

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

**between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA**

And

**the Direction de la Securite et de la Circulation Routieres of the
MINISTERE DE L'EQUIPEMENT, DES TRANSPORTS, DU LOGEMENT, DU
TOURISME ET DE LA MER OF FRANCE**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Direction de la Securite et de la Circulation Routieres of the Ministere de l'Equipement, des Transports, du Logement, du Tourisme et de la Mer of France (Participants);

Noting the cooperation between the United States of America and France in the area of Transportation;

Recognizing the importance of each Participant's achieving high levels of transport safety, environmental and consumer protection; and

Desiring to enhance cooperation and increase the efficient use of resources in matters relating to traffic and motor vehicle safety without compromising each Participant's ability to carry out its responsibilities,

Declare here their intention to promote cooperative activities as follows:

Article I

Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum is to strengthen cooperation and communication between the Participants concerning improvements and other developments in traffic and motor vehicle safety and to enhance, expand, and develop joint efforts to facilitate the exchange of information in the regulatory areas of traffic and motor vehicle safety.

Article II

Areas of Cooperation

The Participants intend that their cooperation under this Memorandum may be conducted in the following areas:

1. Research on data collection, driver behavior intervention, and traffic and motor vehicle safety,
2. Development, establishment of traffic and vehicle safety programs and the enforcement of related laws and regulations,
3. Post-implementation review programs, laws and regulations, and
4. Development and dissemination of consumer information.

Additional areas of cooperation may be identified mutually by the Participants in the future.

Article III

Forms of Cooperation

The Participants intend to maintain an open and continuing dialogue relating to improvements and developments in traffic and motor vehicle safety, laws and regulations and other areas relating to traffic and motor vehicle safety.

1. The Participants intend, at a minimum, to hold annual meetings. These meetings should be held, on an alternating basis, in the United States and France.
2. The Participants may share information regarding domestic and international programs and agendas.
3. The Participants may jointly contribute to encouraging and promoting greater international harmonization of technical regulations, recommendations and practices, consistent with the respective traffic and motor vehicle safety needs of the Participants, through multilateral forums such as the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP. 1) and the World Forum for the: Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29).
4. The Participants may share and discuss research and development plans related to driver behavior programs and countermeasures and traffic and motor vehicle safety.

5. The Participants may share and discuss research and development plans relating to technical regulations of motor vehicle safety.
6. The Participants may conduct joint analyses, on mutually practical and convenient occasions, to promote the development of improved traffic and vehicle safety programs and related laws and regulations.
7. The Participants may share and discuss plans related to the enforcement of laws and regulations in the area of traffic and motor vehicle safety.
8. The Participants may develop additional provisions for cooperation.

It is the mutual understanding of the participants that the pace of the participants' cooperative efforts under this Memorandum may depend on the respective internal circumstances in United States and France and may be affected by factors such as differences or divergences in regulatory priorities, availability of funds, and any difficulties which could arise during the course of this cooperation.

Article IV

Funding

Pursuits of cooperative activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of appropriated funds to each of the Participants. Funds will not be transferred between the Participants in connection with this Memorandum.

Article V

Information Exchange

Cooperative activities, including exchange of information, are subject to the applicable regulatory processes, laws, regulations, and policies of the Participants.

Article VI

Disclaimer

Each Participant is to make every effort to seek the accuracy of all data and information exchanged pursuant to this Memorandum. However, the accuracy of such data and information is not guaranteed. Therefore, each Participant uses the other's data at its own risk.

Article VII

Other Matters

The activities under this Memorandum should commence on the date of the signatures appearing below and are expected to continue until two months after either Participant gives written notice of its intention to cease cooperative activities.

This Memorandum is not legally binding. This Memorandum may be modified by a written document between the Parties.

Signed on 2-7

2004, in AJfIV1N6VUAJ C-~ ~

United States Department
of Transportation
National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration

Ministere de l'Equipeement, des
Transports, du Logement, du
Tourisme et de la Mer of France
Direction de la Securite et de la
Circulation Routieres

10⁰⁰ 

Runge,
Administrator



Rémy Heitz
Director-General