Getting the most out of the Road Safety Audit process

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Introducing the Players

Road Safety Audits are conducted by more than just a team of auditors!

There are project managers, designers, and contractors involved as well.

Every role is important

For the process to work, all involved must adopt the right attitude, and fulfil the requirements of their part.

Looking at each role...

Safety Auditors

- Need to identify risks
- Changes to the guide focus on risks, but adopt a simple analysis based on worst outcome
- Can fail to identify risks:
  - Fear of exaggerating
  - Complacency
  - Lack of experience

Client Project Manager

- Manages the audit:
  - Chooses and engages the auditors
  - Specifies timeframes and budgets
  - Decides on audit findings
  - Records decisions

Designer

- Technical advisor to Project Manager
- Advises on options to address audit findings
- Needs to be wary of dismissing audit findings
- Needs to recognise design changes following the audit, and
- Ensure project manager arranges for the auditors to consider changes to design
Contractor

- Builds changes arising from audits
- Depending on contract model:
  - Committed to timeframes
  - Committed to budgets
  - Resistant to changes, particularly if impact on performance
- Needs to ensure that changes from the audited design are brought to the attention of the Project Manager, to arrange review by auditors

Conclusion

- Stakeholders correctly discharging their roles are key to the effectiveness of RSAs
- All participants in the RSA process could benefit from training and regular reviews
- An open register of auditor qualifications and experience would also be useful
- Providing a safe system and saving lives requires all parties to fulfil their role in RSA

Safe System & The Decade of Action

- Vehicle manufacturers are making their products much safer than ever before
- Attitudes towards safe driving and the resultant behaviours are improving
- The challenge is before us as professional engineers to maintain the momentum

Thank you. Any questions or comments?

“We are making a safe road system increasingly free of death and serious injury.”