

## 8 May 2023

His Excellency
Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

## Your Excellency,

On behalf of Together for Safer Roads (TSR) and our members, it is our honor to transmit our gratitude and support for the United Nations and World Health Organization's efforts to promote road safety and limit road deaths and injuries by half before the end of this decade. It is our belief that this week serves as a crucial reminder of the importance of road safety, and we join you in championing those efforts through the upcoming UN Global Road Safety Week.

As the leading NGO focused on building cross-sector partnerships to improve fleet trucking safety, TSR leverages private-sector technology, data, and expertise to create innovative programs aimed at preventing traffic crashes, injuries, and fatalities around the globe. Our members represent some of the largest and most important fleets in the world, as well as pre-eminent road safety technology companies. We work with governments, businesses, and community stakeholders on local projects, fleet safety management, and technology initiatives with the goal to eventually reach Vision Zero – the total elimination of traffic fatalities and severe injuries.

In line with this ambitious goal, the mission to reduce road traffic deaths by 50% by 2030 (Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety, 2021-2030) and the commitment to ensure vehicle safety, TSR is pleased to announce the

**Fleet Trucking Global Safety Standards Initiative.** This exciting new initiative aims to establish industry standards for fundamental safety instruments and will result in a comprehensive suite of recommended standards for a broad cross-section of critical safety instruments and technologies, including telematics, automatic braking, airbags, side curtain airbags, side view mirrors and seatbelts.

Fleet safety experts report that despite the ubiquity of these safety instruments, fleet operators lack a unifying standard to inform the purchase of the "right" vehicle safety instrument for both new vehicles and the retrofitting of existing ones. Those standards that do exist are either often inaccessible, or not useful to guide purchasing and operations decisions. This lack of consistent, industry-informed guidelines presents TSR with a transformative opportunity to promote change at scale and support fleets of all sizes in their evaluation and purchasing of foundational safety tools and technology, directly contributing to safer roads for all.

This work will also translate to more **equitable deployment of safer trucks in the secondary, resale markets,** with a particularly positive impact for smaller business owners with less resources. Collectively, these actors will have the chance to purchase trucks with safety instruments that will already meet the standards of the largest global fleet operators. We at TSR believe this work fits squarely within the mission and vision of the UN Road Safety Collaboration.

Together for Safer Roads is committed to conducting this work on a global scale, building on recent successful partnerships with governments and businesses implementing Vision Zero strategies. Multi-year projects with São Paulo and Shanghai, for example, have led to significant measurable decreases in road injuries and fatalities. We also recently launched a Truck of the Future pilot program with vehicles from the City of New York that identifies and tests innovative and cost-effective solutions to eliminate collisions between large vehicle operators and vulnerable road users; later this year this pilot will expand internationally, working with a private sector fleet in Mexico City.



Together for Safer Roads is proud to stand with the UN Road Safety Collaboration, and all our fellow road safety advocates in this decade of action for safer roads. Thank you to the UNRSC, Member States, UN agencies, Development Banks, and other global road safety stakeholders for your leadership in this important area. We look forward to presenting our new global safety standards to this body in the future, and to working in collaboration to reach Vision Zero.

Sincerely,

Peter Goldwasser Executive Director Together for Safer Roads

Cc Michel Doukeris, CEO, Anheuser-Busch InBev
Carol B. Tomé, CEO, United Parcel Service (UPS)
Simon Marsh, CEO, VisionTrack
Jon Vander Ark, President and CEO, Republic Services Inc.

