

Goal of the Summit

“Enhancing ambulance transport safety through shared knowledge of technical data”



Ambulance Transport Safety Summit

Bridging the gap between what we do and what is known

EMS Subcommittee of the TRB Ambulance Transport Safety Summit

October 29th, 2009



Commercial Motor Vehicles – Collision Metrics

- National Safety Council – program to recognize safe drivers
 - Frequency of collisions per million miles driven
 - OTR Trucking/Busing - common industry
 - Industry doesn't regret that they drive more often than they do other parts of their job
- Collisions per million miles
 - Collisions/Miles
- DOT recognizes process – iterations of defining a collision (ultimately ease of use)
 - Property Damage



What is a Collision?

- Collisions/Crashes/Injuries – How to measure?
 - What is a collision?
 - Property damage XS of ___?
 - Vehicle towed from scene
 - Injuries to occupants requiring offsite medical treatment
 - Mirror Slap
 - Any contact with another vehicle/fixed object
 - Where do you draw the line?



The Challenge – Defining Collisions

- What do you measure?
 - All incidents, near misses, occurrences?
 - Frequency or Severity of Both?
- What happens if events aren't captured in the data?
 - Data is corrupt?
 - Data is consistent?
- What is more important?
 - Accuracy of data?
 - Including everything in the data?
 - Ease of use to ensure consistency?
- **When you draw a line in the sand – things happen on both sides of the line**



DOT definition

- One or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident, requiring the motor vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other motor vehicle.



CMV definition

Disabling damage means damage which precludes departure of a motor vehicle from the scene of the accident in its usual manner in daylight after simple repairs.

- (1) **Inclusions.** Damage to motor vehicles that could have been driven, but would have been further damaged if so driven.
- (2) **Exclusions.**
- (i) Damage which can be remedied temporarily at the scene of the accident without special tools or parts.
 - (ii) Tire disablement without other damage even if no spare tire is available.
 - (iii) Headlight or taillight damage.
 - (iv) Damage to turn signals, horn, or windshield wipers which make them inoperative.



CMV – Collision Rate

- **10-year average accident rate** means for each State, the aggregate number of large truck-involved fatal crashes (as reported in the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)) for a 10-year period divided by the aggregate vehicle miles traveled (VMT) (as defined by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)) for the same 10-year period.
- **Accident rate** means for each State, the total number of fatal crashes involving large trucks (as measured by the FARS for each State) divided by the total VMT as defined by the FHWA for each State for all vehicles.



People believe what they hear

2006 Police-Reported Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes		
Crash Type	Large Trucks	All Vehicles
Fatal	4,321	38,588
Injury	77,000	1,746,000
Property Damage Only	287,000	4,189,000
Total	368,000	5,974,000



Questions??

- Please raise your hand or type in the message box

