

**TRB Committee on Truck & Bus Safety (ANB70)  
Annual Meeting  
January 13, 2009  
Marriot Wardman - Washington B1  
1:30 pm – 5:30 pm**

**Members in Attendance:**

**Joel Ticatch, Chair  
Andy Schaudt, Secretary  
Richard Pain, TRB Staff Liaison  
Gene Bergoffen  
Dave Melton  
Gerald Donaldson  
Martin Walker  
Daniel Blower  
Pierre Thiffault  
Ron Knipling  
Robert Scopatz  
Michael Belzer  
Anne McCartt  
Robert Clarke  
Brenda Lantz  
Stephen Keppler  
John Siebert  
Gerald Krueger  
Deborah Freund  
Bill Mahorney  
Roger Clarke**

**Others in Attendance:**

**Laura Fraade-Blanar  
Leanna Deput  
Mike Mollenhauer  
Charlie Vits  
Elli Walters  
Donna Vlasak  
Danielle Roeber  
Barbara Czech  
Julie Perrot  
Ryan Olson  
Jeff Hickman  
Richard Hanowski  
Darrell Bowman  
Robin Gillespie  
Jan Birdsey  
Linda Sharpe  
Erik Wik  
Fran Bents  
Bob Kreeb  
George Reagle  
Lew Grill  
David Goettee  
Walter Spiegel  
Ralph Craft**

**Dan Murray  
Jennifer Beaupre  
Dave Osiecki  
Tim Brown  
Ben Dow  
Barry Moore  
Dave Potts  
Julie Nixon  
Joe Petrolino  
Alrik Svenson  
Thomas Fugger  
Oliver Page  
Jeff Burns  
Bill Knee  
Karl Sieber  
Peter Lynch  
Don Osterberg  
Dominic Paul Piamonte  
Ganesh Karkee  
Bhuiyan Alam  
Albert Alvarez**

**OPENING DISCUSSION**

At 1:30 pm, Joel Ticatch called the meeting to order, welcomed members and guests, and opened the floor for self-introductions. After introductions, Joel spoke briefly on the history of the Truck and Bus Safety Committee, which began as a task force, and eventually became a committee. At this point, the committee is still fairly young. Initial activities included the drafting of the Truck and Bus Safety Circular, which was completed in 2007 under the leadership of Ron Knipling. When the circular effort was completed, the committee moved on to focusing on committee organization and structure. Now the committee has multiple subcommittees, all of which will report in today's meeting. Joel mentioned that the committee has members from

many areas and disciplines. Joel gave thanks to everyone for their time and efforts. A sign-in sheet was passed around to members and others in attendance.

## **2008 PAPER SUBMISSIONS**

Twenty-three papers in all were reviewed, more than double previous years. Among them, some were judged outstanding, and several will be published in coming months. Joel discussed important points to consider when reviewing papers as well as points important for authors to consider prior to submitting future papers:

- Asking the question, “Does the topic chosen make contributions to research?” Important topics might be covered, but if the overall study effort does not contribute to research, it is not likely to be published.
- Papers need to be well-written, well-organized, and edited. Authors should thoroughly review and critique their papers prior to submitting them. Have other colleagues review them as well.
- Authors should conduct and include a thorough review of the literature. Useful TRB sources to use include the Truck and Bus Safety Circular and the Commercial Truck and Bus Safety Synthesis Reports.
- Use statistics appropriately. This has imperiled a number of papers over the years.

Bob Scopatz made the comment that the review feedback he received was excellent on his paper. He noted that in other committees, the comments he has received were relatively poor, but that the reviewer feedback from ANB70 was detailed and thorough.

Gene Bergoffen commented that he is not a statistician, but that many papers are peppered with complex statistical formulas. At the beginning of the statistical discussions, authors should summarize their statistical methodologies and formulas and not assume that readers already understand these complex formulas. Show logical reasoning and summarize.

## **ANB70 COMMITTEE WEBSITE**

Brenda Lantz and Andy Schaudt reported that the website has been updated and slightly modified. The Membership and Friends of the Committee lists have been updated and uploaded to the website. The home page now contains yearly events of potential interest to members, and a new links page will be up and running in the near future. If you have suggestions for updates to the website, contact Brenda and/or Andy via email.

## **FMCSA UPDATES**

The next point of order in the meeting was to hear from the two Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) committee members. The first to report was Martin Walker. Martin highlighted some key projects currently under way at FMCSA:

- 1) Development of a website that provides **Defensive Driving Tips for Fleet Safety Managers and CMV Drivers** based on naturalistic driving video.
- 2) **Pilot Test of Low-Cost Onboard Monitoring System (DriveCam) to Improve Driver Performance.** The pilot test was conducted with two motor carriers and 100 outfitted CMVs.
- 3) **Driver Distraction Study in Commercial Vehicle Operations** using naturalistic data.
- 4) **Assessment and Refinement of North American Fatigue Management Program (FMP).**
- 5) Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Phase I development and initiation of Phase II of a Prototype Development of a **Drowsy Driver Monitoring System.**
- 6) **Investigation into Motor Carrier Practices to Achieve Optimal CMV Driver Performance.**

For further information on projects from the Research Division, Technology Division, and Analysis Division, see the FMCSA Research Handout attached to these minutes (*FMCSA Research Handout.pdf*).

The next FMCSA delegate to report was Deborah Freund from the Office of Policy. An overview of 2008 Rulemaking Activities is presented below:

*Summary of 2008 Rulemaking Activities, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration*

#### **Final Rules:**

Hours of Service of Drivers. Published November 19, 2008. RIN 2126-AB14.

Medical Certification Requirements as Part of the CDL. Published December 1, 2008. RIN 2126-AA10.

New-Entrant Safety Assurance Process. Published December 16, 2008. RIN 2126-AA59.

Requirements for Intermodal Equipment Providers and for Motor Carriers and Drivers Operating Intermodal Equipment. Published December 17, 2008. RIN 2126-AA86.

Electronic On-Board Recorders for Hours-of-Service Compliance. Accepted for review at the Office of Management and Budget, November 18, 2008. RIN 2126-AA89.

#### **Notices of Proposed Rulemaking:**

Transportation of Household Goods; Consumer Complaint Information Quarterly Report. Published February 20, 2008. RIN 2126-AB01.

Minimum Training Requirements for Entry-Level CMV Operators. RIN 2126-AB06. Comment period extended to May 23, 2008.

CDL Testing and Commercial Learner's Permit Standards. RIN 2126-AB02. Published April 9, 2008. Comment period extended to July 9, 2008.

Elimination of Route Designation Requirement for Motor Carriers Transporting Passengers Over Regular Routes. RIN 2126-AB16. Published August 7, 2008.

National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners. RIN 2126-AA97. Published December 1, 2008.

### **Notices of Policy:**

[short title] Considering the Preventability of Crashes in Administrative Review Requests of Hazardous Materials Safety Permit Denials. Published September 16, 2008.

Use of Advanced Information Technologies to Monitor Compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. Published November 19, 2008.

### **Useful URLs:**

FMCSA's website: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov>

USDOT General Counsel – Significant Rulemakings: <http://regs.dot.gov>

Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>

(Search: RIN 2126-AA89 or FMCSA-2004-18940)

New Office of the Federal Register portal: <http://federalregister.gov>

## **COMMERCIAL TRUCK & BUS SAFETY SYNTHESIS PROGRAM (CTBSSP)**

Donna Vlasak reported on the Synthesis Program. Donna handed out copies of the quarterly report, and this report is attached to these minutes (*CTBSSP Quarterly.pdf*). Four new synthesis topic contracts have been executed for scheduled publication in Summer 2009.

- 1) CTBSSP MC-18 – Older Drivers: Do they Post a Safety Risk
- 2) CTBSSP MC-19 – Chemical Substance Effects on Driving/Performance: Stimulants, Hypnotics, and Nutritional Aids.
- 3) CTBSSP MC-20 – Operator Drug and Alcohol Testing across Modes
- 4) CTBSSP MC-21 – Special Safety Concerns of School Bus Drivers

You are invited to propose new topics for study in 2009. All topics must be submitted to the committee by March 31, 2009.

## **INTERNATIONAL WELLNESS CONFERENCE**

Albert Alvarez, from FMCSA, announced that an International Wellness Conference will focus on the cost and benefit of instituting a health and wellness approach to a carrier or operation. It is the belief of many researchers and press that a mechanism to reduce the escalating cost of health care is important, and one that has been looked at is wellness programs. There is material

out there, enough of it, in the general population that the benefits of wellness programs could be talked about in a conference to bring together researchers from industry and research to solicit papers and get representatives who have implemented them, offer best practices and the data to show how they have affected the bottom line in a positive way. TRB has worked together in a similar conference in the past. It will be under their umbrella. The proposed date is sometime in the spring of 2010. Jerry Krueger, Albert Alvarez, and Rick Pain are heading up the planning efforts. Please email at [albert.alvarez@dot.gov](mailto:albert.alvarez@dot.gov), or by phone at 202-385-2387, with suggestions and comments.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE/TASK FORCE REPORTS**

**Truck and Bus Operator Health and Wellness Subcommittee** – Jerry Krueger stated that there has been good attendance (approximately 12 attendees) at each meeting of the Truck and Bus Operator Health and Wellness Subcommittee meetings. The meeting, which was held yesterday (Monday) here at TRB, started with a discussion on the pertinent Circular chapter as well as the Synthesis study that was performed. Goals and purposes of the subcommittee are:

- 1) Raise visibility of the importance of health and wellness in the TRB research community
- 2) Promulgate commercial driver health and wellness research findings
- 3) Highlight research recommendations
- 4) Foster more research on health and wellness related to truck and bus safety concerns

**Driver Training Joint Subcommittee** – Gene Bergoffen mentioned that this subcommittee is co-sponsored with ANB30 (operation regulation). At the subcommittee meeting, David Melton will give a short update. Pam Fisher, Jersey Highway Safety, spoke about the novice driver arena. Essentially, they are trying to placard all novice driver cars as well as to sanction everyone in the novice driver's car, not just the driver. It was also suggested that research be performed on issues other than just crashes, such as behavior.

**Motorcoach Safety Organizational Subcommittee** – Gerald Donaldson requested that all those interested in participating in the subcommittee join in a discussion after the Motorcoach session on Wednesday. A call for members should be done because the numbers are low. Discussion included the possibility that Martin Walker would be invited to give a short presentation next year on fatigue and recovery, and also to identify an expert to present on motorcoach fires and potential suppression. Other potential presentation areas might be a range of safety technologies, new seating systems, roll stability, and anti-rollover systems. Those invited to present do not only have to be academic, but also manufacturers of systems.

Mike Belzer introduced some work that started this year for the purpose of understanding institutional and industrial structure motorcoach/bus industry in the international arena. What do other countries have in regards to a regulatory framework? There is some concern that potential underground bus industries are growing rapidly. Steve Keppler mentioned that CVSA is holding a motorcoach and bus safety summit on March 5-6, 2009. Stakeholders from NHTSA, FMCSA, NTSB, bus operators, OEMs, insurance agencies, etc. are expected to participate. The location will be the Crystal City Hyatt.

**Truck and Bus Data Subcommittee** – There was a scheduling problem for this subcommittee here at TRB; however they were able to meet earlier today at 1:10pm. Bob Scopatz invited all those there were interested to join the subcommittee. Currently they are working on a statement with some goals and an approach and would like the committee to review the draft comments.

## **NATIONAL SURVEY OF CMV DRIVERS**

For information on this presentation by Karl Sieber, please see the presentation slides handout attached to these minutes (*NIOSH Survey Presentation\_Sieber.ppt*).

## **OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION INDUSTRY SELF-EVALUATION**

Gene Bergoffen discussed the potential need of an Alternative Compliance Subcommittee. Gene recommended that such a subcommittee could monitor and report on various projects relating to self-evaluation, certification, and alternative compliance:

- An ongoing inventory and reporting on international efforts and research could provide an informed basis for considering and comparing US efforts
- An independent overview of all programs and projects could provide a credible basis for evaluating program effectiveness
- An assessment of research results and gaps could aid FMCSA and other organizations in developing research agendas relating to self-evaluation and alternative compliance

The overall recommendation is that the ANB70 Truck and Bus Safety Committee establish a Subcommittee on Alternative Compliance (with appropriate liaison with the Trucking Industry Research Committee) to conduct the following information gathering and advisory activities:

1. Monitoring and Reporting on New Programs and Projects within the United States and internationally relating to Carrier Self-Evaluation, Certification, and Alternative Compliance. Maintain an annotated inventory of ongoing programs.
2. Consideration of approaches for evaluation of the effectiveness of ongoing programs.
3. Making periodic recommendations for research, pilot-testing, and demonstration projects relating to Alternative Compliance and Self-Evaluation.
4. Serving as an information clearinghouse on carrier self-evaluation and alternative compliance programs.

Joel entertained a motion for the creation of the alternative compliance subcommittee. The motion made, seconded, and passed. Gene Bergoffen was appointed Chair of the subcommittee. For further information on this subcommittee, see attached documents to these minutes (*Alt Comp Brochure Handout.pdf*, *Potential Alternative Compliance Subcommittee.pdf*, *Certification Synthesis Conclusions.pdf*).

## **RESEARCH NEEDS STATEMENTS**

Roger Clark has volunteered to be the liaison to between ANB70 and TRB on setting up and maintaining the research needs database for the committee. Roger checked on the TRB and noticed that ANB70 has never officially submitted a Research Need statement. Roger mentioned that this is a little embarrassing and suggested the committee get on it. Rebecca Brewster suggested that each author of each chapter of the Circular submit one. Roger will move forward with the research needs database effort.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: International and Young Member Positions**

Membership is pretty full at this point with occasional vacancies; however, the committee will be back for rotation in 2010. Opening up 1/3 of slots for new folks and this takes effect in spring 2010. In the meantime, we have openings for international committee members (Canada is not considered International). There are also additional spots for young members. Anyone interested in international membership please email Joel either today or subsequent to the meeting. On young member opportunities, Rebecca consented to head up the process just like in the past. She will head up an ad hoc committee for membership. The age for Young Members is now 35 or under.

Jerry Donaldson asked about constraints on subcommittees, and Joel said there are none -- just that the chair of a subcommittee has to be a member of ANB70.

## **TRB STAFF REPORT**

Rick Pain suggested that the committee get research needs statements submitted to the database right away. As reauthorization approaches, TRB gets asked about research. This is an opportunity for TRB to show them the database. We feel if every committee can do that, we will have a very impressive group of ideas.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Joel stated that the mid-year meeting will be scheduled, but not now. He mentioned to stay tuned for future emails regarding dates. Maybe a dovetailing with subcommittee meetings could be done, and even potentially by way of webinar.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Debbie mentioned that in September 2009 SAE is going to be holding bi-annual event data recorder symposium. In DC/Dulles corridor.

Bob noted that UMTRI is planning a conference in June on efficient safe and sustainable truck transportation. Flyer coming soon.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

NORA Overview: Gerald Kruger, Krueger Economic Consultants. Slides from this presentation can be found attached to these minutes (*NORA presentation.ppt*).

North American Fatigue Management Program: Alison Smiley, Human Factors North. Slides from this presentation can be found attached to these minutes (*Fatigue Management Program.pdf*).

Falls from Equipment: David Melton, Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety. Slides from this presentation can be found attached to these minutes (*Falls from CMVs.pdf*).

Brake Safety Research: Deborah Freund, FMCSA and Steve Keppler, CVSA. Slides from these presentations can be found attached to these minutes (*Brake Safety Research\_Freund.pdf*, *Operation Air Brake\_Keppler.pdf*).

Fostering a Culture of Safety within Motor Carriers: David Goettee, FMCSA. Slides from this presentation can be found attached to these minutes (*Safety\_Culture\_Goettee.pdf*).

Hazardous Materials Research: Andy Schaudt, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute. This presentation was canceled due to the lack of time left in the meeting. If you have further questions on this research, contact Andy Schaudt at [aschaudt@vti.vt.edu](mailto:aschaudt@vti.vt.edu).

**Adjournment @ 5:45pm**