

**Michigan Truck Safety Commission (MTSC)/  
Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Action Team Accomplishments**  
December 2019

***CMV driver training and license programs***

*Assess and address driver training needs through professional driver coaching.*

The Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS) is responsible for the education programs sponsored by the Michigan Truck Safety Commission (MTSC). The MCTS serves as the central source for CMV driver training and education programs.

*Continue to explore the feasibility and cost effectiveness of opening a skid pad facility in Michigan and pursue the options presented based on the findings.*

The MTSC is actively pursuing options to fund and construct a new skid pad training facility. Cost estimates are nearly final, and efforts are underway to secure funding through multiple sources.

*Continue providing the Driver Performance Measurement training to truck drivers through the Professional Driver Coaching program.*

Driver Performance Measurement training is provided through the MCTS.

*Improve defensive driving knowledge through the National safety Council's Defensive Driving Course for the Professional Truck Driver.*

National Safety Council Defensive Driving for Professional Truck Drivers is provided through the MCTS.

*Expand education and consider periodic training for motor carriers and drivers with commercial driver licenses (CDLs) through online courses, classroom, driving, etc.*

The MCTS offers a variety of training opportunities for CMV drivers, including classroom courses, online courses, and a simulator.

***Vehicle Maintenance and Inspection***

*Highlight the importance of driver training on how to identify problems with brake systems and tires to minimize the chances of their vehicle to be placed out of service in an inspection.*

The MCTS trains CMV drivers on how to identify these issues to minimize risk of receiving a citation, being placed out of service, equipment failures, and reduce the risk of crashes caused by maintaining equipment.

*Encourage the increase and strengthening of truck maintenance programs and inspection performance.*

The MCTS covers this during the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Review seminars as well as pre-trip/post-trip seminars.

*Support efforts in conducting inspections, compliance reviews, and weigh station operations.*

The Michigan State Police Commercial Motor Vehicle Enforcement Division (MSP CVED) conducts inspections, compliance reviews, and handles weigh station operations throughout the state.

*Advocate efforts to conduct targeted enforcement for regulatory compliance by both motor carriers as well as CMV drivers.*

The MSP CVED conducts regulatory compliance reviews and enforcement throughout the state.

*Highlight the importance of conducting post-crash inspections of serious crashes to identify maintenance-related problems.*

MSP Motor Carrier officers respond to post-crash inspections when contacted by local law enforcement officers. Also, the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) has offered advanced crash reconstruction training for commercial motor vehicle crashes to improve the post-crash reporting accuracy.

*Support efforts to increase compliance by truck drivers and firms with applicable statutes and regulations.*  
Both the MSP CVED and MCTS work to increase compliance with statutes and regulations by truck drivers and firms.

### ***Technology for Safety and Efficiency***

*Support efforts to implement and increase the use of Commercial Vehicle Information Exchange Window (CVIEW).*

The MSP CVED began using CVIEW in 2015 and statewide use continues among all officers.

*Support the implementation of systems that use advanced technologies to assist police officers in identifying potential violators.*

On an ongoing basis, the MSP CVED seeks information on and evaluates technologies that would assist with identifying potential violators.

### ***Seat Belt Use, Fatigue, and Distracted Driving***

*Promote efforts to increase fatigue awareness among CMV drivers, shippers, carriers, and all other drivers.*

The MCTS provides training on driver fatigue through a computer-based online training program.

*Advocate for the education of motor carriers and CMV drivers on the dangers of distracted driving.*

The MCTS is supporting a public information campaign in FY 19 that promotes awareness of the dangers of distracted drivers.

*Encourage road agencies to continue incorporating rumble strips into new and existing roadways.*

As of July 2019, the Michigan Department of Transportation reports there are 4,000 miles of freeway and an additional 4,500 miles of non-freeway rumble strips on the roadway system.

*Support efforts to enforce rules to control the use of cell phones while driving.*

State and federal law prohibits CMV drivers from using cell phones; MSP CVED officers enforce the law when violations occur.

### ***Driver Shortage***

*Identify and support efforts aimed at addressing the driver shortage, especially those that are potentially beneficial for Michigan, by reviewing national efforts by the trucking industry.*

The MTSC is considering a research project in FY 20 to better understand and address the commercial driver vehicle shortage. A request for proposal is before the MTSC for consideration.

### ***CMV Driver and General Public Awareness***

*Support MCTS's efforts to enhance small carriers' awareness of the resources available to them.*

The MCTS has conducted advertising campaigns to increase awareness of the center and the services/training offered to the CMV industry.

*Support education and outreach to the public and industry on how to safely operate in and around commercial motor vehicles.*

In FY 19, Michigan was awarded funding from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the MTSC to conduct a program called Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks (TACT). The effort emphasized safe driving behaviors for both passenger vehicle drivers and CMV drivers.

*Promote MCTS's programs, especially the truck simulator and other programs to increase its utilization.*

The MCTS has conducted periodic advertising campaigns to increase awareness of the center and the services/training offered to the CMV industry.

*Enhance the visibility/activities of the MTSC/MCTS through effective promotions and communications.*

The MCTS has conducted periodic advertising campaigns to increase awareness of the services/training offered to the CMV industry.

*Support efforts to encourage truck and other drivers to engage in safer driving by encouraging implementation and enforcement of laws that will counter aggressive driving behaviors.*

In FY 19, Michigan was awarded funding from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the MTSC to conduct a program called Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks (TACT). The effort emphasized safe driving behaviors for both passenger vehicle drivers and CMV drivers.

### **Truck Safety Initiatives and Best Practices**

*Support mobile enforcement and implementation of Special Truck Enforcement Team (STET) operations in high-risk areas to improve compliance.*

The MSP CVED utilized truck safety grant funds to conduct 13,500 STET hours in FY19 and 750 hours of overtime patrol in support of the Drive to Zero/Drive to Save Lives traffic safety campaign. This resulted in 8,146 vehicle stops, 6,003 safety inspections, 4,026 citations, and 5,282 verbal warnings.