreases in road crash deaths and disabling injuries. These impacts on transport bring into sharp focus the value of exposure reduction as an intervention for road safety. Up to now, exposure reduction has been largely overlooked because road safety has been too narrowly focused on the road transport system itself.

As traffic volumes and exposure to road transport fall, we can look at available data for fatal crashes to see if fewer people are losing their lives.

Open Road Syndrome: the new road safety virus?

## Open Road Syndrome: the new road safety virus?

[Michael Timms](#) and [Sonia Roberts](#)

The COVID-19 crisis has affected every aspect of daily life including road safety.

As the weeks and months have rolled by, traffic volumes and fatal crashes appear to have fallen but adverse driver behaviour such as drink driving and speeding are still a concern, perhaps more so now. At the same time, cars are sitting idle as walking and cycling increase.

This paper looks at the road safety by-products of coronavirus and with an eye towards the future.

[Read More...](#)



## Driving for Better Business: COVID-19 Transport Toolkit

Driving for Better Business (DfBB) in partnership with FleetCheck has developed an ongoing series of videos and resources, giving you up to date indepth information and help as Covid-19 continues to develop.

[Read More...](#)



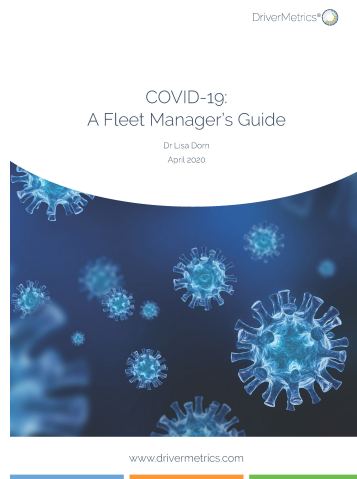
## Safer Together: COVID-19 Updates And Resource Library

Safer Together is working closely with APPEA to support the Australian Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Industry's response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

pandemic. We will be guided by APPEA COVID-19 Industry Protocol Framework - Onshore and Offshore. APPEA and Safer Together will reinforce and work concurrently with government public health arrangements.

[Read More...](#)

---



### COVID-19: A Fleet Manager's Guide

On March 5th 2020, the UK had the first death from COVID-19 and just 10 days later the World Health Organisation declared there was a pandemic. Within two weeks the UK went into lockdown and social distancing measures were put in place. Millions of people are now isolating for long periods of time with no end in sight. Many have seen their working lives and incomes suddenly come to an abrupt end as the economy shrinks.

[Read More...](#)

---



### Roads Australia Video "Adapting To The New Work Environment"

Roads Australia have released a new video "Staying Connected and Healthy in this New Work Environment."

[Read More...](#)

## NRSP Blog



## **Safety Culture And Factors Of Influence: How Is Your Own Organisation's Safety Culture?**

[Dr Darren Wishart](#)

Griffith University

While organisations aim to become leaders in their field, achieve suitable profit and increase market share in order to be successful within a global business environment, ensuring the safety of workers continues to be a key priority and at times a challenge. A primary process to increase safety across any organisation is to adopt comprehensive risk management approaches to mitigate hazards and risk along with complying with various legislative requirements. A comprehensive and well developed risk management approach to addressing safety concerns ensures a standardised process of work and contributes to the development of an organisation's safety culture.

Safety culture within an organisational context is often referred to as the shared beliefs, values and norms and ideas relating to safety (Guldenmund, 2000) and is viewed as absolutely crucial to defining the way in which safety is presented and integrated within an organisation's processes, management and employees' work. In simple terms safety culture can be referred to as "the way we do things around here" and can be both positive and negative towards safety. A safety culture of complacency within an organisational setting can result in disaster. Although aspects of safety culture are somewhat complex, history has demonstrated time and time again through learnings associated with disasters (e.g. refer to [APA Group webinar](#)), that safety culture is an extremely important contributing factor to the prevention of existence of workplace safety incidents.

To read the rest of the BLOG and we invite you to provide your comments please go to [NRSPB BLOG](#)

## NRSP #ThrowbackThursdays

### Take care of yourself this Easter break.

Be safe on the road, manage  
your personal space and mind  
your headspace.

*Try being virtually connected  
and not isolated.*



NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

### Vehicle hygiene is more important than ever.

Wash your hands and clean anything  
you touch in a vehicle at the start and  
end of each journey.

*Keep both yourself and your  
passengers safe from COVID-19.*

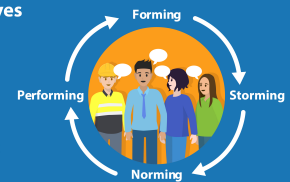
COVID-19: VEHICLE HYGIENE SHOULD NOW BE PART  
OF YOUR PRE-START CHECK PROCESS



NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

### Successful partnership development flow involves 4 key steps:

- 1) **Forming:** Setting the stage through orientation, testing and dependence
- 2) **Storming:** Intragroup conflict and tension based on resistance to group influence and task requirements
- 3) **Norming:** Openness to other group members, in-group cohesiveness developed
- 4) **Performing:** Roles become more flexible, functional and supportive



NRSP DISCUSSION PAPER: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND DEVELOPING NETWORKS

NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

## NRSP #DidYouKnow?

### DID YOU KNOW?

The way we drive is directly  
related to how we live.

Drivers who are more satisfied with  
their lives report less traffic violations.

WEBINAR: WE DRIVE THE WAY WE LIVE  
INSIGHTS INTO SAFER DRIVING AT WORK



NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

### DID YOU KNOW?

Trucks over 7.5m long displaying  
a **Do Not Overtake Turning Vehicle** sign  
are allowed to use **more than one lane** to turn.

*Be courteous and give them room.*

NRSP QUICK FACT: DO NOT OVERTAKE A TURNING VEHICLE



NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

### DID YOU KNOW?

Cycling 10km each way to work would  
save **\$1700 per year** in transport costs.

It also has physical and mental health  
benefits and is a great way to incorporate  
regular **exercise** into your busy day.

NRSP QUICK FACT: CYCLING



NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

### DID YOU KNOW?

Inactivity in Australia costs **\$13.8 billion**  
a year. Cycling can help  
to meet recommended activity  
levels and reduce this cost.

NRSP WEBINAR: THE SAFE COMMUTE - TIPS FOR CYCLISTS  
AND MOTORISTS ON SHARING THE ROAD SAFELY



NRSP  
NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY  
PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM

## NRSP Resources





# Formula Chemicals: Telematics, Toolboxes and Technology - Formula Chemicals' Three Ts Approach to Road Safety

A sustained focus on safety, built on a foundation of educating and communicating expectations to workers, translates into efficiency and other business benefits. While safety measures can be introduced progressively to build a safety culture over time, company leadership must lead by example.

[Read More...](#)



## NRSP Discussion Paper: In-Vehicle Monitoring Systems (IVMS): Safety Through Good Practice Telematics

The use of telematics, commonly known as In-Vehicle Monitoring Systems (IVMS), continues to grow through the Australian transportation industry as operators take advantage of both operational and safety benefits such technologies provide.

[Read More...](#)



## NRSP Thought Leadership: Funding Safety Improvement

A business needs customers to function but the business does not need unsafe customers as they impact profits. How to successfully manage unsafe customers and ensure the relationship is mutually beneficial are explored in this Thought Leadership Paper.

[Read More...](#)

## NRSP Thought Leadership: 'Just Culture' – The Key To An Effective Safety Culture

Organisational culture can be simply defined as 'the way things are done around here' – a strong 'safety culture' will value safe practices and ensure that they are sustained over time. The culture of organisation is what makes people passionate about going to work, believing



in their job and trusting their leaders.

[Read More...](#)



## Beyond Compliance: Strengthening The Safety Culture Of The Offshore Oil And Gas Industry

Beyond Compliance: Strengthening the Safety Culture of the Offshore Oil and Gas Industry summarizes recommendations to industry and regulators to strengthen and sustain the safety culture of the offshore oil and gas industry.

[Read More...](#)



## NRSP Thought Leadership: Driven To Distraction – How Technology And Regulations Are “Overloading” Drivers

Have you ever had that discussion where your partner insists 'I told you', and you are equally adamant that 'no you didn't'? The most likely scenario is that they did tell you but you were distracted at the time. In a similar way, drivers overloaded by expanding technology and regulations are being driven to distraction, which can have a major impact on safety.

[Read More...](#)

## Metropolitan Express Transport Services: Prioritising Safety Drives Major Savings In Operating Costs

‘Safety is our number one priority.’ It’s a common claim but rarely do companies live the motto like METS. Metropolitan Express Transport Services has created many of its own safety innovations, which are used in its own fleet without hindering drivers’ everyday practices, reflecting a company-wide focus on safety that drivers



support and has cut insurance costs in half.

[Read More...](#)



### Webinar: APA Group's Case Study On Safety Culture In A H&S Strategy

NRSPP Manager, Jerome Carslake, chatted with APA Group's Head of HSE Keith Hoskins about his case study on safety culture in a health and safety strategy and the framework APA Group has applied to further enhance it.

[Read More...](#)



### Toll NQX – Focus On In-Vehicle Cameras Propels Safety Culture

When leading road transport provider Toll NQX, part of Toll Group, installed in-vehicle camera systems in its long haul fleet in mid-2011, it was not expecting to shake the conventional wisdom that speed and fatigue are the greatest safety risks for truck drivers. Today, it has compelling evidence that driver distraction also poses a significant incident risk. This insight is changing the way Toll NQX operates its fleet, manages risk, and engages with drivers and contractors.

[Read More...](#)



### Webinar: How Telematics Can Improve Driver Behaviour And Safety Culture

Southern Cross Protection have been using telematics as part of their driver safety program for 5 years. They commenced using the telematics safe driving reports and statistics to monitor driver behaviour in 2014 following an initial assessment which identified the company had crashed 83% of it's vehicles in the previous calendar year.

[Read More...](#)

## Events



### **Spotlight On... Driver Mental Health And Wellbeing**

**May 6, 2020**

Professional drivers face a number of common challenges, and newer challenges relating to COVID-19, that can affect their mental health. Fleet managers need to be aware of the signs that their drivers are struggling with mental health issues so that they can help to manage the risks and get them the support they need.

[Read More...](#)

---



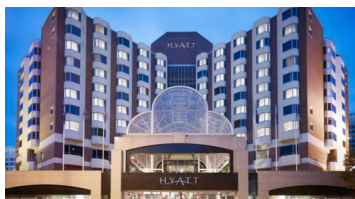
### **Step Up For Safe Streets: Safe Systems For Fleet Managers**

**May 7, 2020**

Every road death and injury is a preventable tragedy, and the best way to prevent them is by designing roads, vehicles and policies in such a way that human error doesn't lead to death or serious injury. This design philosophy, known as the 'safe systems approach' to road safety, is available to us now and there are lots of ways that fleets can support and adopt safe systems.

[Read More...](#)

---



### **CILT-International Convention Perth 2020**

**October 18-21, 2020**

For only the second time in 85 years, the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Australia (CILTA) has been awarded the CILT-International Conference. Representatives from nearly 40 countries will descend on Perth from October 18-21.

[Read More...](#)

## Useful Webpages

- [COVID-19 Transport Toolkit | Driving for Better Business](#)
- [COVID-19 Library - Resources | Safer Together - Natural Gas Exploration & Production Industry Safety](#)
- [Free COVID-19 Hygiene Awareness for Truck & Delivery Drivers Training](#)



# NRSPP Program Funders



*Copyright © 2020 National Road Safety Partnership Program, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).