

Holding of Central Traffic Safety Policy Council

There occurred a series of tragic traffic accidents where children on their way to school became their victims since the Nationwide Traffic Safety Campaign in spring in 2012.

For this reason, on September 14 (Fri.) 2012, before the Nationwide Traffic Safety Campaign in autumn, the Transportation Countermeasures Headquarters Central Traffic Safety Measures Council was held to share information on the status of the current efforts among the relevant ministries and to provide further measures for traffic safety in a concerted effort.

Upon request of the Minister of State for Special Missions, vice ministers of other ministries closely connected to traffic safety measures such as the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

In this meeting the following explanation was provided by vice-ministers and others of the relevant ministries.

- Senior Vice Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology – “Efforts for ensuring traffic safety on school-commuting roads by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology”
- Senior Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism – “Status of efforts for ensuring traffic safety on school-commuting roads” and “Status of efforts for ensuring safety of highway tour bus”
- Senior Vice-Minister of Justice – “Advisory matters at the 167th meeting of the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice” (held on September 7, 2012)
- Commissioner General of the National Police Agency – “Efforts for securing traffic safety on school-commuting roads,” “Ways to deal with traffic accidents caused by people with certain illness” and “Ways to deal with drivers driving without license”

The Minister of State for Special Missions who is the head of the Transport Task Force stated at the end of the meeting that “the current 9th Fundamental Traffic Safety Program” aims to achieve “a society with no traffic accidents based on the principle of the respect for human life,” and provides the need to further ensure the safety of vulnerable road users such as the elderly, disable people, children and others on the basis of traffic safety concept of prioritizing people,” and thus, further coordinated efforts must be provided by the relevant ministries to ensure traffic safety based on the principle of the program.

* The Transport Task Force of the Central Council for Traffic Safety Measures is a body to provide a close coordination and contact among the relevant administrative institutions and implement comprehensive and effective measures to ensure traffic safety, and takes decisions on the “eradication of drunken driving” and the “implementation of the day to achieve zero traffic accident” and others as well as decisions on the outline of the Nationwide Traffic Safety Campaign in spring and autumn every year.



[Information on the topic is available on the website of the government]

Overview of Central Traffic safety Policy Council (held on September 14, 2012) is available on:
<http://www8.cao.go.jp/koutu/taisaku/sougou/pdf/20120914/gijigaiyo.pdf>

<http://www.mlit.go.jp/road/sesaku/taigaku.html>

Promotion of ISO39001 (Road Traffic Safety Management System)

It is estimated that the number of people who get killed and injured in traffic accidents is over 1.3 million and over 50 million, respectively every year in the world. In developed countries, many traffic accidents still occur and the reduction in the number of traffic accidents poses a big challenge. In the meantime, the situation in the developing and newly emerging countries which account for 50% of the cars registered in the world is more serious and the number of fatalities in traffic accidents also account for the majority of them. With the future economic growth, it is expected that the motorization* will increase rapidly in these countries (regions) and with it the number of fatalities in automobile accidents.

In the circumstances where it is required that the efforts so far undertaken by the developed countries to deal with road traffic safety will be shared by other countries so that all countries in the world will act together to address the issues and challenges facing the world, Sweden recommended in 2007 the “need to introduce a standardized road traffic management system in the field of road traffic safety” aimed at the eradication of fatalities and injuries in traffic accidents at the International Standardization Organization (ISO) and a new proposal on international standards on the road traffic safety management was put on the table. In response to this initiative, the committee to develop new standards was set and after seven international conferences, ISO39001 was issued on October 1, 2012.

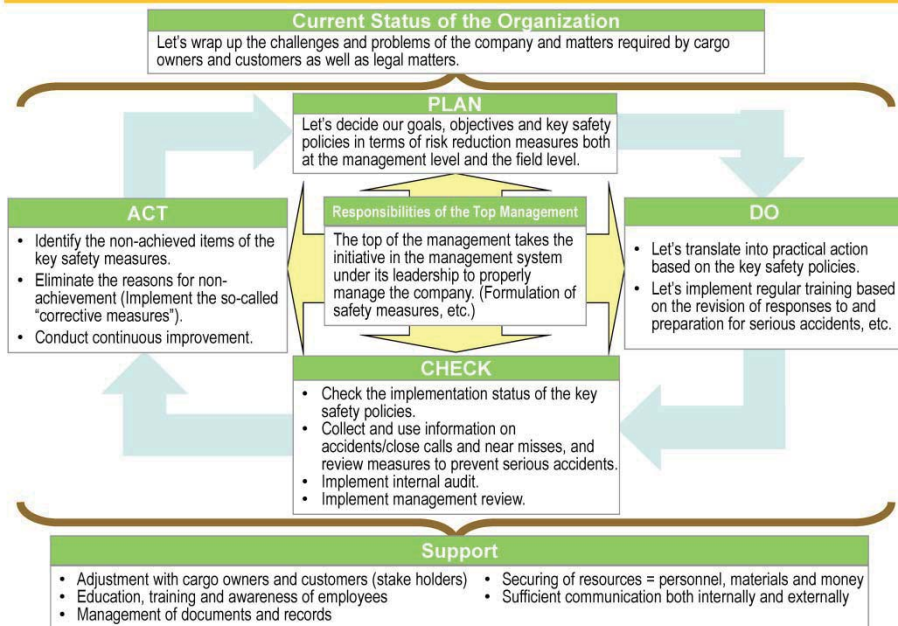
In Japan, the National Agency for Automotive Safety & Victims' Aid (NASVA) served as the secretariat for ISO mirror committee which wraps up opinions in Japan on the development of ISO39001 standards and offered opinions in the international conferences focused on ensuring consistency with the “Transport Safety Management System” highly compatible with ISO39001, which had been introduced for air, land and sea transport operators pursuant to the law (2006, Law 19) which revised a part of Railway Business Act aimed to improve transport safety in 2006.

After the publication of the standards, NASVA holds briefing sessions for road transport operators and others for the dissemination of the standards and dispatches instructors to seminars.

In the future, in order to “eradicate fatalities and injuries in traffic accidents” which is the final goal of the standards, it is important to develop measures for road traffic safety and prevent traffic accidents including the dissemination and promotion of ISO39001 by ensuring the reliability and credibility of accreditation and certification of the standards based on the concerted efforts by the “public sector” and the “private sector.”

* Motorization
Popularization of automobiles

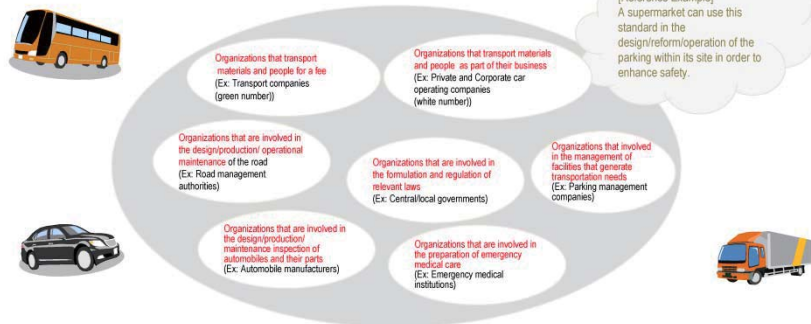
Basic Policy of ISO39001—PDCA Cycle



Organizations that can adopt the standards



A wide range of organizations (companies/bodies, private or public) involved in "Road Traffic System (Men/roads/vehicles/emergency medical system)" can adopt.



All organizations and employees involved in the road traffic system are responsible for road traffic safety (Sharing of responsibilities)