

THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEK VEHICLE RESTRAINT SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

The contribution of road restraint systems in road safety is undeniable. The basic vehicle restraint systems types are the safety barriers. The first Greek standards for the technical specifications in safety barriers has been recorded in 1960 and the next one in 1988. By the construction of highways in Greece, the need for extended and more systematic standards has been created. In 1988, the European Model EN 1317 has been drawn up in order to unify the technical standards and to prescribe common language concerning to the classification and checking out the systems.

In this paper, the progress of Greek vehicle restraint systems is presented. The characteristics of Greek safety barriers are compared with the European Standard EN1317 and the difficulties of the application of these standards in Greek roads are examined.

KEY WORDS: Safety barriers, European Standards, road safety