

Defensive Driving Tips for CMV Drivers: An Internet-Based Approach

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- ◆ Drivers providing consent to use their videos made this project possible



Presentation Overview

- ◆ Background on “driver error”
- ◆ Project overview
- ◆ Deliverables
- ◆ Webpage walk-through



Driver as Critical Reason

- ◆ Large Truck Crash Causation Study (LTCCS) reports that large trucks were assigned the critical reason in 55% of cases; driver reasons accounted for 87% of cases
- ◆ DDWS FOT study (2005) reports that large trucks were assigned the critical reason in 71% of safety-critical events; driver reasons accounted for 57.9% of cases
- ◆ “Driver Error” is the primary contributing factor in crashes
- ◆ Goal to provide information to drivers to address, and help minimize, driver errors



Project Overview

- ◆ Use the LTCCS critical reason framework to organize the webpage content
- ◆ Synthesize defensive driving safety information from the literature
 - The goal of the current project was to supplement these programs, not replace them
- ◆ Generate video examples from “naturalistic” studies
 - Asked drivers in the videos for their permission to use for the webpage
- ◆ Via webpage, provide ideas and tips to fleet safety managers and CMV drivers
- ◆ Webpage to be included on FMCSA’s website



Project Deliverables

- ◆ Final Report that includes the literature review and describes the web content development process
- ◆ Website:

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/outreach/education/driverTips/index.htm>

The screenshot shows the website's header with the U.S. Department of Transportation logo and navigation links. The main content area is titled 'CMV Web-Based Driving Tips Home Page' and includes a sidebar with categories like 'Project Background', 'Too Fast for Conditions', and 'Driver Fatigue'. The main text discusses the purpose of the website and provides information about the driving tips and video clips available.

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Home > Facts & Research > CMV Web-Based Driving Tips Home Page

Search: All FMCSA Sites Go

Facts & Research

CMV Driving Tips

- Project Background
- Too Fast for Conditions
- Unfamiliar Roadway
- Inadequate Surveillance
- Driver Fatigue
- Driver Distraction
- Following Too Closely
- Inadequate Evasive Action
- Documents
- References

CMV Web-Based Driving Tips Home Page

Even the most well-trained, safety-conscious Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) driver is at risk of engaging in driving behaviors that could lead to a crash on today's crowded highways. Weather conditions or road conditions change and suddenly "driving too fast for conditions" becomes a risk factor. Failing to look or looking and not seeing, impaired performance because of fatigue, inattention or daydreaming or an unexpected external distraction can all lead to a truck crash.

This website was developed to raise the consciousness of CMV drivers about common driving errors and to provide valuable driving tips through an easily accessible tool, the Internet. Fleet safety managers can also use this website for their driver training programs. These tips offer preventive measures that CMV drivers can take to help avoid crashes.

The driving tips, ideas and suggestions on this website are supported with real-world video clips (25- to 30-second video clips) recorded in a naturalistic (open roadway, non-test track) driving study conducted by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTI). The video clips show examples of driver errors that will serve to motivate CMV drivers to become safer drivers and thereby avoid dangerous driving situations. Also, as a training exercise, each video clip is followed by a set of questions to help encourage you to think about and examine the driver's behavior.

Please click on any of the error categories (left navigation bar) under the "Driving Tips" section. Under each category you will find driving tips, interesting facts, video clips, a video description, and the training exercise questions.

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