

## Auto Safety

### **October 2009**

Over the past year, the EU and U.S., (along with the other contracting parties to the 1998 agreement, which include the PRC, India and Japan) have worked under the UN- ECE World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) to achieve new global technical regulations (GTRs) in the areas off-cycle emissions and pedestrian safety systems for highway vehicles. In addition, work continues on a longer term GTR for hydrogen-powered vehicles. Moreover, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - NHTSA - and DG Enterprise have confirmed new items for co-operation at WP.29 in other areas of motor vehicle safety. These include the development of GTRs for motorcycle safety and test devices for vehicle crash worthiness.

### **December 2008**

On June 16, 2008, the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the EC's DG-Enterprise and Industry concluded a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) in the field of motor vehicle regulations. Under the MOC, the parties agreed to strengthen their cooperation in the development and enforcement of vehicle regulations, including safety and certain aspects of fuel economy regulations and in the identification of safety-related defects and non-compliances. The parties also agreed to jointly promote greater international harmonization of vehicle regulations under the aegis of the United Nations.

### **May 2008**

The European Union and the United States have achieved good progress in their cooperation on auto safety with the recent adoption - in March 2008 - of two Global Technical Regulations (GTRs) on glazing and head restraints at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE). Furthermore, they are committed to work towards the adoption of GTRs on electronic stability control and pedestrian protection this year.