

NHTSA Status Report

TRB Truck and Bus Safety Committee
ANB70 Mid-Year Meeting
October 23, 2012



NHTSA Status Report

Crash Avoidance Projects

- **Truck Tractor and Motorcoach Stability Control**
 - Purpose: Develop performance criteria and objective test(s) for a standard on electronic stability control for truck tractors and motorcoaches. The stability control system is aimed at addressing rollover and loss-of-control crashes.
 - Status: NPRM published on May 23, 2012 (77 FR 30766).
 - Next Steps: Review comments and finalize rule.
- **Forward Collision Avoidance and Mitigation (F-CAM) System Research**
 - Purpose: Develop objective test procedures and performance metrics for these systems; develop benefits estimates; conduct human factors research related to the crash warning; initiate a cost tear-down study.
 - Status: Recently kicked-off a one-year field operational test with 150 vehicles.
 - Next Step: Agency Decision on Rulemaking expected in 2013.

NHTSA Status Report

Crash Avoidance Projects

- Lane Departure Warning Research
 - Purpose: Develop objective test procedures and performance metrics using latest generation LDW systems.
 - Status: Currently conducting a comprehensive cost-benefits and synthesis study to be completed by the end of 2013.
 - Next Step: LDW system operation and performance will be closely monitored on 150 vehicles over one year through the F-CAM field operational test.
- Heavy Truck Tires
 - Purpose: Upgrade the heavy vehicle tire standard, FMVSS 119.
 - Status: NPRM published on September 29, 2010 (75 FR 60036). In response to comments, two rounds of additional endurance testing were completed in 2011 and 2012.
 - Next Steps: Test data analysis and agency decision by end of 2012.

NHTSA Status Report

Crashworthiness Projects

- **Lap/Shoulder Belts on Motorcoaches**
 - Purpose: Reduce occupant ejections and mitigate injury during crash events requiring lap/shoulder belts at all seating positions in motorcoaches.
 - Status: NPRM was published on August 18, 2010. The agency received more than 100 comments on the NPRM.
 - Next Step: The agency expects to issue a final rule in 2012.
- **Motorcoach Rollover Structural Integrity**
 - Purpose: The agency is considering improvements to the structural integrity of motorcoaches in rollover events to maintain the occupant survival space and the structural integrity around the side windows.
 - Status: NHTSA has evaluated appropriate performance requirements for a roof crush/rollover test.
 - Next Step: NPRM is expected to be issued in 2012.

NHTSA Status Report

Crashworthiness Projects

- **Improve Glazing and Window Retention in Motorcoaches**
 - Purpose: MAP-21 requires NHTSA to develop anti-ejection rulemaking for motorcoaches. Preliminary research results indicated that preventing ejection would involve not only glazing but also the structural integrity of the motorcoach to ensure that the glazing doesn't pop out when the bus structure twists.
 - Status: Currently pursuing second phase of research on glazing and window retention.
 - Next Step: Agency decision is expected in 2012.
- **Motorcoach Emergency Evacuation**
 - Purpose: NHTSA is considering upgrading the motorcoach evacuation standards.
 - Status: NHTSA's emergency evacuation research program at the Volpe Center was completed in 2010.
 - The agency will focus on improving glazing and window retention to meet the MAP-21 mandate before proceeding with an emergency evacuation rulemaking for motorcoaches.

NHTSA Status Report

Crashworthiness Projects

- **Motorcoach Fire Safety**
 - Purpose: Agency is considering upgrading the fire standards that apply to motorcoaches.
 - Status: Two-year research program with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) was completed in 2011 and is available in DOT Docket NHTSA-2007-28793-0026.
 - Next Step: Follow-up research in 2012 will develop focus on exterior motorcoach material, fire detection systems, and fire suppression systems.
- **Heavy Vehicle Event Data Recorders**
 - Purpose: Evaluate SAE Recommended Practice J2728, "Heavy Vehicle Event Data Recorders (HVEDRs)," which was published in June 2010.
 - Status: Currently identifying implementation issues related to appropriate performance requirements, economic impacts, and data collection needs.
 - Next Step: Agency decision on whether to initiate rulemaking in 2012.