

Under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Transportation entitled Integrated Vehicle-Based Safety Systems Field Operational Test (IVBSS FOT), the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) has just completed data collection on the IVBSS program. Dr. Jim Sayer, the Principle Investigator and an UMTRI Associate Research Scientist, says the five-year IVBSS program developed and tested new, integrated crash warning systems in a fleet of 16 passenger cars and 10 heavy-duty trucks.



April 30 marked the completion of a 12-month data collection effort for the passenger car field operational test. In the past year, more than 215K miles, and 6,265 hours, of driving was accrued by 108 lay drivers between the ages of 20 and 70 years. All drivers drove in both a baseline, without warnings, and a treatment condition, with the integrated warning system active. More than 12,000 warnings were elicited.

Last December, a 10-month long field operational test was completed after 18 commercial truck drivers accrued in excess of 646K miles, 13,700 hours, driving Class 8 tractors. As a group, these drivers received approximately 83,000 warnings in the treatment condition.

Currently, the data from the passenger car FOT are being analyzed for effects on safety and driver acceptance. A report of the key findings on the passenger car platform will be available in August.