Ambulance New Brunswick

Fleet Operations Safety Matt Crossman





Company Information



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- A Fleet of 135 Ambulances
- 1200 Paramedics and Staff
- Numerous Support Vehicles
- One Fixed Wing Air Ambulance
- Over 10 Million km Driven Annually
- A Call Volume of 110, 000 Annually



Risk Management

What is one of our biggest risks as a company?





- > 100 five ton vehicles travel 27,397 Km (17023 miles) daily
- Every day there is a potential for disaster to happen

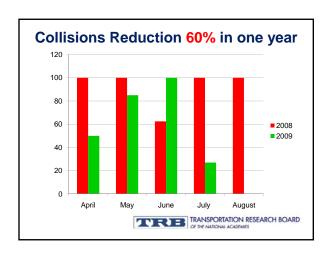


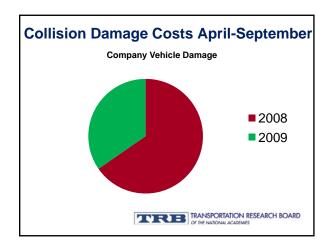
Plan to Mitigate Risk

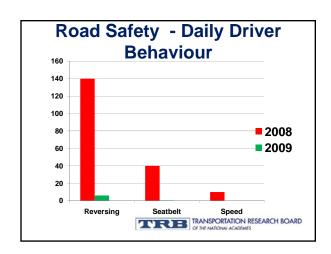
Ways to mitigate the risk?

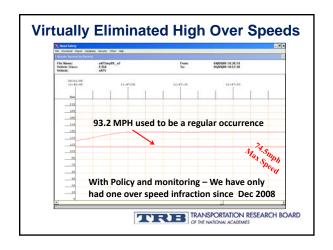
- □ Developed a plan of action focused on the safety of: 1)Paramedic 2) Patient 3) Public (3 P's)
- ☐ Senior management's commitment to maintain and continue a plan of action as the industry and behaviours change around us
- ☐ Develop a safety culture and equip all employees with the training, technology tools and skills to manage risk behaviour thus avoiding potential dangers











Obstacles Ambulance as a workplace Driving is an everyday routine Passive ("I do this everyday") versus active ("I am driving an ambulance") mindset about driving Driving is not a new skill Attitudes and behaviors are entrenched and hard to change Importance of driving skills Overshadowed by the focus on medical skills. Safe driving is part of the overall patient care spectrum



Step 1- Policies & Directives

- · Use of safety restraints
- · New employee driving privileges
- · Safe vehicle parking
- · Cell phone usage
- · School bus passing
- · Ambulance cleanliness
- · Collision and occurrence reporting
- · Driving under overhangs
- Stop & go
- · Use of emergency lights
- · Safe reversing of vehicles
- Vehicle safety practices





Step 2- Group Strategies

- Fleet standardization
- · Comprehensive maintenance schedules
- · Daily vehicle checks
- Enhanced vehicle design
- · Quality technicians
- · Decontamination staff training
- Enhanced mapping and tiered dispatch system
- Strategic vehicle placement
- Weather restriction of vehicle movement
- · Enhanced clinical training
- Safety seminars and education



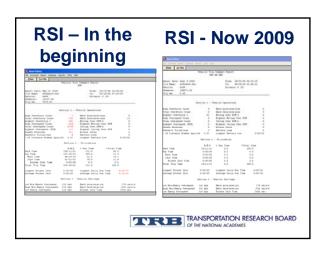
Step 3 -Road Safety International TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

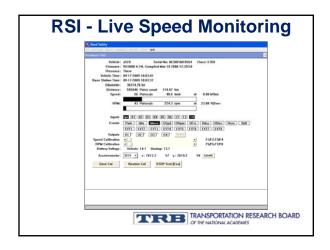
Step 3-Road Safety International (RSI) RSI Data Device

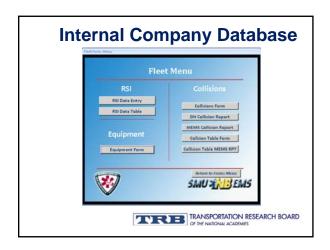
- Brakes
- Seatbelts
- Emergency Lights
- Idle Time
- RPM
- Vehicle Operator
- Low Forces

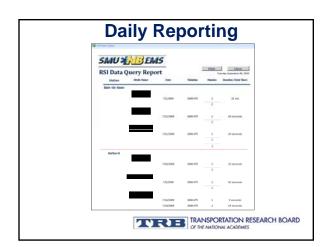
- Moving Time · Low Speeds

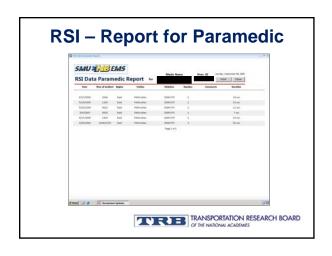
- · Parking Brake
- Siren
- Signaling
- · Headlight Use
- Reverse
- · Ignition On/ OFF
- · Park Time
- · High Speeds
- High Forces
- TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIS













Step 4 -Communication Safety Bulletins

- Consistent and targeted communications to all staff
- Communications on low force driver safety practices
- Timely safety messages targeted at high risk times





Step 5 – Section One VSP

Driver Safety Program

Section one didactic

- A compressive four hour classroom training session that focuses on the three 'P's
- Includes collision prevention strategies
- · Provincial and state law regulations
- Focuses on low force defensive driving
- Operating a vehicle in poor elements and conditions





Step 6 - Section Two VSP

Driver Safety Program

Section two hands on

- A two hour session consisting of:
 - six station obstacle course
 - road evaluation
 - written evaluation
- Any employees noted to have any areas of weakness are coached one on one in a four hour training session until they are comfortable with the material





Step 7- Collisions & Near Misses

Collisions & Incidents

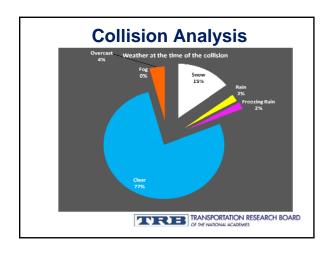
- All collision and incidents are investigated thoroughly; feedback and counseling is given to the driver and other staff if needed.
- All staff are trained on collision prevention and what to do in the event a collision occurs
- · Weekly random field safety inspections

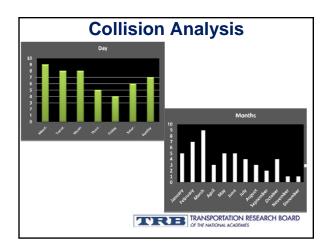
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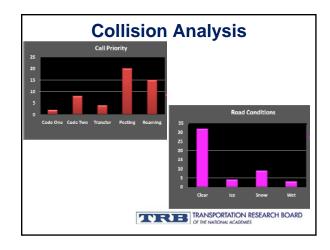
Step 7- Collisions & Near Misses

- All collision data is reviewed and trended; we examine ways to reduce the chance of this reoccurring
- In conjunction with the manufacturer, each vehicle that has been involved in a serious collision is inspected for structural integrity and ways to improve safety design











Step 9- Research & Development R&D Committee 1 - Department of Health 2 - NB EMS 3 - Malley Industries Focus Increased safety initiatives Research a new safer chassis Reduce gross vehicle weight Increase visibility Patient care compartment safety Sprinter