

# **Policing Rural Roads The SA Experience**

**A/Superintendent Graham Lough<sup>1</sup> (Presenter)**  
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## **Biography**

'Chief Inspector Graham Lough is the Acting Officer in Charge of the Traffic Support Branch within the South Australia Police, a position he has held since January 2003. He has extensive policing experience in police operations, criminal investigation, media liaison and drug policy areas. In March 1999, Graham initiated and organised the highly successful Australasian Conference on Drug Strategy. He has a Bachelor of Arts (Communications) from the University of South Australia and a Masters of Policy and Administration from Flinders University'.

## **Abstract**

By March 2003, South Australia had experienced a 37.9% increase in the number of fatalities compared to the first three months of 2002. In rural areas, this was a staggering 52.6% increase over the corresponding period of the previous year. With this percentage increase, the State was facing a significant and disturbing blow-out in road fatalities with rural areas accounting for by far the biggest increase. In response, SA Police introduced the Rural Roads Saturation Program, a coordinated and intelligence led strategy for policing rural highways. In the three months since its inception a dramatic decrease in rural road deaths has been achieved with no fatalities on rural highways being recorded. This presentation will outline the research undertaken, the policing strategies adopted and the results achieved in this innovative and successful enforcement program.