



Dear ASIRT friends and supporters,

Fall brings with it exciting new transitions as well as a return to familiar routines. It is most important that during these months we do not become overly complacent as drivers and pedestrians. Returning to our work and school environments provides us with an excellent opportunity to review the routes on which we travel and be aware of:

- Construction and changes in road patterns
- New signage or bus stops
- School bus routes and schedules
- Large numbers of young children walking to and from school
- Increased numbers of pedestrians and cyclists
- Student drivers
- The danger of distracted driving
- Sudden changes in weather and road conditions

Despite many improvements in vehicle safety and enforcement of laws, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA recently revealed that U.S. traffic deaths rose 9 percent in the first half of 2012 compared with the same period last year, breaking a 5-year downward trend. Road traffic crashes killed 16,290 people from January through June, the most since 2009. Experts are not sure about the cause of the increase, but after a sixty-year steady decline in road deaths, this alarming new statistic reinforces the need for constant vigilance on the roads. [Learn more.](#)

Education Abroad

Colleges and universities now recognize the importance of minimizing risks for students and faculty travelling abroad. ASIRT Education Abroad members include Dartmouth College, University of Georgia, Ithaca College, Madison Area Technical College, College of William & Mary, George Washington University and Yale University. Risk managers, study abroad administrators and faculty leaders can learn about ASIRT's programs and resources at www.asirt.org.

Safety Tips Back-to-School



School buses are one of the safest forms of transportation on the road today. In fact, according to NHTSA, riding a bus to school is 13 times safer than riding in a passenger vehicle and 10 times safer than walking to school. Click [here](#) for The National Safety Council's tips for safely sharing the roads with school buses.

Night Travel and Daylight Savings Information

- Wear reflective clothing at night, bright clothing by day.
- In winter, roads may be moist during the day, but ice-covered at night.
- When abroad: Avoid night road travel in countries with poor safety records and/or mountainous terrain.
- The first Monday after Daylight Savings time has a higher rate of heart attacks, traffic accidents and workplace injuries. [Learn more.](#)

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Sincerely,

Rochelle

Rochelle Sobel

"An ASIRT Education Abroad Membership is an excellent investment for our program. Membership allows us to access all of ASIRT's resources, and to make their country-specific Road Travel Reports available to our students and faculty. These are extremely detailed and provide excellent information to help our students and faculty plan road travel within the countries where we operate. ASIRT resources have also been very useful in developing student orientation and faculty training programs. I really am so impressed by the resources that ASIRT compiles and offers its members."

Anne T. Ogilvie, Director of Global Operations
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Rochelle Sobel Featured in New Public Health

Faces of Public Health is the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's recurring editorial series featuring individuals working on the front lines of public health and helping keep people healthy and safe. In the August 24, 2012 issue, Rochelle discusses the progress ASIRT is making to save lives on the roads. [Read the full article.](#)

Road Safety in 10 Countries

RS10 is the acronym for the road safety project that Bloomberg Philanthropies is funding in 10 low- and middle-income countries. ASIRT is one of 6 partners selected to address road traffic injuries in specific areas around the globe. ASIRT's Rochelle Sobel presents the details of the initiative in the June issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*. An excerpt is available [here](#).

Road Safety Advocacy Workshop for NGOs

Twenty representatives from 10 of Kenya's lead road safety NGOs participated in the three-day workshop, held in Nairobi 27-29 August 2012. Workshop topics included: understanding the political process, a theoretical overview of advocacy as skill-building exercises for the development of advocacy actions plans and working in networks and coalitions. ASIRT will continue to provide support to the participants as they move toward establishing a formal collaborative effort of road safety activities in Kenya. Preliminary areas of work include: (1) including language in current parliamentary initiatives addressing the compliance with helmet standards; (2) reduction of speed limits around schools and built-up areas; (3) making road safety a national issue in the political discourse during the upcoming national elections.



NGOs Promote Road Safety

The Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety was formally established in 2011 to represent the voice of road safety NGOs around the world. ASIRT helped launch this important organization and now serves on its Board of Directors. Visit the roadsafetyngos.org website for updates and activities about road safety.

Like ASIRT

Be sure to like us on [Facebook](#) to learn how to stay safe while traveling abroad, read latest updates in the road safety world and keep up with ASIRT's activities.



Corporate Highlight: Shell

"Shell uses ASIRT's Road Travel Reports in conjunction with our own logistics and road safety reports when we consider new business opportunities in a country. We have commissioned ASIRT to develop reports for countries for which they had not issued one, benefiting Shell and ASIRT. Also, we acquire and distribute paper copies of relevant country reports to help raise road safety awareness at key project locations."

Richard Finch, Delivery Manager Logistics and Infrastructure Operations Excellence
Mike Watson, Global Road Safety Manager
Shell Upstream International BV



Road Travel Report Update

Visiting, working or studying in an unfamiliar area? [Purchase](#) a Road Travel Report, RTR, to become familiar with seasonal road conditions, driver behaviors, local laws and other important details about your destination. RTRs are available for more than 140 countries. Recently updated reports include Belgium, Benin, China, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Contact asirt@asirt.org for more information.

Save the Dates

Sunday, November 18, 2012:

World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims. [Link](#) to ASIRT's online event and launch of the Wall of Remembrance.

Monday, May 20, 2013:

ASIRT Annual Fundraising Gala, Washington, DC.

www.asirt.org asirt@asirt.org [Donate](#)



