

TRB Roundabout Update for the United Kingdom 2016

Prepared by: Colin Ridding, Mott MacDonald

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Roundabouts continue to be very popular in the UK and have a good safety record when compared to other intersections.

The big difference between the UK and US is that there are numerous signalized roundabouts. Since the early 1990s many roundabouts have been converted to signalized roundabouts. Signalized roundabouts can improve capacity by regulating traffic flows. It is also possible to provide safer crossing facilities for cyclists and pedestrians by providing controlled crossings.

At the present time there is a big emphasis on the safety of cyclists at roundabouts. Cyclists have always had a poor safety record at roundabouts so considerable funding has been provided for highway authorities to address this issue.

Segregated cycle lanes at roundabouts are now being provided to improve safety for cyclists. This is being achieved by providing signal control.

The first turbo roundabout has now been installed. This roundabout has also given priority to pedestrians and cyclists. So drivers exiting the roundabout will need to yield if cyclists or pedestrians are trying to cross.