



THE ASSOCIATION

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NHTSA STEPS UP EFFORTS TO REDUCE CHILD DEATHS

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With record high temperatures nationwide and reports of 21 hyperthermia-related child deaths already this summer, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) convened a first of its kind roundtable with key stakeholders today to help step up efforts to prevent these needless deaths. Children left alone in vehicles during hot weather are at risk of a serious injury or death from hyperthermia. According to NHTSA research, hyperthermia is the leading cause of non-crash vehicle deaths for children under the age of fourteen.

“These twenty-one deaths were tragic and preventable – not one of those children should have lost their lives in this horrible way,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. “We need to do everything we can to re-

mind people to be vigilant and never leave a child alone in or around a motor vehicle.”

NHTSA experts were joined by representatives from the automobile industry, car seat manufacturers, victims, researchers, consumer groups, and health and safety advocates to discuss strategies to reduce child fatalities and injuries in hot vehicles. Reports by the San Francisco State University Department of Geosciences show 49 children under the age of 14 years died in 2010 due to hyperthermia, with 21 deaths so far in 2011. Several states have witnessed especially high incidences of fatalities for children aged 3 and under – including Texas, Florida, California, Nevada, and North Carolina. “We know hyperthermia is a serious threat that needs to be better addressed immediately,” said David Strickland, Administrator of NHTSA. “A coordinated,

targeted approach to increase public awareness of this very serious safety danger should help prevent unnecessary tragedies and near-misses moving forward. We need to come together and give the best information to parents, caregivers, and our communities to protect children in vehicles.”

In the coming weeks and months, Administrator Strickland and his staff will host listening sessions and other activities in some of the states hardest hit by hyperthermia deaths. They will engage concerned parents, advocacy groups, automotive experts, and health and law enforcement professionals, to discuss the best ways to raise awareness and to propose strategies for preventing these tragic events.

IACAI: HELP WANTED

The Indiana Association of Certified Accident Investigators is looking for a motivated individual who would be interested in getting more involved in the Association as a South Director. Candidates for the position should live in the southern part of the state and have a genuine interest in Accident Investigation and a desire to promote the Association. Any member who is interested in the position should contact IACAI President Don Harris @ donhar232@comcast.net or Vice President Kip Shuter @ kshuter@warsaw.in.gov

2011 IACAI SEMINAR DATES

- **September 28, 2011**
Greenwood, IN Topic: New Technologies
- **November 30, 2011**
Seymour, IN Topic: Legal Update

UNDERRIDE GUARDS ON BIG RIGS OFTEN FAIL

Insurance Institute For Highway Safety



In a recent published Q&A from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, SUVs and pickup trucks are involved in more backovers than cars. These vehicles typically have bigger blind zones, in large part because they sit higher off the ground, making it more difficult for drivers to see children and smaller objects near the rear of the vehicle. *Consumer Reports* measures rear blind zones of vehicles and has found that, for a 5-foot-8-inch-tall driver, an average midsize SUV has an 18-foot blind zone behind the vehicle, compared with 13 feet for an average midsize sedan. Blind zones for shorter drivers are much bigger. An analysis of driveway backovers involving children in Utah from 1998 to 2003 found that children were 53 percent more likely to be injured by a pickup truck than a car and 2.4 times more likely to be injured by a minivan, relative to the number of registered vehicles of each type. There wasn't a significant difference between injury

rates for SUVs and cars. However, the results may have been skewed by the fact that minivans are more likely to be owned by families with children.

The Q&A goes on to say that the current technology, such as rearview camera technology, may never be 100 percent effective so drivers will always need to be vigilant. The national "Spot the Tot" campaign, developed by Safe Kids Utah, encourages drivers to walk completely around a vehicle before getting in and to roll down windows to hear what is happening near the vehicle before backing. It also suggests teaching children to move away from a vehicle when started and to have them stand in full view of the driver when backing. Separating children's play areas from driveways also may help. A study in New Zealand in the 1990s found that children in homes without a fence separating the driveway from the play area were 3½ times more likely to be killed or injured in a driveway crash.



IP Crash For I-Phone

Accident Investigators now have a new tool in their arsenal in the form of an app for the Apple i-Phone. Called ip-Crash, it is a software program designed with the crash investigator in mind. The program contains 38 separate formulas to calculate speeds, distances, times, linear momentum and more, all in a self-contained easy to use application. The purchase cost for ipCrash is only \$9.95. For those interested in purchasing the app, or for more information on the program, visit <http://www.ipcrash.info/>

"...for the 5 foot 8 inch driver, the average midsize SUV has an 18 foot blind zone behind the vehicle"

IN MEMORIAM: OFFICER BRENT LONG

The Indiana Association of Certified Accident Investigators would like to express its condolences to the family, friends and department of Terre Haute Police Officer Brent Long, who was killed in the line of duty on July 11th, 2011 while attempting to serve an arrest warrant. Thirty-four year old Long was a six-year veteran of the Terre Haute Police Department, serving as K9 officer, with his partner, "Shadow," who was also shot during the service attempt. Long was assisting in attempting to serve a warrant on Shaun Seeley, 34, of Terre Haute when he was shot. Long was able to return fire despite suffering mortal wounds.

Officer Long gave the ultimate sacrifice to his community and to his fellow officers. Please continue to remember him, his family, and his department in your prayers.



VEHICLE CRASH RELATED INJURIES, PART III



One of the more notable motor vehicle injury complaints is that of neck pain. While the very utterance of 'neck pain' conjures thoughts of shady lawyers and plaintiffs in neck braces and wheelchairs asking for millions of dollars in damage claims, the reality of the injury is that it does occur, and sometimes, more often than not in low speed motor vehicle collisions.

WHIPLASH

Caused by an unexpected, forceful jerking of the head, which causes the ligaments that are connected to the spine to stretch or tear. Pain can begin immediately after the injury or manifest itself in a few days or weeks following the event. Those who suffer from Whiplash often

complain of back and shoulder pain, stiffness in the neck, dizziness, and pins & needles sensation in the area. Other complaints include headaches, memory loss and concentration. Treatment for Whiplash may include the use of pain medication, physical therapy, use of a soft neck brace and muscle relaxers. The symptoms may last up to three months following the event.

On the more serious side of motor vehicle collisions, there are **Spinal Cord Injuries**. Victims of Spinal Cord injuries will experience paralysis at and below a certain level or area of the spine. Often in the case of Spinal Cord injuries, paralysis occurs just below the site of the injury. The spine is divided into

areas, including the Cervical, Thoracic, Lumbar, and Sacral regions. Each of these regions contains a number of vertebrae which protect the spinal cord. When a vertebra is fractured or severely hyperflexed, a spinal cord injury can occur. In some cases, such as an injury to the C-1, C-2 area of the spine, death or profound paralysis results. In rare cases, however, individuals have been known to recover with little or no lasting effects. The important thing to remember when a motorist complains of neck pain is to take action. Not taking this type of complaint seriously can result in catastrophic injury to the motorist, even if they appear to act fine at the scene.

Crash Trivia:
Airbags take approximately 40 milliseconds to inflate during an auto accident.

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TRAINING

<u>IPTM</u>	http://www.ipm.org/Schedule.aspx	<u>NUCPS</u>	http://nucps.northwestern.edu/course/crs_list.asp
09/26-10/7 \$895	Advanced Crash Investigation Jacksonville, FL	09/12-23 \$975	Crash Investigation I Evanston, IL
10/10-21 \$895	Crash Reconstruction Jacksonville, FL	09/26-10/7 \$975	Crash Investigation II Evanston, IL
10/17-21 \$695	Investigation of Motorcycle Crashes Jacksonville, FL	10/10-14 \$775	Vehicle Dynamics Evanston, IL
10/24-28 \$695	Event Data Recorder Use Jacksonville, FL	10/17-28 \$1050	Crash Reconstruction I Evanston, IL
11/28-12/2 \$695	Pedestrian/Bicycle Crash Invest. Jacksonville, FL	10/31-11/4 \$850	Crash Reconstruction II Evanston, IL
2/20-24/2012 \$725	Applied Physics Jacksonville, FL		



DID YOU KNOW...

1. Windshield wipers were invented by a woman.
2. The first product Motorola started to develop was a record player for automobiles. At the time, the most known player on the market was the Victrola, so they called themselves Motorola.
3. In the 1970's cars were scrapped almost twice as often as small trucks, but over the years cars have become more durable. In 1999, the scrappage rate was almost equal.
4. Motor vehicle accidents account for 50% of all accidental deaths in the United States.
5. Women spend more than \$65 million on new cars and trucks, influence 80% of all new car purchases and purchased 60% of new cars produced in 2001.
6. The first Ford cars had Dodge engines. In 1916, 55 percent of the cars in the world were Ford Model T's. That record has never been broken.
7. Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of injury-related death in Alaskan Natives, aged 19 and younger.
8. In 1876, the first practical 4-stroke gas powered engine was developed by a grocery salesman named Nikolas Otto.
9. The name "Volvo" is Latin for "I roll."
10. In August 1935 in Oklahoma City, the first parking meter offense was credited to the arrest of the Rev. C.H. North, of the Church of Oklahoma City.

****Correction****

In the last issue of the Association, the first question in the IACAI Skills page should have read like this:

1. "A vehicle skidded 140 feet on a new level road surface and continued to skid 130 feet on an old level road surface. The new road surface was tested and had a drag factor of 0.80. The old surface was then tested and was found to have a drag factor of 0.70. At the end of the skidding on the old road surface, the vehicle traveled 40 feet horizontally, while dropping 10 feet vertically off an embankment. These distances apply to the center of mass of the vehicle." I apologize for the error!

The Autobahn first came to being in Germany in May 1935, between the cities of Frankfort and Darmstadt.

ISP TO OFFER FREE PHOTOGRAMMETRY TRAINING

The Fort Wayne Post of the Indiana State Police will be hosting a 40-hour **I-Witness Photogrammetry Software Course** starting September 19th thru the 23rd, 2011, at the Fort Wayne Post, located at 5811 Ellison Road, Fort Wayne IN 46804

Classes will begin promptly at 0800 hrs each day, and is limited to 20 students.

This class is FREE; however, the student is responsible for all travel, housing, food, and time. Students attending the course will need to bring their own laptop computer, I-Witness software with dongle, camera, and appropriate markers.

Anyone interested in attending the course should contact

M/Trp. Thomas Merkling via email (tmerkling@isp.in.gov) to

reserve your seat, or if you have any questions.

If you know of anyone who may benefit from this course, please forward this information. You may also contact M/Trp. Merkling at:

260-432-8661 (Post)
800-552-0976 (IN only)
260-436-5850 (Fax)

IACAI SKILLS

This issue of IACAI Skills has to do with Heavy Vehicle reconstruction.

1. A _____ transforms and multiplies the force developed by the brake chamber into a torque which applies the brakes via the brake camshaft.
 - A. Air brake reservoir
 - B. Check valve
 - C. Slack adjuster
 - D. Pre-tensioner

2. An axle which serves only to support additional gross weight, is called a _____ axle.
 - A. 3rd axle
 - B. Tag axle
 - C. Supporting axle
 - D. Brace axle

3. The name "Dolly" refers to:
 - A. A coupling device composed of one or two axles and a fifth wheel.
 - B. The secondary braking system for a double trailer system
 - C. A combination of two axles usually pivoting about a common trunnion.
 - D. A test-tube goat born as the result of genetic testing.

4. A _____ was an instrument used in earlier tractors which automatically recorded the number miles driven, the speed, the number of stops and other pertinent statistics.
 - A. Sevier Data recorder
 - B. Tachograph
 - C. Durameter
 - D. None of the above

5. The coefficient of friction for a truck tire is not the same as is for a car tire. A common range used to determine what a truck tire coefficient of friction compared to a car tire coefficient of friction would be:
 - A. 60% - 75% of the value of a car tire
 - B. 45% - 50% of the value of a car tire
 - C. 75% - 85% of the value of a car tire
 - D. 75% - 90% of the value of a car tire

6. True / False Damage to the filament of a heavy truck or bus can likely be due to a change in velocity, rather than the result of a collision.

7. True / False The effective track width of a semi-tractor/trailer can be reduced by its angle of articulation.

8. True / False Knowing the friction lining value of a truck's brake pad is crucial to obtaining an accurate speed/velocity.



The answers to this issue of the IACAI Skills can be found in the next edition of the IACAI newsletter.



IACAI TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT



Seminar Announcement

The Indiana Association of Certified Accident Investigators will be sponsoring a seminar on

"New Tech" (AM)

"Hybrid Vehicles" (PM)

Wednesday, September 28, 2011 0900-1500 hrs

at the

Greenwood Police Department Training Center

736 Loews Blvd

Greenwood, IN 46142

Cost: \$50 for IACAI members; \$75 for non-members

No advanced registration is required.

Registration begins at 08:30am

Questions regarding this seminar may be directed to IACAI

President Don Harris

email: donhar232@comcast.net

The Association is published quarterly as a service to members of the Indiana Association of Certified Accident Investigators.

Articles submitted are the responsibility of the author; the IACAI assumes no responsibility as to an article's content..