

**Commercial Truck & Bus Safety Synthesis Program (CTBSSP)
Project MC-25 on:**

Safety Management in Small Motor Carriers



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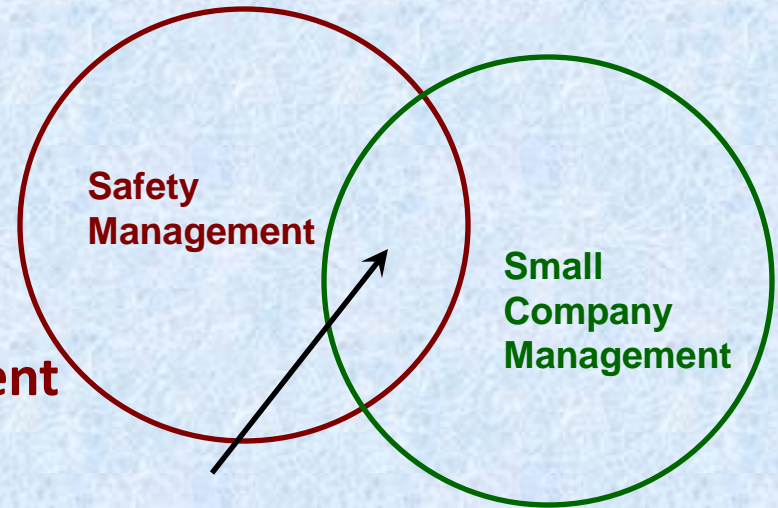
**TRB Truck & Bus Safety (ANB70) Committee Meeting
October 31, 2011**

Participants

- **Researchers:**
 - Authors: Ron Knipling, Kenna Nelson
 - Supervising Lit Review: Dr. Steve Burks, University of Minnesota at Morris
 - Prime contractor: Mr. Gene Bergoffen, Mainway Services
- **Survey support from trade associations:**
 - American Bus Association (ABA)
 - Bus Industry Safety Council (BISC)
 - National Association of Small Trucking Companies (NASTC)
 - Owner-Operator Independent Driver Association (OOIDA)
 - United Motorcoach Association (UMA)
- **Motor carrier owners/managers via project surveys & case study interviews**



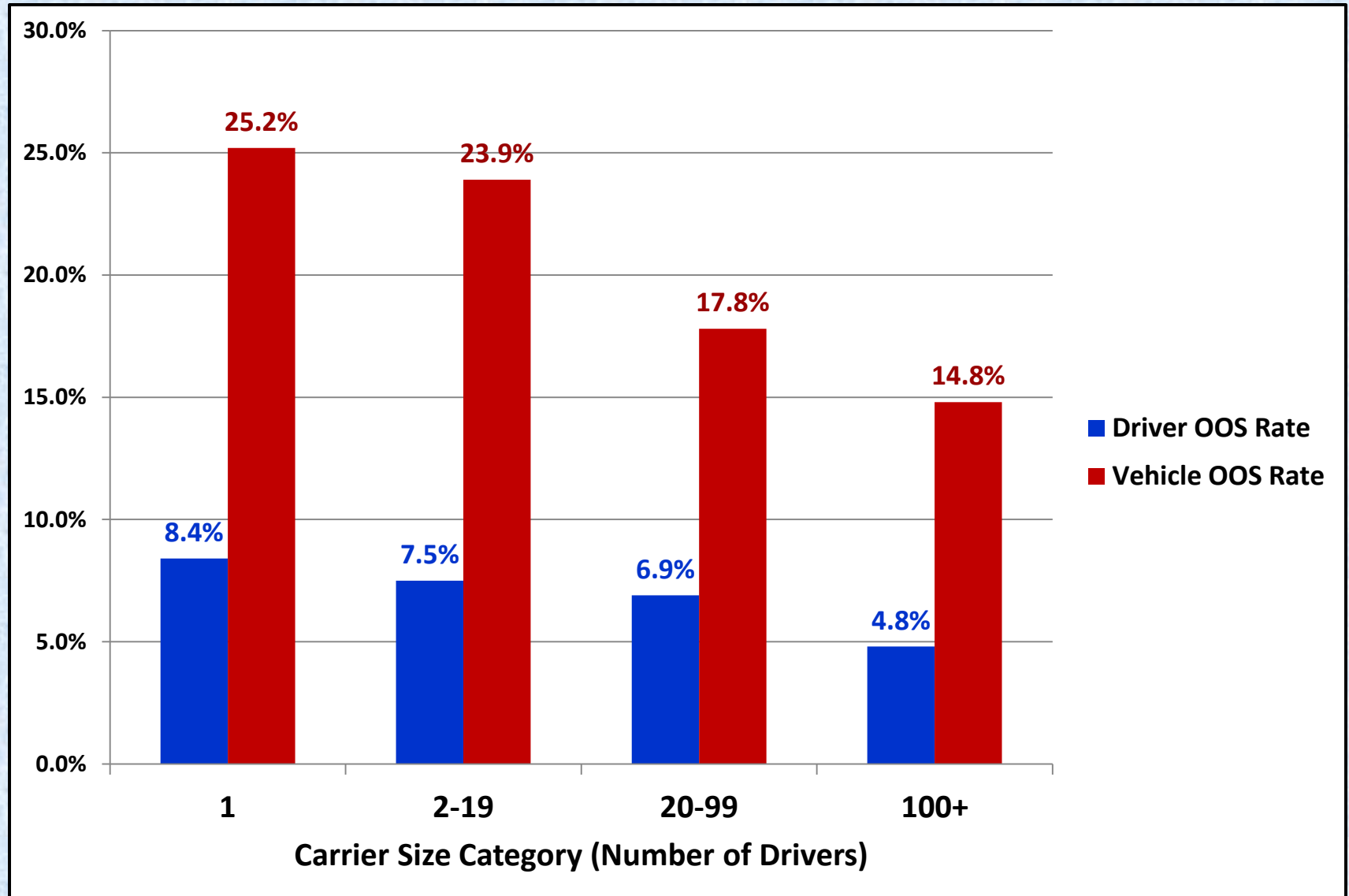
Safety Management in Small Motor Carriers (MC-25)



- **Review research on:**
 - **Motor carrier safety management**
 - **Small company management**
 - **Small motor carrier safety management.**
- **Survey of small carrier managers.**
- **Case study interviews with 10 small company managers to identify problems & innovative practices.**
- **Goals:**
 - **Identify useful practices**
 - **Outline a progression to more comprehensive safety management for small companies as they grow.**

Carrier Size & Inspection OOS Rates

[2006-2009 MCMIS Data]



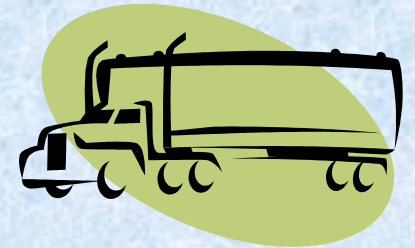
Survey Importance Ratings of Safety Management Areas

- 1. Driver selection/hiring**
- 2. Vehicle maintenance**
- 3. Training, communications**
- 4. Scheduling/dispatching**
- 5. Driver evaluation (e.g., violations)**
- 6. Trip planning/routing**
- 7. Monitoring CSA scores**
- 8. Driver rewards & discipline**
- 9. Loading, cargo securement, dock/yard**
- 10. Vehicle safety equipment (e.g., technologies)**



Small Carrier Safety Advantages

- **Direct manager contact with drivers & vehicles**
- **Narrower span of control**
- **Greater personal involvement with company**
- **Lower turnover**
- **Experienced managers & drivers**
- **+ 4 others.**



Small Carrier Safety Disadvantages

- Management spread thin
- **Weak business skills**
- Non-analytic management
- **Weak documentation**
- Unsystematic hiring for “personal fit”
- **Less time spent on training**
- Less management development
- **Less computer literacy**
- Less use of OBSM
- **Non-use of crash avoidance technologies**
- + 4 others.



Improving Small Carrier Safety Management

- **Business plan & focus**
- **Record keeping**
- **Management development**
- **Self-insight into management style (& how it must change)**
- **Build on small carrier strengths**
- **More systematic management practices**
- **Safety culture**
- **Use OBSM**
- **Use safety technologies**
- **Recognize & confront compliance challenges**
- **PM schedules & software**
- **Operational & trip planning**
- **Detention fees for loading/unloading delays**
- **“Cradle-to-grave” HRM**
- **Formalized driver selection**
- **+ 12 more.**

Small Carrier R&D Needs

- More representative studies
- **Intervention case studies**
- Driver selection tool validation
- **Filtering for crash preventability in CSA**
- Control for regression to the mean in intervention (e.g., Compliance Review) studies
- **Aid to small carriers to reduce detention delays**
- Technology demonstrations
- **Open access benchmarking tool**
- Web-based management training
- **Wellness programs.**

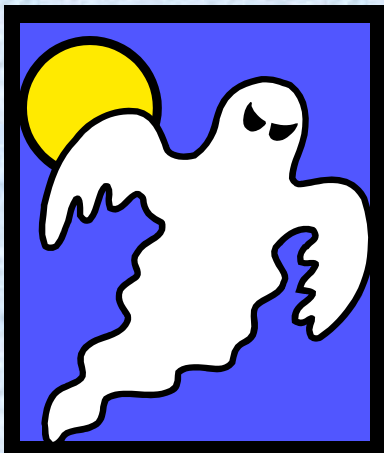


Thanks for your attention!

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THANK YOU

