

# CONNECTED VEHICLE RESEARCH IN THE UNITED STATES

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## ABSTRACT

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is exploring the development of a fully connected, multi-modal transportation system that is based on wireless communications between vehicles and between vehicles and the surrounding infrastructure. The technology has tremendous implications for vehicle safety. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA), connected vehicle technology has the potential to address 81 percent of unimpaired vehicle crashes and 72 percent of unimpaired heavy truck accidents. The U.S. DOT's research will help NHTSA make an informed decision about the future of this technology in 2013.

The Connected Vehicle Safety Pilot program is a key part of this research. This program includes two test efforts—the Safety Pilot Driver Clinics, which will test the new technology with ordinary drivers in controlled roadway situations, and the Safety Pilot Model Deployment, in which up to 3,000 drivers will test the safety technology in one geographic region without restrictions. The program will help determine how ordinary motorists respond to new safety warnings in their vehicles and how accepting they are of this technology. The program, which will run through the fall of 2012, will also test how well the technology performs in different driving environments throughout the United States.