

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

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### Paper Details:

<b>Presentation title:</b>	Feasibility Of Implementing International "Pedestrian Crosswalk" Laws In New Zealand
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#### Overview of Presentation

New Zealand is unusual in having road rules that do not generally give priority to pedestrians when crossing unsignalised intersections. A project investigated the effects of changing current NZ pedestrian crossing legislation to match the rest of the world. The objectives were:

- Identifying the effects different rules have on pedestrian behaviour and safety
- Determining road users' understanding and preferences of various rule change options
- Determining the effects of the proposed changes on both pedestrian and motorist delays
- Considering the practical aspects of introducing a rule change in NZ

Analysis of NZ's pedestrian crash data found that, if NZ road rules did change, then crash patterns at unsignalised intersections may change to mirror those at signalised ones.

A survey of road users' understanding/perception of current and potential road rules found that, on average, 78% of people are already willing to give way to pedestrians, although the importance of an education campaign with any future changes was also noted.

VISSIM simulation modelling of predicted delays to pedestrians and motorists found generally no notable effect on total personal delay caused by possible rule changes.

Overall, implementing a rule change in NZ appears to be possible, and the implications of this are discussed further.