Motor Carrier Safety: Research, Technology, and Direction



Brenda Lantz, Program Director

Transportation Safety Systems Center Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute North Dakota State University <u>www.ugpti.org/tssc/</u>

August 2006



Agenda

- Mission and Activities
- Technology Projects
 - QC-ACE/ITDS
 - COMPASS
- Research Projects
 - Driver Focus
- Discussion





TSSC Mission and Activities

- Mission To improve the safety of our transportation network
- Software development for state and federal safety enforcement specialists nationwide
- Safety-related research and analysis
- Presentations and training



On-going Technology Projects

- Software for commercial vehicle and driver inspections
 - Aspen, ISS, PIQ CDLIS Access
- For compliance reviews
 - CaseRite, UFA, ProVu, eFOTM



- Web-based development
 - Query Central, FMCSA Information Systems site



Recent Technology Projects

- Query Central Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) /International Trade Data System (ITDS) Interface
 - Working with U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- COMPASS
 - FMCSA IT Modernization initiative to transform the way they do business and align their information technology with their business operations



QC-ACE/ITDS Interface

- Ability to identify and contain unsafe CMVs and drivers before they reach our nation's roads
 - The carrier submits an electronic manifest through ACE/ITDS which sends the manifest data to QC
 - QC processes the manifest data against multiple federal and state data sources to determine if the driver and/or vehicle needs to be seen by FMCSA at the border
 - QC sends a response through ACE/ITDS either clearing or identifying problem areas
 - ACE notifies the carrier of the result and lists any specified issues
 - This gives carriers the opportunity to resolve any safety issues prior to arrival at the border



QC-ACE/ITDS Interface (cont.)

• FMCSA inspects those problem drivers/vehicles when they arrive at the border







COMPASS

- An effort to transform the way FMCSA does business and to align their information technology with their business operations
 - Increase productivity and efficiency
 - Improve data accessibility through simple sign-on and easier navigation
 - Improve data consistency through database consolidation and integration
 - Enable better policy and program decisions through improved data quality



Recent Research Projects

- Development and Implementation of a Driver Safety History Indicator into ISS
- Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Risk Factors Study
- Improving Driver Identification Data Collected





Development & Implementation of a Driver Safety History Indicator

- Examined creating a new measure for ISS
 - Based on the traffic conviction history of a carrier's drivers
 - Calculated by a weighted sum of the drivers' convictions divided by the number of drivers
- Determined that this new measure is associated with crash rates
- Pilot test as part of ISS was conducted in eight states
 - Resulted in increased driver out-of-service rates
- Currently working on full deployment



Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Risk Factors Study

- Main objective is to identify, verify, quantify, and prioritize commercial driver risk factors
 - Personal factors such as demographic characteristics, medical conditions, personality traits, and performance capabilities
 - Work environmental conditions, such as carrier operations type, and compensation method
 - Will link the characteristics of individual drivers with their driving histories, especially the presence or absence of crashes



Contact Info and Discussion

Brenda Lantz, Program Director <u>www.ugpti.org/tssc/</u> Phone: (720) 238-0070 Email: <u>brenda.lantz@ndsu.edu</u>



