

## THE BUCKLE UP

BY JAMES F. BROWN

IN THE LAST OF A SERIES OF ESSAYS, "THE BUCKLE UP," James F. Brown discusses the importance of safety belts in the United States and the role of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in promoting their use.

In the United States, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has been instrumental in promoting the use of safety belts. The agency has conducted a series of campaigns to encourage drivers to wear their seat belts, and it has also been successful in lobbying for legislation that requires all vehicles to have seat belts installed.

### Background

In the early 1960s, NHTSA was established as an agency within the Department of Transportation. Its mandate was to improve the safety of the nation's highways and to reduce the number of traffic-related deaths and injuries.

### Impact

Since its inception, NHTSA has had a significant impact on road safety in the United States. One of its most notable achievements is the widespread use of safety belts.

Today, the vast majority of drivers in the United States wear their seat belts, and this has led to a significant reduction in traffic-related deaths and injuries. The success of NHTSA's seat belt campaign is a testament to the agency's commitment to public safety.

## DISCOVERY



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The discovery of a new scientific principle or technology is often a result of careful observation and experimentation. In many cases, the discovery is made by accident, but it is often the result of a systematic search for answers to a particular question.

For example, the discovery of penicillin was made by accident by Alexander Fleming in 1928. He was studying the effects of mold on bacteria, and he noticed that a moldy petri dish had killed the bacteria.