Titles in Series

Intersections Contol & Safety
Urban Streets Design & Safety
Preface

Professor Carlos Brebbia the Director of Wessex Institute of Technology in the UK proposed to me to start a new book series on Transport Systems and Traffic Engineering comprising selected papers originally presented at WIT international conferences. I am honored to serve as editor of this, the first book of that series. It is our belief that these books will play an essential role in bridging the gap between research and practice, encouraging a critical dialogue in different, specific subjects spanning innovation, development and technology transfer. Those who offer innovation often do not meet the immediate needs of practitioners, especially in the traditional field of civil engineering. Still, the adequate diffusion of research results and wisdom derived from practical experience are crucial to both theoretical underpinnings and technical applications.

The papers forming this first book are devoted to intersection control and safety and have been selected bearing in mind the criteria stated above. That is, these papers provide both scholarly contribution as well as vision for application.

As a general rule, about one-third of all highway crashes happen at intersections. This rule holds for many different countries. Intersection crashes also represent a significant portion of serious injury crashes, and by right are receiving much attention by researchers and practitioners alike. This book is therefore devoted to relevant safety aspects of road intersections and innovative features in design and operations that may address the intersection crash problem. The thirteen papers are more or less equally devoted to roundabouts and signals. These papers cover many of the most recent and emerging issues related to intersection control and safety. Topics range from design details to driver perception, from pedestrians behavior to signal timing, and from capacity models to red-light running.

It is my belief that the reader will find interesting reading in each of the papers of this book, as well as material to expand his knowledge of this important subject.

Antonio Pratelli
Italy, 2013
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