



# Research Digest

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# Research Digest

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## *Item 1*

### **Commercial Truck and Bus Safety Synthesis Program: A Status Report 2011**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP RRD 8 • 2011*

This is a staff digest of the progress and status of the Commercial Truck and Bus Safety Synthesis Program, which is administered by the Transportation Research Board. Individual studies for the program are managed by Donna Vlasak, Manager, Commercial Truck and Bus Safety Synthesis Program.

#### CONTENTS

Background -- Introduction -- The CTBSSP -- Selection of Topics -- Conduct of the Studies -- Studies in Progress as of December 2010 -- Available Publications

This report is available for free download:

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_rrd\\_8.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_rrd_8.pdf)

## *Item 2*

### **Effects of Psychoactive Chemicals on Commercial Driver Health and Performance: Stimulants, Hypnotics, Nutritional, and Other Supplements**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP Synthesis 19 • 2011*

This synthesis study identifies available information and research gaps relating to the use of chemical substances by commercial drivers and is intended to provide up-to-date information to inform decision makers about the near-, mid-, and long-range planning needs for research and educational outreach programs. Its aim is to assist the commercial transportation safety community and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) in addressing issues involving the proliferation and availability of psychoactive chemical substances. Objectives included the provision of a narrative technical review of the scientific and analytical literature, summarizing what is documented about the effects of psychoactive chemicals on equipment operator performance; an extensive bibliographic reference listing of published literature on these topics; and two convenience surveys, offering information about gaps in knowledge and lessons learned. Appendixes present a description of the evidence available about the strength of a variety of chemical substances of which drivers appear to partake, as well as another supplemental bibliographic reading list of secondary source documents. Results from the literature review and the two convenience surveys of small numbers of Commercial Driver Medical Examiners and of commercial vehicle stakeholders point to the need for development and provision of more detailed user-friendly information about the numerous chemicals, drugs, supplements, popular energy enhancement products, and other chemical substances that might impact commercial drivers' performance and health. Numerous areas where additional commercial motor vehicle safety issue studies may be called for are also identified in this report.

This report is available for free download (1.4 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_syn\\_19.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_syn_19.pdf)



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## **Item 3**

### **Potential Safety Benefits of Motor Carrier Operational Efficiencies: A Synthesis of Safety Practice**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP Synthesis 20 • 2011*

This CTBSSP synthesis focuses on motor vehicle safety practices and the impacts of these practices, measured from within the industry, and provides information that may assist motor carriers in deploying their vehicles in ways that minimize crash risk. A major theme is to make travel safer. Motor carrier executives and managers are the principal audience, although government and industry officials involved in highway operations, regulations, or outreach may find some results relevant. The synthesis reports the research rationales and evidence for risk avoidance strategies and reports survey findings on their advisability, use, and perceived safety effects. It includes a literature review covering wide-ranging sources of research, crash and naturalistic driving data, and commercial products relevant to both efficiency and safety. It covered research literature and trade press, crash and naturalistic driving statistics, and vendor products and services. Information was also obtained from motor carrier managers and other safety experts who were surveyed with regard to driver and vehicle deployment practices relevant to both efficiency and safety. A convenience survey of interested, knowledgeable individuals, with 79 respondents out of 130, reports how current fleet safety managers view various driving situations and operational practices. Other safety experts in motor carrier safety included professionals in government, industry trade associations, and safety consulting and research and they were asked their opinions offering a different perspective on driver and vehicle deployment practices. The report also includes 11 short case studies, reporting confidentially, and motor carriers' operational practices that might reduce exposure to risk. Several interviewees volunteered that they used commercially acquired software. Research and development gaps that have come to light are included here.

This report is available for free download (1.4 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_syn\\_20.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_syn_20.pdf)



## **Item 4**

### **Driver Selection Tests and Measurement: A Synthesis of Safety Practice**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP Synthesis 21 • 2011*

"CTBSSP Synthesis 21 synthesizes current information on driver selection methods of commercial truck and bus companies, based primarily on the use of tests, measurements, and other assessments of applicants. It identifies and describes driver selection methods and instruments and their usefulness in predicting driver safety. The audience for this study includes motor carrier safety managers, other carrier executives and managers, and government and industry officials.

"The report reviewed the academic, commercial, and industrial literature on tests, measurements, and other procedures used by motor carriers to select safe commercial drivers. The study revealed large and enduring individual differences in crash risk among commercial drivers and highlighted the need for valid and usable driver selection procedures for carriers. Sources of this information were naturalistic driving studies, behavioral histories ("biodata"), driving behavioral histories, and other human performance studies, as well as federal regulations.

"Surveys and interviews were used to obtain information from motor carrier safety managers and other experts on selection procedures and tests and on underlying driver characteristics relevant to risk... [and a] select group of ten motor carrier safety managers—those whose questionnaire responses indicated an active focus on driver assessment—were interviewed for case studies on driver selection practices. Each case study describes the company's driver selection methods and features innovative hiring and related human resources management practices." -- Preface

This report is available for free download (4.6 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_syn\\_21.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_syn_21.pdf)

## **Item 5**

### **Safety Management in Small Motor Carriers**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP Synthesis 22 • 2011*

"The goals of this synthesis were to identify (1) useful practices for safety management in small companies and (2) a logical and practical progression to more active and comprehensive safety management for small companies as they grow. The report explores small motor carrier strengths and weaknesses and identifies potentially effective safety practices. It found that each company's safety outcomes are more reflective of its own safety practice and operating environment than whether it is large or small. The audience for this study includes small motor managers, as well as government and industry officials. This report reviewed research on motor carrier safety, safety management, and organizational management, in general." -- Preface

This report is available for free download (2.1 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_syn\\_22.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_syn_22.pdf)



## **Item 6**

### **Operator Drug- and Alcohol-Testing Across Modes**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP Synthesis 23 • 2011*

"CTBSSP Synthesis 23 explores practices used to deter drug and alcohol use among operators within the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT's) regulated community [of commercial vehicle operators]. The report includes a brief history of the transportation workplace drug- and alcohol-testing program, the general approach, the reasons for testing, some of the issues that impact the validity of the tests, and an outline of the specific regulations by mode. Some alcohol- and drug-testing statistics are presented in the report to help provide a sense of the scope of the program and of the prevalence of illegal alcohol and drug use among safety-sensitive employees. The report also highlights alternative strategies aimed at helping to deter illegal alcohol and drug use among employees." -- TRB, <http://www.trb.org/Publications/Blurbs/166624.aspx>

This report is available for free download (5.5 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_syn\\_23.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_syn_23.pdf)

## **Item 7**

### **Distracted Driving Countermeasures for Commercial Vehicles**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*CTBSSP Synthesis 24 • 2011*

"The purpose of this synthesis was to report the state of research and practice with the intent of examining both distractions, as well as any protective (safety enhancing) effects of particular devices. Distracted driving for commercial drivers was defined as attending to tasks not directly related to operating the vehicle." -- Preface

This report is available for free download (2.4 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp\\_syn\\_24.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ctbssp/ctbssp_syn_24.pdf)

## **Item 8**

### **Assessing Soil and Groundwater Impacts of Chemical Mixture Releases from Hazardous Materials Transportation Incidents**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*HMCRP Report 2 • 2010*

The second HMCRP Report explores a tool to help assess, classify, predict, and quickly communicate fate and transport characteristics of chemical mixtures released into the soil and groundwater as a result of hazardous materials transportation incidents. The tool can also be used to determine whether shipping certain chemicals separately or in mixtures will have significantly higher costs if an incident occurs and to estimate relative costs and time frames of cleanup after an incident occurs.

The chemical mixture tool, a user guide, and the contractor's final report for the project that produced HMCRP Report 2 are available on a CD-ROM that is included with the printed publication. The CD-ROM included as part of HMCRP Report 2 is also available for download from TRB's website as an ISO image.

This report is available for free download (5.0 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp\\_rpt\\_002.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp_rpt_002.pdf)



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## **Item 9**

### **Guidebook for Conducting Local Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Studies**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*HMCRP Report 3 • 2011*

This report presents a user-friendly guidebook to support risk assessment, emergency response preparedness, resource allocation, and analyses of hazardous commodity flows across jurisdictions. The guidebook, which updates the U.S. Department of Transportation's "Guidance for Conducting Hazardous Materials Flow Surveys," is targeted at transportation planning operations staff at the local and regional levels, as well as local and regional personnel involved in hazardous materials training and emergency response. All modes of transportation, all classes and divisions of hazardous materials, and the effects of seasonality on hazardous materials movements are discussed.

This report is available for free download (5.3 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp\\_rpt\\_003.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp_rpt_003.pdf)

## **Item 10**

### **Emerging Technologies Applicable to Hazardous Materials Transportation Safety and Security**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*HMCRP Report 4 • 2011*

HMCRP Report 4 explores near-term (less than 5 years) and longer-term (5-10 years) technologies that are candidates for enhancing the safety and security of hazardous materials transportation for use by shippers, carriers, emergency responders, or government regulatory and enforcement agencies.

The report examines emerging generic technologies that hold promise of being introduced during these near- and longer-term spans. It also highlights potential impediments (e.g., technical, economic, legal, and institutional) to, and opportunities for, their development, deployment, and maintenance.

The research focused on all modes used to transport hazardous materials (trucking, rail, marine, air, and pipeline) and resulted in the identification of nine highly promising emerging technologies.

This report is available for free download (2.5 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp\\_rpt\\_004.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp_rpt_004.pdf)



## ***Item 11***

### **A Guide for Assessing Community Emergency Response Needs and Capabilities for Hazardous Materials Releases**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*HMCRP Report 5 / CRP-CD-92 • 2011*

This HMCRP reports presents comprehensive, step-by-step guidance on assessing hazardous materials emergency response needs at state, regional, and local levels; matching state, regional, and local capabilities with potential emergencies involving different types of hazardous materials; and assessing how quickly resources can be brought to bear in an emergency. The methodology described in the Guide is designed to be scalable, allowing the implementation results to be aggregated at the local level up through regional, state, and national levels. Also, the Guide is designed to connect as many components as possible to already-established standards, guidelines, regulations, and laws, so that the Guide will remain current as these underlying components are updated. In addition, the Guide discusses appropriate means for maintaining currency of the information over time.

The Guide and accompanying spreadsheet tool (on the attached CD-ROM), which leads planners through the assessment process, will be most useful for local jurisdictions that have limited resources and expertise in hazardous materials emergency response planning.

This report is available for free download (2.1 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp\\_rpt\\_005.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp_rpt_005.pdf)

## ***Item 12***

### **Feasibility of a Consolidated Security Credential for Persons Who Transport Hazardous Materials**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*HMCRP Report 6 • 2011*

This report discusses the feasibility of consolidating several existing security credentials, which are necessary under current regulations and policies, into one credential for all transportation modes. The report (1) evaluates the credentialing system to identify duplicative elements and redundant costs and (2) describes the acquisition process, the application elements, and the physical characteristics for each identified credential. In addition, the report identifies the elements of the vetting processes for each credential. An examination of four options for consolidation provides insight into the basic elements of a universally recognized security credential for HazMat transportation workers. The report also identifies key challenges (e.g., impetus and authority, organizational climate, financing, risk, and technological trending) for consolidation of security credentials. Finally, an alternative method of consolidating background checks is identified as a possible intermediate solution for removing duplicative processes and redundant costs. The report will be of interest to policymakers, trade and professional organizations, and other stakeholders involved in transportation credentials for persons who transport hazardous materials. An evaluation of the data through several key frameworks provides an understanding of the system at its fundamental level.

This report is available for free download (3.1 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp\\_rpt\\_006.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp_rpt_006.pdf)



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## *Item 13*

### **Hazardous Materials Cooperative Research Program: A Status Report 2011**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*HMCRP RRD 2 • 2011*

This digest reports on the progress and status of the Hazardous Materials Cooperative Research Program (HMCRP), which is sponsored by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and administered by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies. It is an industry-driven, applied research program that develops near-term, practical solutions to improve the information used in managing risk associated with the transportation of hazardous materials. The HMCRP Technical Oversight Panel meets annually to formulate the research program by identifying the highest priority projects and defining funding levels and expected products. Research problem statements recommending research needs for consideration by the Technical Oversight Panel are solicited annually, but may be submitted to the TRB at any time. This digest contains background information, an introduction, a section describing the HMCRP, and two tables. Table 1 lists the members of the HMCRP Technical Oversight Panel. Table 2 presents a list of HMCRP Research Projects for FY 2006-2011. The status of these projects may be found at the HMCRP website for project status, [www.trb.org/CRP/HMCRP/HMCRP.asp](http://www.trb.org/CRP/HMCRP/HMCRP.asp).

This report is available for free download (109 KB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp\\_rrd\\_002.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/hmcrp/hmcrp_rrd_002.pdf)

## *Item 14*

### **Impacts of Public Policy on the Freight Transportation System -- Revised**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*NCFRP Report 6 (rev) • 2011*

This report describes the numerous ways that government policy decisions can affect the freight system and, in turn, how understanding the differing concerns and priorities of governments is crucial to better consideration of the potential impacts of public policy. Using interviews with industry experts and an extensive review of documents, the research identifies current and recent policy issues with potential freight system impacts, evaluates the magnitude of the impacts, and assesses the extent to which the impacts were unexpected. Among the types of impacts identified were (1) changes in costs and revenues to freight carriers and shippers, (2) changes in freight volumes or shifts in mode, (3) changes in freight service quality, and (4) changes to freight system operations and safety. The research will promote a better understanding at all levels of government of the complex relationships inherent in public policy and foster appreciation for how public policies affect the freight transportation system.

This report is available for free download (3.9 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nfcrp/nfcrp\\_rpt\\_006.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nfcrp/nfcrp_rpt_006.pdf)



## **Item 15**

### **Identifying and Using Low-Cost and Quickly Implementable Ways to Address Freight-System Mobility Constraints**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*NCFRP Report 7 / CRP-CD-87 • 2010*

This report develops standardized descriptions of the dimensions of the freight transportation system, defines freight mobility constraints in a multimodal context, provides criteria for low-cost and quickly implementable improvements to address the constraints, and provides a software tool to help decision makers in evaluating constraints and selecting appropriate improvements. The report will enable both the public and private sectors to benefit from operational improvements, organizational changes, and other low-cost ways to address freight-system mobility constraints.

This report is available for free download (5.6 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp\\_rpt\\_007.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp_rpt_007.pdf)

## **Item 16**

### **Freight-Demand Modeling to Support Public-Sector Decision Making**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*NCFRP Report 8 • 2010*

This report presents an evaluation of possible improvements in freight demand models and other analysis tools and provides a guidebook to assist model developers in implementing these improvements. The report is especially valuable for its findings of general satisfaction with methods available to support freight planning, but concerns with the data available to support that planning. As such, the report focuses on ways to use existing data to develop data inputs for the model, showing that existing and readily available data can be used to develop the inputs required by freight models. The report will enable decision-makers at a range of geographical levels to improve the usability of freight demand models.

This report is available for free download (4.5 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp\\_rpt\\_008.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp_rpt_008.pdf)

## **Item 17**

### **Guidance for Developing a Freight Transportation Data Architecture**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*NCFRP Report 9 • 2011*

This report explores the requirements and specifications for a national freight data architecture to link myriad existing data sets, identifies the value and challenges of the potential architecture, and highlights institutional strategies to develop and maintain the architecture.

The report also includes an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of a wide range of data sources; provides information on the development of a national freight data architecture definition that is scalable at the national, state, regional, and local levels; and offers readers a better understanding of the challenges that might block the implementation of a national freight data architecture as well as candidate strategies for developing, adopting, and maintaining it.

This report is available for free download (3.7 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp\\_rpt\\_009.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp_rpt_009.pdf)



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## ***Item 18***

### **Performance Measures for Freight Transportation**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*NCFRP Report 10 • 2011*

This report presents a comprehensive, objective, and consistent set of measures to gauge the performance of the freight transportation system. These measures are presented in the form of a Freight System Report Card, which reports information in three formats, each increasingly detailed, to serve the needs of a wide variety of users from decision makers at all levels to anyone interested in assessing the performance of the nation's freight transportation system.

This report is available for free download (6.7 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp\\_rpt\\_010.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp_rpt_010.pdf)

## ***Item 19***

### **Truck Drayage Productivity Guide**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*NCFRP Report 11/CRP-CD-97 • 2011*

This report presents a compendium of metrics designed to give port authorities, marine terminal operators, drayage firms, and regional transportation planners the tools to improve drayage productivity and capacity while reducing emissions, costs, and port-area congestion at deepwater ports throughout the United States. The guide is especially valuable because of the variety of evidence-based research methods (including gate camera analysis, analysis of transaction databases, and automated vehicle location geofencing techniques) used to identify and quantify the impact of inefficiencies to port drayage. The guide identifies and quantifies the impacts of bottlenecks, associated gate processes, exceptions (trouble tickets), chassis logistics, congestion, and disruption at marine container terminals. The impacts are described in terms of hours, costs, and emissions that were estimated using the Environmental Protection Agency's DrayFLEET model. The guide, with an accompanying CD-ROM (CRP-CD-97) containing the contractor's final report and appendices (unedited by TRB), includes a set of recommendations for industry stakeholders (i.e., shippers, receivers, draymen, marine terminal operators, ocean carriers, and port authorities) designed to address inefficiencies, control costs, and reduce associated environmental impacts of truck drayage.

This report is available for free download (3.4 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp\\_rpt\\_011.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp_rpt_011.pdf)



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## *Item 20*

### **Framework and Tools for Estimating Benefits of Specific Freight Network Investments**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*NCFRP Report 12 • 2011*

This report provides a comprehensive analytical framework and related tools that private-sector freight transportation modes and public-sector transportation interests can use to estimate private and public benefits to evaluate potential freight infrastructure investments. Using interviews with transportation planners and an extensive review of prior research and a review of current methods used to assess freight benefits or prioritize improvement projects, the research developed a freight evaluation framework with three main functions: (1) to enhance public planning and decision-making processes regarding freight; (2) to supplement benefit/cost assessment with distributional impact measures; and (3) to advance public-private cooperation. The framework is capable of handling projects that span all of the different modes and able to assess benefits from a variety of project types, including those that improve freight operations, as well as generate more capacity through infrastructure expansion. The research, by developing a practical set of formats for information collection, will support public-private agency discussions by helping all parties understand the wide range of perspectives and

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## *Item 21*

### **Freight Facility Location Selection: A Guide for Public Officials**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*NCFRP Report 13 • 2011*

This report describes the key criteria that the private sector considers when making decisions on where to build new logistics facilities. The location of freight facilities can have both positive and negative economic and social effects on local communities, regions, and states. By providing insight on location decisions for freight facilities, and suggesting best practices for transportation, land use, economic development, and regional partnerships, public sector agencies can benefit from a fuller understanding of the dynamics of freight movement and the factors affecting private sector location decisions. With this insight, public sector agencies may successfully plan for, attract, locate, and partner with freight-related activities in their jurisdictions.

This report is available for free download (4.4 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp\\_rpt\\_013.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nctfp/nctfp_rpt_013.pdf)



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## *Item 22*

### **National Cooperative Freight Research Program: A Status Report 2011**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*NCFRP RRD 3 • 2011*

This digest reports on the progress and status of the National Cooperative Freight Research Program (NCFRP), which is sponsored by the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA) and administered by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies. The NCFRP Oversight Committee meets annually to formulate the research program by identifying the highest priority projects and defining funding levels and expected products. Research problem statements recommending research needs for consideration by the Oversight Committee are solicited annually, but may be submitted to the TRB at any time. This digest contains background information, an introduction, a section describing the NCFRP, and two tables. Table 1 lists the members of the NCFRP Oversight Committee. Table 2 presents a list of NCFRP Research Projects for FY 2006-2010. The status of these projects may be found at the NCFRP website for project status, [www.trb.org/CRP/NCFRP/NCFRP.asp](http://www.trb.org/CRP/NCFRP/NCFRP.asp).

This report is available for free download (97 KB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ncfpr/ncfpr\\_rrd\\_003.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/ncfpr/ncfpr_rrd_003.pdf)

## *Item 23*

### **Review of Mexican Experience with the Regulation of Large Commercial Motor Vehicles**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

*NCHRP RRD 362 • 2011*

The objective of this research was to review and summarize the most current information on the Mexican experience with changes in truck size and weight limits and to evaluate the potential applicability to size and weight limits in the United States. The major activities involved in this research were to investigate truck size and weight limits in Mexico, determine the concerns of U.S. border states, develop options to address those concerns, and conduct Mexico/U.S. analysis to determine what the United States can learn from the Mexican truck size/weight experience. This digest presents the results of this research.

This report is available for free download (64 KB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp\\_rrd\\_362.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rrd_362.pdf)



# Research Digest

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## *Item 24*

### **Freight Transportation Surveys: A Synthesis of Highway Practice**

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB)

*NCHRP Synthesis 410 • 2011*

Information on the movement of freight and its characteristics is essential to promoting economic efficiency and development. This information can take many forms, from classified traffic counts and travel time studies to comprehensive commodity flow and origin-destination surveys. Twelve different types of surveys are profiled in this report. Practices for each type are described and some are illustrated by case studies. Cross-cutting issues are presented--survey costs, the use of Intelligent Transportation System technologies, comparison of survey types, and the Commodity Flow Survey.

Information was gathered through literature review and a survey of state departments of transportation and selected metropolitan planning organizations, marine and airport authorities, academics, and commercial freight data purveyors.

This report is available for free download (14.1 MB):

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp\\_syn\\_410.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_syn_410.pdf)