



Updating the Action Plan

RSAC

April 27, 2004

Action Plan

- Issued in June 1994
 - FRA, FHWA, NHSTA & FTA
 - 55 specific items
 - Crossing violations – serious CDL offenses
 - Incentives for crossing closures
 - Reduce collisions and fatalities by 50% in 10 years
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6 Categories

- Law Enforcement
 - Corridor reviews and improvements
 - Educations and OL
 - Private crossings
 - Data and research
 - Trespass
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Results

	Fatalities	Incidents
1994	579	4633
2003*	324	2919
% change	- 44%	- 37%

* Preliminary

Approach to the Update

- Continue existing themes and add new ideas
 - Opportunity to promote the importance of crossing safety and trespass prevention
 - Success stories
 - Outreach to safety partners
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Format

- More general in nature
 - Use illustrative examples
 - May have target dates but many objectives will be on-going
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New Action Plan

Includes the following:

Establish Responsibility for Safety at Private Crossings

- Hold a series of public workshops to gather information on the current state of safety at private grade crossings, and to identify known safety needs (1st quarter 2006)
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Advance Engineering Standards and New Technology

- Provide guidance information on the use of traffic channelization devices at grade crossings (end of 2006)
 - Update to the existing TWG guidance document including guidance on when to use 4 quadrant gates vs. gates with traffic channelization (end of 2007)
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Advance Engineering Standards and New Technology

- DOT will undertake an investigation, in concert with its partners, to determine the effect of system age and technical characteristics of existing crossing devices on crossing safety program planning (end of 2007)
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Expand Educational Outreach

- Develop internet-based interactive grade crossing safety educational tools for use by commercial vehicle drivers (end of 2005)
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Energize Enforcement

- FRA will publish a report on the trespass prevention initiative at Pittsford, NY (end of 2005)
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Close Unneeded Crossings

- FRA will update of its grade crossing consolidation and closure manual (end of 2004)
 - Make available a compilation of pedestrian safety devices in use at grade crossings (end of 2005)
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Improve Data, Analysis, and Research

- Develop data and perform analysis of demographic information related to trespass incidents (end of 2005)
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Emergency Notification Systems

- Publish a report documenting the benefits realized from the software developed to manage the ENS system (end of 2004)
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Issue Safety Standards

- Complete the rulemaking that would require retro-reflective material on the sides of freight rolling stock (end of 2005)
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Evaluate Current Safety Efforts for Effectiveness

- Determine the effectiveness of the principal grade crossing collision mitigations to ensure that “best practices” are identified, and that emphasis and support for these programs and projects is maintained (end of 2006)
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Progress

- Report has been finalized
 - Should be delivered to Congress soon
 - Will be available on FRA's web site
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Thank You

- We appreciate all of the input that we received during this process.
 - Action Plan is a better document because of your help.
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Further Information

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