BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of Road Users and Traffic Safety


The nine chapters of Road Users and Traffic Safety represent material originally presented at Groningen, Netherlands in 1987 for the Second International Conference on Road Safety. The editors seek to make accessible information that would not otherwise be available either because the original language of the paper was not one of great universality or because the research was performed within a particular agency and would not generally be dispersed beyond that agency. The editors have succeeded in their goal.

This slim volume has a large scope ranging from methods of forecasting traffic safety to analyzing the evaluation of education programs. The chapters are clearly written and most have extensive references from around the world. Tables, charts, and graphs are used which clarify and complement the text. Most of the chapters look broadly and critically at programs designed to analyze either safe and unsafe behavior or at various methods to alter behavior patterns, such as public service education or individual driver education.

The chapter on accident analysis and conflict behavior coauthored by Grayson and Hakkert does a fine job of critically assessing the advantages and disadvantages of some of the research efforts to analyze road accidents, as well as discussing conflict theory. Road Users and Traffic Safety should be of interest to individuals engaged in safety research or to those engaged in or planning to inaugurate safety education programs.

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