## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 28, 2003 Contact: Paul Hallums (520) 403-9915 phallums@ntsi.us

## Arizona's First Spanish Language Online Defensive Driving Course Approved For Traffic Citation Dismissal

(**TUCSON, Ariz.**) --- In an effort to expand the reach of its Internet-based traffic safety programs, the National Traffic Safety Institute (NTSI) has received approval to provide its programs in Spanish. The NTSI is the only state-licensed traffic safety program in Arizona with bilingual programming on the Internet.

"Traffic safety is a value that all Arizonans should embrace," said Paul Hallums, Vice President of NTSI. "We think it is important to provide our Spanish-speaking neighbors across the state with the opportunity to benefit from the same public service that has defined NTSI in this community since our inception 30 years ago," he continued. "Traffic safety knows no cultural boundaries, and NTSI remains committed to providing all of our services in both Spanish and English."

This past March, NTSI was approved to offer its defensive driving program over the Internet, becoming the first program of its kind in Arizona to offer its coursework in a virtual classroom. The interactive curriculum for the new program mirrors the program currently provided in the NTSI's physical classrooms. It consists of a series of instructional modules requiring students to spend a minimum of 5 ½ hours online, with course instructors available to field questions from students during their cyber class time. All of NTSI customer service representatives are bilingual.

Additional information, program terms and conditions, and eligibility criteria are available online, at <u>www.NTSItrafficschool.com</u>, at 520-547-2500, or toll-free at 800-726-6874.

The NTSI has trained millions of people across the country to be safer drivers. Through 15 classes a week, seven days a week, in 11 Tucson locations, the nation's oldest and largest traffic safety program stands among Tucson's most valuable and reliable community services.