



Building the European Road Safety Observatory *the SafetyNet Project*

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European Accident Investigation
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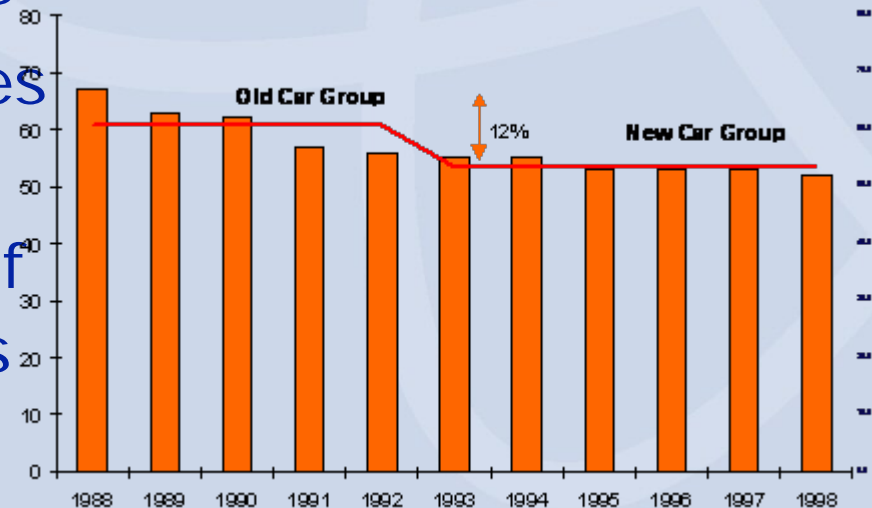


Project co-financed by the European Commission, Directorate-General Transport & Energy

<http://www.erso.eu>

Road Safety Priorities – National Level data

- International comparisons
- Counting crashes, fatalities and casualties
- Monitoring the progress of casualty reduction actions
- Identifying overall priorities for safety countermeasures
- Allocation of resources



Supporting Highway Design Policies – In-depth Data

- Highway design requirements
- Requirements for ITS
- System interactions eg vehicle and barrier



Supporting Road User related Policies – In-depth Data

- Effectiveness of enforcement measures
- Understanding driver decision making
- New priorities in accident prevention



Supporting Active and Passive Vehicle Safety Policies – In-depth Data

- Feedback on existing safety systems
- Development of new systems
- Support for Industry – new products and technologies
- New priorities in regulation
- Assessment of non-regulatory activities e.g. Euro-NCAP




EuroNCAP

Accident data is an essential part of casualty reduction

- Government - policy support
- Industry - product development



What are the different levels of accident data



Level	Availability at EU level	Functions
Base Level	CARE IRTAD	Priorities Trends Progress to targets
Intermediate level	No	Identification of blame Reconstruction of pre-crash events
In-Depth level	Pendant for injury causation Nothing for accident causation	Accident causation Injury causation Basic research Engineering feedback Technical standards
Specialist	Various research studies	Specific research questions

No single database can meet all needs

EC White Paper 2001

WHITE PAPER



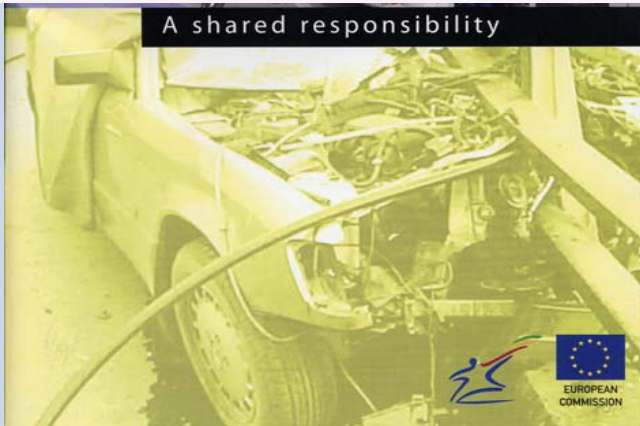
European transport policy for 2010:
time to decide

EC Road Safety Action Plan 2003



5.6.5. European road safety observatory

The Commission intends to set up a European road safety observatory within the Commission as a pilot project funded from the EU budget. This observatory will coordinate all Community activities in the fields of road accident and injury data collection and analysis.



What is SafetyNet?

- **Integrated Project to build the data framework of the Observatory**
- **Primarily directed to EU and national level road safety policymaking**
- **Infrastructure safety**
- **Support to eSafety initiative**



Organisations involved

Partnership

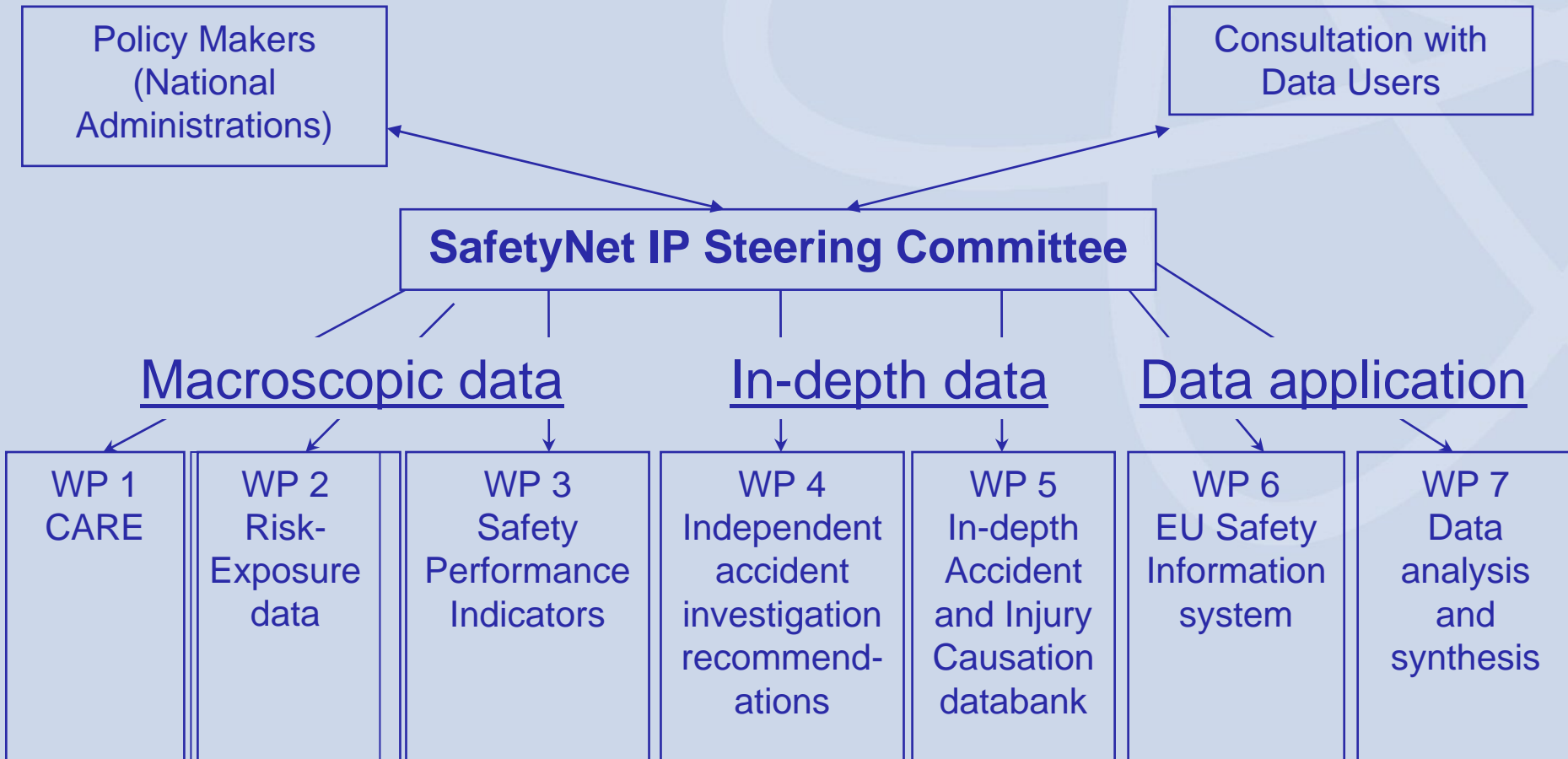
- 21 Partners
- 18 Countries

Project Steering Committee

- Vehicle Safety Research Centre, Loughborough University, UK
- National Technical University of Athens, Greece
- Centre d'Etudes Technique de l'Equipement du Sud Ouest, France
- SWOV Institute for Road Safety Research, Netherlands
- Institut National de Recherche sur les Transports et leur Sécurité, France
- Institut Belge pour la Sécurité Routière, Belgium
- Instituto Nacional de Engenharia Civil, Portugal

- Medical University of Hanover

Work Package overview



Macroscopic Data

CARE Database

- Extend to 10 new Member States of EU
- Produce new statistical reviews and fact sheets
- Estimate under-reporting

Exposure data

- Develop new protocols for disaggregated exposure data
- Prepare pilot measures

Safety Performance Indicators

- Define protocol for SPI
- Evaluate availability in MS
- Gather and prepare SPIs



In-depth data

Accident Investigation procedures

- Recommendations for transparent and independent accident investigation

Fatal Accident data

- 1000 cases of fatal crashes from 6 countries
- Around 150 fields of information

In-depth Accident Causation data

- 1100 cases investigated using specialist teams
- Around 500 fields of information
- Accident causation determined using systems failure approach
- Link to infrastructure and eSafety



Recommendations for transparent and independent accident investigation

Why Investigate Accidents

- Judicial process – **“Who is at fault?”**
 - Normally police and court experts
 - Can be basis for scientific learning
 - Outside the scope of the Observatory



Why Investigate Accidents?

- Public interest – **“Why did this happen?”**
 - Comparable process to aviation, rail and maritime investigations
- Accident prevention – **“What can we do to prevent further crashes?”**
 - Systematic investigation on scene or retrospective
 - Statistical samples of crash investigations



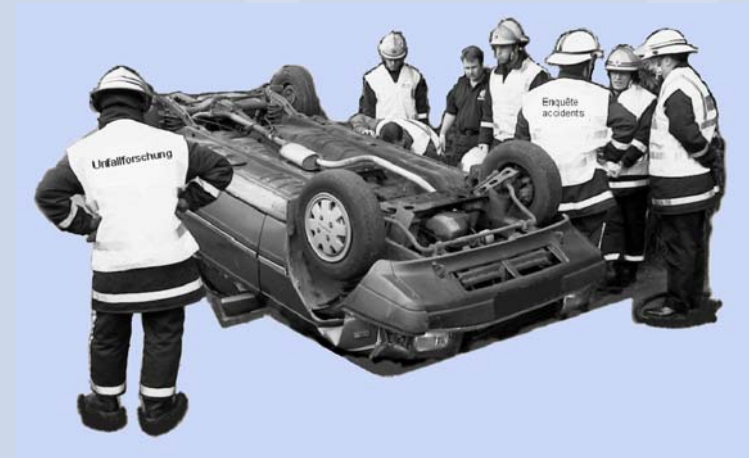
Where does the data come from?

Macroscopic data

- Huge support from Member States and Commission (CARE and SPI national experts groups)
- Eurostat (Exposure data)

In-depth and fatal data

- New protocols with expert investigating teams



Overview of the Observatory

www.erso.eu

Summary

- SafetyNet is a large ambitious project
- Observatory launched May 2006 – www.erso.eu
- For the first time it brings a broad ranging, co-ordinated set of accident data together
- It will become a core activity of the EC
- Wide support to road safety policy, new resources for Government and Industry
- ERSO will grow and broaden – feedback needed please



Acknowledgements

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- EU Member States for providing data
- SafetyNet partnership for contributing to the project so positively

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<http://www.vsrc.org.uk>

<http://www.erso.eu>