



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: June 3, 2013

In reply refer to: H-13-01 through -04
H-12-32, -33, and -43 (Reiterations)

The Honorable David L. Strickland
Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Washington, DC 20590

On May 14, 2013, the NTSB adopted its safety report concerning alcohol-impaired driving, which addressed a variety of safety issues associated with alcohol-impaired driving and described countermeasures to prevent crashes caused by alcohol-impaired drivers.¹ This safety report and the resulting recommendations may be accessed at our website, <http://www.nts.gov>, under report number NTSB/SR-13/01.

In this report, the NTSB issued four new recommendations to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

H-13-01

Seek legislative authority to award incentive grants for states to establish a per se blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit of 0.05 or lower for all drivers who are not already required to adhere to lower BAC limits.

H-13-02

Develop and disseminate to the states best practices for increasing alcohol ignition interlock installation and compliance that are based on recent National Highway Traffic Safety Administration research.

H-13-03

Create incentives for states to adopt the alcohol ignition interlock best practices developed in response to Safety Recommendation H-13-02.

¹ For more information, see *Reaching Zero: Actions to Eliminate Alcohol-Impaired Driving*, Safety Report NTSB/SR-13/01 (Washington, DC: National Transportation Safety Board, 2013), available online at <http://www.nts.gov>.

H-13-04

Develop and disseminate to the states best practices for driving while intoxicated (DWI) courts.

In addition, the NTSB reiterated the three recommendations listed below concerning the issue of impaired driving, which we issued to NHTSA in 2012. To underscore the importance of this safety topic, as reflected in the newly adopted *Reaching Zero* safety report, we are reiterating these relatively recent recommendations because they are key elements in the effort to eliminate impaired driving.

H-12-32

Develop and disseminate to the 50 states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia blood alcohol concentration (BAC) testing and reporting guidelines based on the 2012 report *State Blood Alcohol Concentration Testing and Reporting for Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes: Current Practices, Results, and Strategies, 1997–2009*.

H-12-33

Develop and disseminate to appropriate state officials a common standard of practice for drug toxicology testing, including (1) the circumstances under which tests should be conducted, (2) a minimum set of drugs for which to test, and (3) cutoff values for reporting the results.

H-12-43

Work with the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety, Inc., to accelerate widespread implementation of Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety (DADSS) technology by (1) defining usability testing that will guide driver interface design and (2) implementing a communication program that will direct driver education and promote public acceptance.

Safety Recommendations H-12-32 and -33 are in “Open—Acceptable Response” status, and Safety Recommendation H-12-43 is in “Open—Await Response” status.

Chairman HERSMAN, Vice Chairman HART, and Members SUMWALT, ROSEKIND, and WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Deborah A.P. Hersman,
Chairman