Applied Research Division

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U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

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2024

SAFETY RESEARCH FORUM

VIRTUAL EVENT

Applied Research Division

- **Purpose**: Conduct basic and applied research focused on Driver Health and Wellness, Carrier issues impacting safety, and staying current on international research and standards.
  - **Human Factors**
    - Driver Fatigue
    - Driver Distraction
    - Driver monitoring systems
  - **Driver Qualifications**
    - Medical Certification
    - CDL Knowledge, Skills, Training
  - **Impairment**
    - Alcohol
    - Other drugs
  - **Equity and Diversity**
    - Inspection and enforcement actions
    - Harassment
    - Carrier best practices
  - **Truck Parking**
    - Information Systems
    - Analysis of demand
  - **International Research & Standards**
    - Awareness/incorporation of international research activities
    - Participation in international transport safety organizations

Selected Applied Research Division Projects

- **Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program (SDAP)** https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safedriver
  - Required by Section 23022 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
  - Pilot program to determine the safety impacts of an apprenticeship program for drivers 18-20
- **"Driver Compensation Study" and "Driver Detention Time Study"**
  - Driver Compensation Study: Contract with TRB to understand the impact of various methods of driver compensation on safety and driver retention
  - Detention Time Study: Determine the frequency and severity of detention time and the impact on safety and operations
- **FMCSA Data Repository**
  - Develop, maintain, and operate the Repository with raw AND public use data sets
  - Launched in February 2022: https://fmcsadatarepository.vtti.vt.edu/
- **Warning Devices for Stopped Commercial Motor Vehicles**
  - Goal is to evaluate the effects of warning triangles deployed near a stopped CMV on safety-relevant driving behavior
  - Eye-trackers, vehicle sensors, and GPS will measure drivers' detection time, response time, and response quality with millisecond-precision.

Contact Information

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