



## Committee Chair:

Dennis Blair (AL)

## NASEMSO Staff:

Mary Hedges, Prg Mgr  
Dia Gainor, Ex Dir

## Members:

Norajean Miles (AR)

Tomi St. Mars (AZ)

John Bixler (FL)

John Cramer (ID)

Jay Bradshaw (ME)

Rene Fechter (MD)  
C. Wright-Johnson

Abdullah Rehayem  
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Dolly Fernandes (WA)

The purpose of the Highway Incident & Transportation Systems (HITS) Committee is to:

- Engage NASEMSO on highway safety issues relevant to EMS.
- Collaborate with highway safety partners to promote understanding of EMS.
- Provide input to NASEMSO Executive Committee on highway safety concerns.

## HITS Committee Projects of Interest

### **1) Highway Mass Casualty Readiness Project**

NASEMSO-led, multi-disciplinary project which developed two separate tools to quantify emergency response resources by geographical area. Originally conceived in response to the Mexican Hat motor coach crash in rural Utah, the project's focus was to determine the capacity of emergency response resources for mass casualty incidents (MCIs) on rural highways. The tools have also proven useful for determining overall disaster preparedness by geographical area.

[more details](#)

- A. EMS Incident Response & Readiness Assessment (EIRRA)** - an assessment instrument to measure an EMS system's MCI-readiness at a local, state or regional level. In early 2011, 28 states completed an initial EIRRA assessment of their statewide EMS systems; the results serve as an important benchmark for measuring future progress.
- B. Model Inventory of Emergency Care Elements (MIECE)** - *Proof of Concept* completed to demonstrate the utility of a tool for displaying emergency resource capability by segments of highway. The eventual goal is to create a complete inventory of emergency care elements, modeled after US DOT's Model Inventory of Roadway Elements (MIRE), and depict their availability for policy makers, planners, and possibly travelers.

### **2) Toward Zero Deaths: A National Strategy on Highway Safety (NCHRP 17-51)**

An initiative to develop a 25-year vision for reducing the nation's highway deaths by developing champions in organizations that impact highway safety through engineering, enforcement, education, EMS, policy, public health and communications. In 2010, a series of white papers outlined the national strategy (NASEMSO co-authored the EMS white paper). Additional funding in 2011 from the TRB's National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) is producing a framework and marketing strategy. **Dia Gainor** and **Mary Hedges** are NASEMSO's representatives on the Steering Committee; contact person is [Kelly Hardy](#). NASEMSO member on the NCHRP 17-51 Panel is **Dolly Fernandes**; contact person is [Chuck Niessner](#). [more details](#)

### **3) WNNG: "What's Next - Next Generation 9-1-1" / Timeline: 2010-2012**

The project is intended to create the foundation for emergency communications in a wire-less mobile society. In August 2011, TSAG's multidisciplinary group released *NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum Report*, a series of white papers created by stakeholders in four emergency response disciplines—law enforcement, fire-rescue, emergency medical services and transportation—addressing the future of the Next Generation 9-1-1 system. **Dia Gainor** is NASEMSO's representative. [news release](#) | [download report](#)

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## **4) National EMS Culture of Safety Project / Timeline:** 2010-2013

NHTSA-sponsored project, with support from HRSA's EMSC program, led by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) to develop a national strategy for an *EMS Culture of Safety*. **Dia Gainor** is NASEMSO's representative to the steering committee, which is chaired by Sabina Braithwaite, MD, FACEP. [more details](#)

## **5) Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) Expert Panel**

Created to revise the guideline for reporting motor vehicle crash data, the MMUCC Expert Panel meets periodically to revise the standardized set of data elements used by states to generate information for improving roadway safety. **Dia Gainor** serves as NASEMSO's representative on the Panel. [more info](#)

## **6) Models for Effective Emergency Responses within the "Golden Hour" in Rural Areas [NCHRP 20-05/Topic 43-15 \[New\]](#) / Timeline:** 2011-2012

NCHRP Synthesis Project to gather existing information on successful practices leading to timely emergency medical response in rural areas. NASEMSO members on the panel are **James DeTienne, Dean Cole, and Dia Gainor**. [more details](#)

## **7) Development of an Improved Metric for Serious Traffic Crash Injuries [NCHRP 17-57](#) Timeline:** 2011-2014

NCHRP research project to improve accuracy of injury reporting by law enforcement officers at crash scenes. A major purpose is to enable states to more precisely evaluate safety treatments and countermeasures. The research will explore use of EMS (NEMSIS) and trauma registry data to develop a more accurate metric for serious injury. NASEMSO representative on the panel is **Dia Gainor**. [more details](#)

## **8) NFPA 1917: Standard for Automotive Ambulances**

NFPA 1917 Ambulance Standards began development in 2009 with completion of this comprehensive set of standards for automotive ambulances expected in 2012. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) develops more than 300 consensus codes and standards intended to minimize effects of fire and other risks. **Suzanne Prentiss** is NASEMSO's representative on the NFPA 1917 Technical Committee with **Jay Bradshaw** serving as alternate. [NFPA 1917: Standard for Automotive Ambulances](#)

## **9) National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Human Factors Project**

A 3-phase research project undertaken by a team of engineers and behavioral scientists for the Department of Homeland Security on the human factors involved in EMS professional performance and safety requirements. The intent is to develop design guidelines for ambulance patient compartments that maximize safety without compromising effectiveness. **Richard "Chip" Cooper** is NASEMSO's liaison to the project, and contact is [Jennifer Marshall](#). [more details or to participate in the study](#)

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## Highway Safety Partners with NASEMSO Involvement

### 1) **NTIMC or TIM Coalition: National Traffic Incident Management Coalition**

**Parent Organization:** American Association of Highway & Transportation Officials

**Mission:** Achieve the National Uniform Goal (NUG) for traffic incident management (TIM): responder safety; safe, quick traffic incident clearance; interoperable communications.

**Stakeholders:** EMS, Fire, Law Enforcement, Public Safety Communications, Towing & Recovery, Transportation Communities

**NAEMSO Rep:** [Scott Winston](#) | **Meetings:** Quarterly in Washington, DC.

**Contacts:** [John Corbin](#), Chair, 608-266-0459, WI DOT

**Budget:** Coalition funds airfare, lodging, per diem, airport parking 4 X year [Website](#)

### 2) **SCOHTS: Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety**

**Parent Organization:** American Association of Highway & Transportation Official

**Mission:** To evaluate highway safety needs encompassing the four E's - Engineering, Enforcement, Education and Emergency Medical Services.

**Stakeholders:** National organizations, both public and private, involved in highway safety

**NAEMSO Rep:** [Dia Gainor](#) | **Meetings:** Annually, Spring

**Contacts:** [Tony Kane](#), [Rosemary TenEyck](#)

**Budget:** AASHTO pays travel expenses to meetings | [Website](#)

### 3) **SCOHTS – SM: Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety, Subcommittee on Highway Safety Management**

**Parent Organization:** American Association of Highway & Transportation Officials

**Mission:** To promote AASHTO's safety goal of reducing highway fatalities by half in the next two decades. Works on technical issues (highway manuals, plans, safety improvement)

**Stakeholders:** Member departments appoint up to 3 members from every state

**NAEMSO Involvement:** One of the 3 members could be from state EMS office

**Meetings:** Annually, Fall | **Contact:** [Kelly Hardy](#)

**Budget:** AASHTO pays travel expenses to meetings | [Website](#)

### 4) **TSAG: Transportation Safety Advancement Group**

**Parent Organization:** Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA) and US DOT's Research & Innovative Technology Administration (RITA)

**Mission:** "Promoting Technology for Public Safety." Advance unified and strengthened public safety programs across intelligent transportation systems technologies

**Stakeholders:** EMS, Fire/Rescue, Emergency Communications, Law Enforcement, Transportation Operations, Emergency Management, Technology/Telematics, Research

**NAEMSO Rep:** [Dia Gainor](#), Chair of TSAG | **Meetings:** Quarterly

**Contact:** [Manny Puentes](#) | **Budget:** Travel and per diem paid by USDOT/RITA via contract with ITSA | [Website](#)

### 5) **NCHRP: National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP)**

**Parent Organization:** Transportation Research Board

**Mission:** To conduct research in areas affecting highway planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance nationwide. Each year in early July, the AASHTO Standing Committee on Research (SCOR) solicits problems from three sources: (1) AASHTO member transportation departments, (2) chairs of AASHTO's committees and

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subcommittees, and (3) Federal Highway Administrator. Problem statements due Sept. 15, 2012.

**Stakeholders:** State departments of transportation are the sole sponsors of the NCHRP.

**NAEMSO Involvement:** Serve on panels for NCHRP projects as previously noted.

**Contact:** [Crawford Jencks](#), Deputy Director, 202-334-2379

**Budget:** Varies by project | [Website](#)

## 6) *SHRP2: Strategic Highway Research Program*

**Parent Organization:** Transportation Research Board

**Mission:** To investigate the underlying causes of highway crashes and congestion in a short-term program of focused research

**Stakeholders:** transportation-related, uses subject matter experts related to research project

**NAEMSO Involvement:** No participation other than occasional grant review boards

**Meetings:** Annual TRB meeting in January | **Contact:** Director [Neil Hawks](#)

**Timeline:** Multi-year program (4 year funding; 7 years to complete; began work Mar. 2006)

**Budget:** Review board travel expenses | [Website](#)

## 7) *TRB EMS Transport Safety Subcommittee*

**Parent Organization:** Transportation Research Board

**Mission:** To advance EMS and medical transportation safety research (est. Jan. 2008)

**Stakeholders:** EMS agencies, technical experts, federal and state EMS & transportation agencies, industry partners, academics

**NAEMSO Rep:** [Dr. Carol Cunningham](#), [Dia Gainor](#)

**Meetings:** January and as determined by chair, in Washington, DC area

**Contact:** [Nadine Levick](#); [Eileen Frazer](#)

**Budget:** TRB does not fund travel costs but provides meeting space and support.

[Website](#)

## 8) *I-95 Corridor Coalition*

**Parent Organization:** None, an alliance of partners

**Mission:** To provide a forum for key decision and policy makers to address transportation management and operations issues.

**Stakeholders:** Transportation agencies, toll authorities, and related organizations, including public safety, from Maine to Florida, with affiliate members in Canada.

**NAEMSO Rep:** [Beth Armstrong](#), [Gary Brown](#)

**Meetings:** Committees have various meeting times & locations

**Contact:** Ex. Dir. [George Schoener](#), (703) 389-9281

**Budget:** Member funding is from his/her own organization

[Website](#)

## 9) *HSPV: Highway Safety Partners Venture*

**Parent Organization:** None

**Mission:** To assist in identifying appropriate solutions and implementing systemic low-cost improvements across the four Es of Engineering, EMS, Enforcement and Education

**Stakeholders:** Private and public organizations interested in highway safety

**NAEMSO Rep:** [Beth Armstrong](#), [Mary Hedges](#)

**Meetings:** 6 X year in DC area **Contact:** [Kathy Kraus](#)

**Budget:** Members cover own expenses **Website:** None

Updated Nov. 2011