

LEAD STATES TEAM SYNOPSIS

Road Safety Audit (RSA) Team

LST Members

Tom Welch, Co-Chair
Iowa DOT

Terecia Wilson, Co-Chair
South Carolina DOT

Craig Allred
FHWA Resource Center

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*National Association of
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Collier County, FL, LTAP

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Activity Period

2004 – 2008

Cost of LST Effort

\$20,597.00

What the LST Did

A road safety audit (RSA) is the formal safety performance examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an independent audit team. Its main objective is to address the safe operation of intersections and roadways to ensure a high level of safety for all road users.



Road safety audits have several proven safety benefits.

Over a five-year period, the lead states team (LST) promoted RSA implementation with the objective of broadening use throughout the country. Their goals included the following:

- Develop and maintain a program whereby information is available nationally on the Road Safety Audit program. Numerous conference and meeting presentations were given to public agency officials.
- Develop and distribute information targeting state and local governmental agencies.
- Conduct peer exchange opportunities nationally and regionally.
- Promote integration of RSA's into all safety programs of state and local governments.
- Assist with distribution of training materials to enable NHI and LTAP/TTAP centers to provide useful training and best practices information on RSA's.

Surveys: To assist in promoting the use of RSA's, the LST members conducted surveys of state safety directors and local government agencies to determine interest in peer exchange workshops.

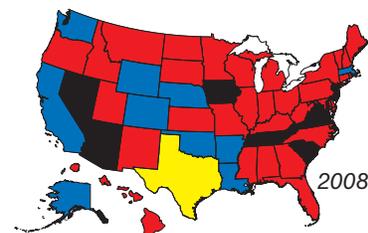
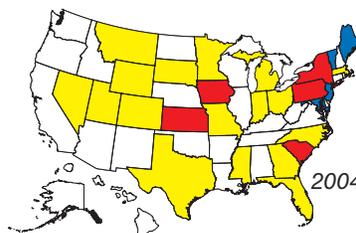
Training and Outreach: LST members developed and distributed RSA videos for use on websites, a brochure, and training materials used by LTAP and NHI. Over 30 states participated in at least one of the RSA workshops. The team also updated the RSA brochure and road safety audit website materials, including status reports on RSA implementation and best practices nationwide.

What the LST Accomplished

Measuring Success: RSA Progress

This technology is spreading across the nation. In four years, over half of the States are using RSA's as a tool to improve safety.

- = No RSA action
- = Piloting or have had occasional RSA's
- = RSA presentation given
- = Hosted or received RSA training
- = RSA program



Proven benefits of road safety audits:

- Can help produce designs that reduce the number and severity of crashes
- Can reduce costs by identifying safety issues and correcting them before projects are built
- Promote awareness of safe design practices
- Integrate multimodal safety concerns
- Consider human factors in all facets of design