



Welcome to WTI NewsWire!

Here's the quick update to what is going on at [WTI](#) this week. Remember to keep sending new ideas and to share what WTI is doing.

News



Road Ecology Researchers Take the Spotlight at International Conference

In September, the Infra Eco Network Europe (IENE) held its International Conference in the Netherlands, focusing on the theme of "Crossing borders for a greener and sustainable transport infrastructure." WTI's Road Ecology staff members were front and center throughout the 5-day event, presenting their research and experience on wildlife crossings, habitat connectivity, and related topics to more than 300 attendees from around the world.

[Tony Clevenger](#) had the distinction of presenting a keynote address on his 17 years of research in Banff National Park, which IENE described as "one of the best testing sites of innovative highway mitigation in the world." He also gave a presentation on emerging wildlife mitigation and policy in Latin America. [Rob Ament](#) led a workshop and gave a presentation on the impact of international transportation policy on the development of wildlife friendly roads, and gave a "lightening talk" on the potential for using plastic bridges for wildlife crossings. Perhaps the busiest staff member at the conference, [Marcel Huijser](#) served on the planning committee for this international event, facilitated a workshop on wildlife mitigation performance, presented on wildlife crossing structures and fencing on US 93, led a lightening talk on the reliability of species identification data, and presented a poster on the impact of short and narrow roads on wildlife vehicle collisions.



New Projects

Helping DOTs Create a Strong Safety Culture

Many state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) have adopted the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) vision as part of their work towards the elimination of fatal and serious injury crashes. These efforts are facilitated when a DOT has a strong, internal safety culture of its own.

The Center for Health and Safety Culture (CHSC) has initiated a research program to grow a strong safety culture among a cohort of DOTs by providing tools and guidance to assess and transform organizational safety culture to support safety programs and achieve the TZD vision. These resources will include:

- A standard measurement tool to assess the safety culture of each participating DOT;
- A set of relevant strategies and a process for transforming identified aspects of the safety culture of the DOT;
- A range of support services to help guide and support implementation; and
- An evaluation of the effectiveness of the implemented transformation process.

CHSC will work with each DOT to develop and implement individualized tools. This project will launch the effort with the North Dakota Department of Transportation, the first DOT to join the cohort study. CHSC will provide research services to NDDOT and administer the NDDOT Safety Culture Training which encourages new resources and novel strategies to work towards the elimination of fatal and serious injury crashes.

As the project progresses, more information will be available on the [CHSC website](#) and the WTI [project page](#).

Title: Transforming the Safety Culture to Achieve the “Towards Zero Deaths” Vision
Start: July 1, 2018 **End:** Sept 30, 2019 **PI:** Nic Ward **Source:** ND DOT

CHSC to Develop Safety Culture Training Modules

Transportation, law enforcement, and public health organizations are showing growing interest in incorporating the principles of traffic safety culture into their safety programs. As a result, there is new demand for training materials on these topics for engineers, planners, emergency responders, public health professionals, and other practitioners.

Through this project, the Center for Health and Safety Culture will create three safety culture trainings for safety staff. The training modules will cover the basics of safety culture, organizational safety culture and road user safety culture. CHSC will develop supporting materials, such as a facilitator guide, videos, interactive handouts, and assessment tools. These modules will be made available to the Local Technical Assistance Programs (LTAPs) in each state, expanding access to culture-based training throughout the country.

As the project progresses, more information will be available on the [CHSC website](#) and the WTI [project page](#).

Title: Safety Culture Training for Safety Staff
Start: Aug 1, 2018 **End:** March 31, 2019 **PI:** Jay Otto **Source:** FHWA

Event Reminders

Low Volume Roads Conference Announces Call for Papers

Interested in participating in the International Conference on Low Volume Roads, which WTI will host in Montana in 2019? The call for papers is open until November.

The Transportation Research Board is soliciting papers for the upcoming 12th International Conference on Low Volume Roads (LVR). For the first time, this conference is offering two levels of submission covering any relevant topic related to low volume roads:

1. Research-Level and Practice-Ready Papers
2. Extended Abstracts/Synopses

For more information about the two types of papers, as well as deadlines and formatting requirements, visit the [Call for Papers](#) page. There is a broad range of suggested topics, including safety, design, sustainability, technology, and workforce development. For more information on the conference itself, view the announcement on the [WTI website](#) or contact [Laura Fay](#).

CHSC Webinars Announced for Fall

Get out your calendars! The Center for Health and Safety Culture (CHSC) is offering a full schedule of **FREE** webinars on topical safety and culture issues this fall and winter:

Center for Health & Safety Culture

- October 3, 2018: *Engaging Workplaces to Improve Health and Safety*
- October 30, 2018: *Leadership Skills to Improve Health and Safety*
- November 20, 2018: *Psychological Reactance and Communication*
- December 18, 2019: *Reducing Underage Drinking with Practical Tools that Develop Social and Emotional Skills*
- January 16, 2019: *Communication: A Catalyst for Growing Positive Culture*
- February 12, 2019: *Moving Beyond Bystander Engagement: Growing Citizenship to Improve Health and Safety*

For descriptions and registration details, visit the [CHSC Webinars page](#)

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