ROAD SAFETY

ITS realises the need to integrate road safety into the planning and development of new roads as well as the upgrading of existing roads, because dangerous roads have an impact on the development objective of a suburb, township or City they’re planned for.

The effect that roads have on communities, especially in the rural areas and poorer communities is recognised. ITS does not only focus on road safety in infrastructure design, but also on the safety of the communities who live around it or make use of it.

Road Safety is not only viewed as a technical topic, but one that lies close at heart. One of ITS’s largest goals is to be able to contribute to safer roads in South Africa by promoting road safety.

Key focus areas are:

Road traffic safety assessment

Local authorities are in great need of directives to identify road safety problems in the communities and to identify solutions. The road safety situation in urban and rural communities can be assessed by means of a programme involving community members and focusing on the different disciplines involved in road safety management. It is a community based approach which involves all relevant role players.

Traffic safety education and awareness

The national road safety education programme is not implemented by schools and educators to the level that is expected of them.

Specially developed training sessions are used to equip educators of learners in Gr. 1-9 to understand the importance of road safety education in the school curriculum. The role and use of relevant road safety education programmes are also explained.

Pedestrian safety management

The national pedestrian safety management plan requires provinces to identify the most hazardous locations and to implement solutions.

These hazardous locations can be identified through the use of a toolkit that also includes directives on identifying solutions.

Traffic safety management

The role of traffic related injuries and deaths have been highlighted by the World Health Organisation. The provision of information on international good practice guidelines has become increasingly important and is made available to institutions responsible for road safety management.

Traffic safety training and development

In the absence of accredited training focusing on road safety management, road safety professionals can improve their road safety management skills through tailor-made road safety orientation workshops.

Advice is provided regarding national training needs and opportunities.