

## CARRIER SAFETY MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE (ACS60-1)

2:00 PM- 3:00 PM (ET)

Sharon Newnam, Monash University Accident Research Centre, presiding

### Minutes:

The meeting commenced with introductions of the 19 attendees. The introductions were followed by a review of discussion from TRB20 meeting. Two topics were discussed at the previous meeting including (i) fatigue & driving and (ii) target earnings & safety. New research in the area of fatigue and driver safety was discussed. Sharon Newnam discussed a project funded in Australia that aims to develop two fatigue management project designed to (i) help drivers identify the triggers of fatigue and to generate strategies of avoiding situations that place them at risk of fatigue and (ii) develop the skills of supervisors in identifying situations in which drivers are at risk of fatigue and in managing these situations effectively. Dick Dunne discussed a NCHRP project focused on “Successful Approaches for Facilitating Truck Parking Accommodation Along Major Freight Corridors”. This project examines the roles and actions of transportation agencies, partners, and the public in applying successful strategies, developing emerging practices, and learning useful lessons to help address truck parking issues along major freight corridors within their jurisdictions. Dick also discussed upcoming research in driver distraction.

**ACTION:** Sharon Newnam and Dick Dunne to update the committee on these projects at TRB22

### **Presentation: Driving Health Study: Snapshot of Australian professional driver health**

The first presentation was from Dr Ross Iles, Senior Researcher from Monash University. Ross presented on the Driving Health Study: Snapshot of Australian professional driver health. This presentation focused on; 1) An overview of the project; 2) An introduction to the most recent analysis of a national survey of the physical and mental health of Australian drivers; and 3) the findings from in depth interviews with drivers and their family members. The final phase of the project will examine interventions aimed to improve the health of the Australian driver workforce. The Driving Health project is a research collaboration between Monash University, Linfox, the Transport Workers Union and the Centre for Work Health and Safety.

**Discussion:** Questions were posed by Bob Scopatz, Dick Dunne and Ron Knipling. Bob asked Ross if “the high-volume users are actually taking the opioids themselves versus dealing drugs, perhaps even to other drivers?” Ross stated that this was unknown but other data suggested that the drivers were likely to be taking the opioids themselves given the suggestion the workforce is not well educated on the health effects of this medication. Dick Dunne asked if “obesity was a diagnosed health condition?” Ross stated that the data collected on obesity in the study was self-report; thus, it is unknown if obesity was a diagnosed health condition. Ron Knipling stated that he has written an ACS60 statement on this issue of “Why are Commercial Drivers so Unhealthy?” (see <https://rns.trb.org/>). This statement seeks to better understanding of the genesis of the problem. This statement focuses on both the environmental and constitutional apparent causes of the problem.

**ACTION:** Ron to send Ross the research needs statement and provide any comments or suggested changes.

**Presentation:** National Road Safety Partnership Program (NRSP) in Australia

The second presentation was from Mr Jerome Carslake, Director of the National Road Safety Partnership Program (NRSP) in Australia. Jerome provided an overview of the NRSP, which is a collaborative network to support Australian businesses in developing a positive road safety culture. The presentation provided an overview of NRSP activities including tools, evidence and networks used to empower businesses to not only improve road safety in their workplace, but outside of their workplace too. The NRSP is hosted and delivered by Monash University Accident Research Centre (MUARC).

People are encouraged to visit the NRSP website: [nrspp.org.au](http://nrspp.org.au)

**Discussion:** Pete VanDyne provided US data on workplace injuries which is available to the public (see, <https://viewpoint.libertymutualgroup.com/article/2020-workplace-safety-index-the-top-10-causes-of-disabling-injuries/>). In the presentation, Jerome discussed 'Grey Fleet' projects. Pete clarified that Grey Fleet is called 'non-owned auto in the US' and welcomed follow up discussion in this area. Jerome also discussed a project in transport suicides. Ron mentioned that he wrote a research statement on this issue and welcomed feedback from Jerome.

**ACTION:** Ron to send Jerome the research needs statement and provide any comment or suggested changes.