



## Call for Abstracts

# First International Conference on Driver Distraction and Inattention

28-29 September, 2009

Lindholmen Conference Centre, Lindholmen Science Park, Lindholmospiren 5  
Gothenburg, Sweden

**Abstracts due 15 April, 2009**

**SAFER**  
VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC SAFETY CENTRE AT CHALMERS



Institut national de recherche  
sur les transports et leur sécurité

## The conference:

It has been estimated that up to 80 percent of crashes and 65 percent of near-crashes involve inattention as a contributing factor, and that distraction is a factor in about a quarter of these. Distraction and inattention are therefore significant road safety problems, around the world. The contribution of distraction as a factor in road trauma is likely to increase as more distractions, inside and outside the vehicle, compete for driver attention. Simultaneously as the role of distraction and inattention in traffic safety is becoming clearer, there is an intensified development of countermeasures, and an intensified focus on the fundamental science of attention in modern neuroscience research. This conference aims to bring together stakeholders from these different fields.

Driver distraction and inattention are complex, multi-dimensional, problems. Consequently, management of them requires concerted action by multiple stakeholders – vehicle designers, traffic engineers, road and transport safety authorities, the police, the media, motoring clubs, equipment manufacturers and suppliers, standards organizations, road safety bodies, driver trainers, academics and others.

This international conference, the first to focus on these issues, comes at a critical time, when many stakeholders are only just beginning to recognize the importance of distraction and inattention as transport safety issues. The conference aims to bring participants up-to date on recent developments in the field, to bring into the spotlight developments in research from neighbouring disciplines that have an important bearing on the problem, and to showcase new and emerging technologies, products and other countermeasures which have significant potential to prevent or mitigate distraction and inattention. It will be a key event for anyone working on these topics.

The conference will run over two days:

- Day 1 – Keynote, presentations and conference dinner (AM/PM/evening)
- Day 2 - Keynote and presentations (AM/PM)
- Day 2 - Special Session – “Priorities for countermeasure development” (PM)

The conference Scientific Committee welcomes abstracts (500 words or less) for papers and presentations from interested persons from all stakeholder groups, from all modes of transport (land, air and sea) and from any relevant discipline, including but not limited to: psychology, neuropsychology, neuroscience, human factors, ergonomics, medicine, epidemiology, design, engineering, the law, sociology, management and administration. Submissions from industry are especially welcome.

## Abstract preparation:

The abstract should describe:

1. The issue(s) addressed/to be addressed.
2. Methods used/to be used.
3. Key findings/Expected findings.
4. Key conclusions
5. Whether you wish to give a paper or non-paper presentation (see below).

Please include abstract title, name(s), title(s), organization(s), address(s), phone (first author only), fax (first author only) and email address (first author only) on the first page of your abstract. Abstracts describing work in progress are also welcome.

Non-paper presentations are invited from persons who do not wish to prepare a paper. However, it is necessary for all interested persons to prepare and submit an abstract.

Specific topics of interest to the Scientific Committee are listed below, although this should not discourage submissions on other relevant topics:

*Theory:*

- Definition of distraction and inattention
- Mechanisms of distraction and inattention
- Models of distraction and inattention

*Impact:*

- Effects on driving performance
- Effects on crashes and near-misses
- Effects on crash risk
- Factors mediating impact (eg age, experience, gender)
- Measurement of distraction and inattention
- Measurement of public perceptions about distraction and inattention

*Countermeasures:*

- Legislation and enforcement
- Company policies
- Vehicle design
- Real-time distraction prevention and mitigation systems
- Technology design
- Nomadic device design
- Road design
- Education and training
- Promotion/Advertising
- Driver licensing
- Transport policy

### **Abstract submission:**

The Committee will accept e-mail abstract submissions prepared in PDF format and forwarded as an attachment to your email. The title of the file should be YOUR NAME. In exceptional circumstances, the Committee will accept submissions by mail or fax.

Abstracts should be submitted by email, by 15 April 2009, to:

Adjunct Prof. Michael Regan  
Research Director  
French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research (INRETS)  
Lyon, France  
E-mail: michael.regan@inrets.fr  
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Fax: +33 (0)7214 2437

(Please title your email "Distraction and Inattention Conference – Abstract Submission")

### **Critical dates:**

Abstracts due – 15 April 2009.

Authors will be notified by 15 May 2009 if their abstracts have been selected for further development into a paper for presentation at the conference, or for presentation as a non-paper. Papers will be limited to 7,500 words and are due by 15 July, 2009. Further information about paper submission will be available shortly at the conference website (see below).

Authors will be notified by 30 August 2009 if their papers have been selected for publication in a peer-reviewed chapter for a peer-reviewed book (see below).

### Review Process:

A Scientific Committee is currently being convened, comprising around 15 international experts in the field. The Scientific Committee will review all papers received, and will invite selected authors to consider having their paper published as a peer-reviewed chapter in a book to be published in 2010 by a well-known international publishing house. In some cases, this may require some minor modification of the paper.

Papers not selected for publication in the abovementioned book, and abstracts for all non-paper presentations, will be published in CD ROM conference proceedings, which will be available at the conference. Abstracts for papers chosen for publication in the book will also appear in the conference proceedings.

### Conference Organisers:

**SAFER** Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre at Chalmers is a joint research unit where 22 partners from the Swedish automotive industry, academia and authorities cooperate to form a centre of excellence within the field of vehicle and traffic safety. SAFER is situated in Lindholmen Science Park in Göteborg, Sweden.

**The French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research (INRETS)**, based on the outskirts of Lyon, in France, is a public research institute jointly supervised by ministries in charge of transport and science. It is principally active in the area of land transport, but also has involvement in air and sea transport.

SAFER and INRETS have pleasure in jointly organising and hosting the conference.

### More information:

Guidelines for paper submission, and all other information about the conference, including registration procedures and fees, will be available shortly at the conference website at <http://www.chalmers.se/safer/driverdistraction-en>

The number of attendees will be limited to 150, so early registration is essential.

All inquiries, and registrations of interest in attending the conference (from those not wishing to present a paper, or give a presentation), should be directed to:

Ms Lisa Knutsson  
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Göteborg, Sweden  
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We hope that you will be able to join us at this important international transport safety event.

**Michael A. Regan, PhD**  
INRETS, France/  
SAFER – Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre at Chalmers,  
Sweden

**Trent W. Victor, PhD**  
Volvo Technology Corporation/  
SAFER – Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre at Chalmers,  
Sweden

**Co-Chairs**  
**Organising Committee**  
**First International Conference on Driver Distraction and Inattention**

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