



Image source: Safe System Solutions Pty Ltd

FACTSHEET 20

LOWER SPEED LIMITS

The management of speed is an integral part of the Safe System. Speed is a particularly important issue in regional and remote areas as speed limits are often high and do not reflect the risks associated with travelling on roads with variable conditions and hazards. Over time the population has become accustomed to driving at high speeds and negating this practice requires long term, ongoing strategies.

Implementation considerations

- Changes to posted speed limits must be in accordance with guidelines for setting speed limits prepared by state road authorities.
- Selection of the spatial limits of a speed limit review is a critically important step. Select spatial limits that include full road links or homogeneous segments within a road link.
- Consider the benefits of a network-wide speed limit review program. A network level review program supports the consistency and therefore credibility of speed limits.
- Prior to commencing a speed limit review, ensure that adequate resources are allocated for data collection activities.
- Ensure that a site visit is completed to identify existing risks that may not be captured in the speed setting process. Speed setting guidelines typically address setting speed limits at higher risk locations.
- Consider the use of lower speed limits which are to be in place until improvements are made to provide a safer road.
- Consider community consultation and public education required to support proposed speed limit changes.
- Consider the ability to practically enforce lower speed limits, particularly over long distances.

Effectiveness

Moderate (25-40% CRF)

Target road user groups

All vehicle drivers

Inter-pillar link

Safe vehicles - Advanced Driver Assist Systems



Scan the QR code to access the full library of 21 factsheets.

