

**QLD Government Tackles Fatigue-Related Crashes**

New counter-fatigue measures to be rolled out across Queensland were recently announced by the State's Premier, Anna Bligh.

The Minister for Main Roads, Warren Pitt, said that 65 people had died in fatigue-related crashes in Queensland in 2007 which represents 18.1 per cent of the State's road toll.

The \$8 million audible linemarking program on 1000 kilometres of Queensland roads, funded under the Safer Roads Sooner Program, is a significant investment which aimed to reduce the severity, frequency and associated trauma of fatigue-related incidents. Mr Pitt believes this will help reduce the road toll to a target of less than 300 in 2009.

“Audible linemarking uses a series of closely spaced raised bumps, designed to create a continuous noise and vibration when driven on by a motor vehicle,” he said, “Audible linemarking is one of the most proven counter-fatigue measures around the world – it significantly reduces the frequency and severity of fatigue-related crashes.”



GT Industries, a Sydney-based manufacturer of roadmarking materials, has supplied audio-tactile markings to the Australian roadmarking industry for many years in the form of Profile Thermoplastic and, more recently, Profile Cold Applied Plastic. This audible linemarking project is being undertaken by Allstate Linemarking Services using GT Industries' Profile

thermoplastic roadmarking material.

Mr Pitt said the linemarking would give motorists the “wake-up call” they needed to get back on the road and to take a break from driving.

“Main Roads performed a detailed analysis of all roads in Queensland to determine which should be treated as a priority,” he said.

The areas chosen had high incidents of fatigue-related crashes, had a speed limit of over 80 km/h and had sealed shoulders of at least 50cm. He said about 100 new locations had been identified for the marking, including sections of:

- D'aguilar Highway and Cunningham Highway in southern Queensland
- Bruce Highway and Flinders Highway in northern Queensland
- Rockhampton–Yeppoon Road in central Queensland
- Capricorn Highway on the Central Highlands
- Roma–Mitchell Road in the south-west and
- Burnett Highway in the Wide Bay region.

*For more information contact GT Industries on 02 9829 4275 or visit their website at [www.gtindustries.com.au](http://www.gtindustries.com.au)*