

AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEMS

2.0

A Vision for Safety

Overview of New Voluntary Guidance

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U.S. Department of Transportation





Purpose of NHTSA's New Voluntary Guidance

- Show Federal leadership and provide support in the absence of Federal standards.
- Support industry and States, as they consider innovative approaches to safety and develop best practices.
- Send a clearer message that the Federal government will continue to govern vehicles and vehicle equipment.
- Add transparency to complicated and new technologies for consumers.
- Reemphasize that NHTSA's priority is the safe testing and deployment of Automated Vehicles.



How does this compare to the previous guidance from 2016?

- Responds to public comments, keeps the best safety elements, and deletes premature and burdensome items.
- Represents an evolutionary approach by streamlining, clarifying, and emphasizing the voluntary nature.
- New assistance for State legislatures.
- Improved guidance as States consider testing and in-use regulations.



What is in this Voluntary Guidance?

The new Voluntary Guidance encourages:

- Companies to consider and document their consideration of 12 safety elements (e.g., crash protection, cybersecurity, and public education).
- Companies to make available to the public a summary of how they addressed safety.
- State legislatures to consider four best practices when they consider legislative action.
- State Highway Safety Officials to consider seven best practices for administering testing and operation.



Best Practices for State Legislatures

NHTSA recommends safety-related best practices when crafting legislation:

- Provide a “technology-neutral” environment
- Provide licensing and registration procedures
- Provide reporting and communications methods for Public Safety Officials
- Review traffic laws and regulations that may serve as barriers to operation of ADSs

Next Steps

- Socialize new guidance.
- Implement NHTSA activities to remove regulatory barriers.
- Conduct additional activities around job impact, insurance, public safety officials, and other related issues.



DISCUSSION

Dee Williams
Vehicle Safety Technology Program Manager
dee.williams@dot.gov, 202/366-8537



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