

Study on the review of the general safety regulation and pedestrian protection Regulation

Regulation (EC) 661/2009 on the General Safety of motor vehicles (General safety Regulation) made mandatory the fitting of Electronic Stability Control systems as standard equipment on cars, vans, trucks and buses, Lane Departure Warning and Automated Emergency Braking for trucks, Electric Vehicle Safety amongst several other measures. In addition Regulation (EC) 661/2009 made compulsory several UN regulations managed by GRSG.

The review of the General Safety Regulation is foreseen in its Article 17 which requires the Commission to report to the European Parliament and the Council regarding the inclusion of further new safety features into the regulation. In addition, Regulation (EC) 78/2009 on the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to the protection of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users also requires the Commission to report on the requirements of this Regulation.

The Commission services plan to comply with this obligation via a Communication to the European Parliament and the Council to be adopted in the course of this year. The Communication will outline the methodology to be used in the identification of the next measures and way forward in terms of vehicle safety. To prepare this communication, the commission services launched in 2014 a study on the benefits and feasibility of a range of new technologies and unregulated measures in the field of motor vehicles. This study was just published and covers a number of issues that are of relevance for GRSG (see in particular Annex 5 on heavy goods vehicles):

<http://bookshop.europa.eu/en/benefit-and-feasibility-of-a-range-of-new-technologies-and-unregulated-measures-in-the-field-of-vehicle-occupant-safety-and-protection-of-vulnerable-road-users-pbNB0714108/>

This study is only a first step that will be used to report to the legislator. Further work will be required in order to define appropriate legislative test procedures and performance requirements for each measure, as well as to provide the final benefit to cost ratios that are specific to a measure or collection of measures. The Commission services will keep informed GRSG on the next steps of the review of the general safety and pedestrian regulations.
