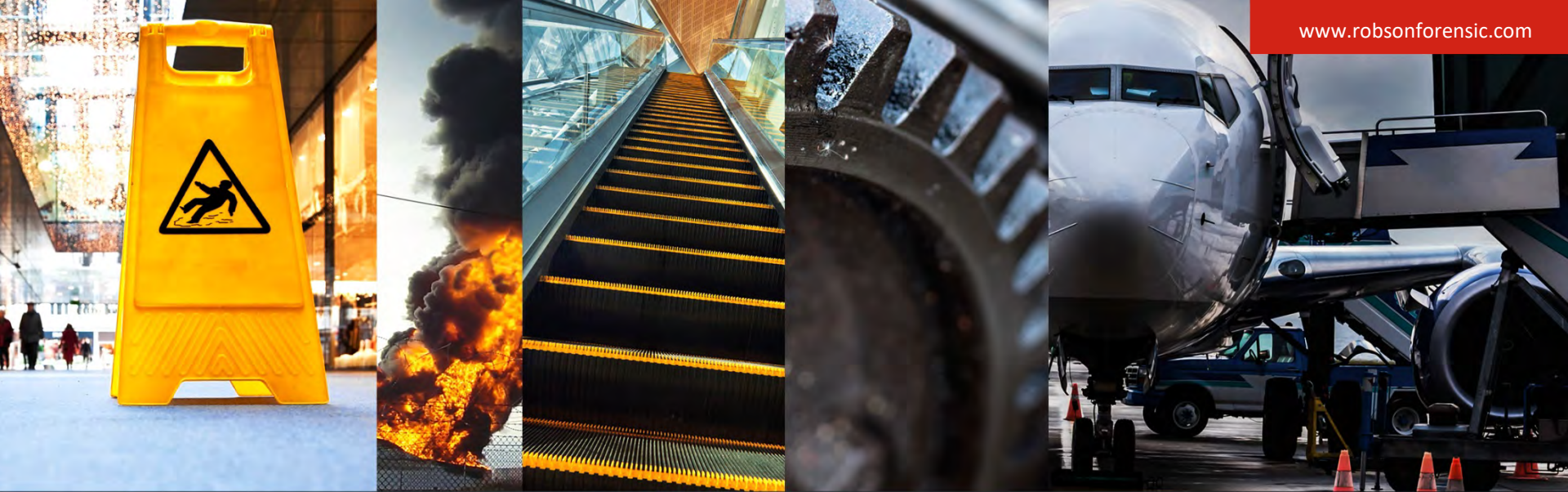




Premises Safety

ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION

Mark E. Williams, AIA, NCARB
ARCHITECT

AUGUST 9, 2018

THE EXPERTS
Robson Forensic







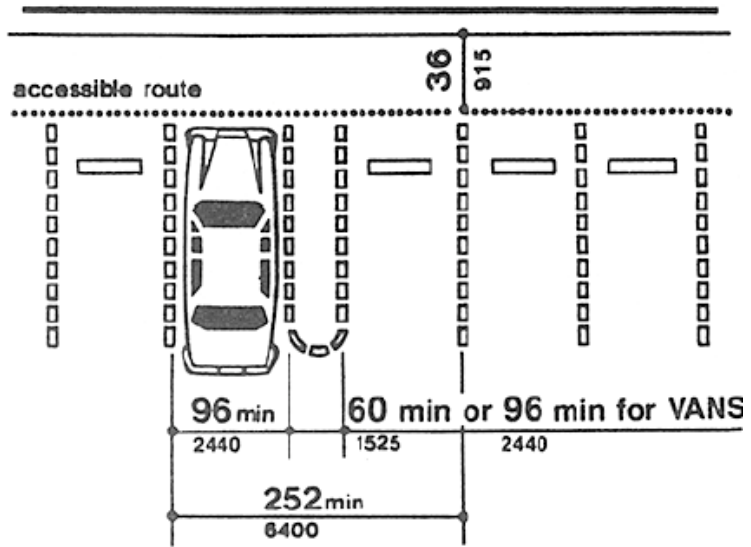
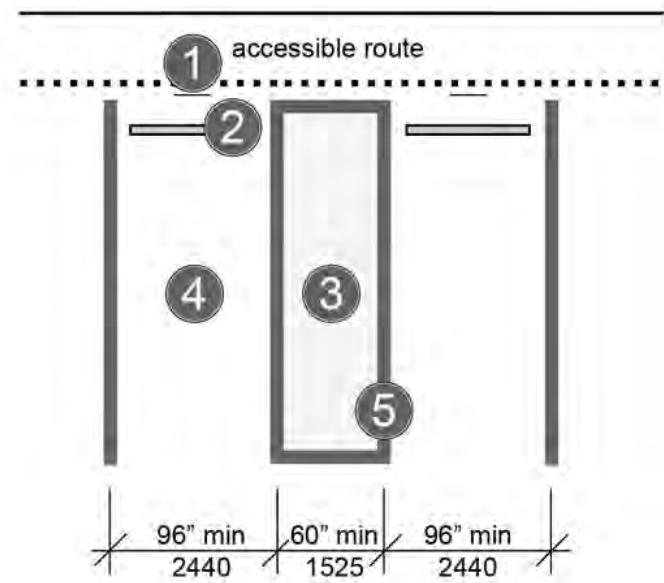


Fig. 9
Dimensions of Parking Spaces













Fort Mill, South Carolina



Street View - Sep 2007













06.14.2016 13:06



























04.13.2017 14:18





05.14.2012 14:10









05.14.2012 14:08































Describe the Hazard

It all starts with a physical condition.

THREE ELEMENTS OF A PROOF

1. What is the Standard of Care?
2. What was actually done in this Case?
3. Was there a deviation between 1 and 2?

Hierarchy of Importance

1. Governing Code (Mandatory)
2. Applicable Code (Permissive)
3. Industry Standard
4. State of the Art



Accident Reconstruction 101



Brian Pfeifer, Ph.D., P.E.

Evidence Documentation



When?

As soon as possible!

Why?

Preserve valuable evidence

- Skid marks**
- Gouge marks**
- Lighting conditions**
- Vehicle crush measurements**
- Light bulbs**
- Seat belt evidence**
- Electronic Evidence**
- And more ...**

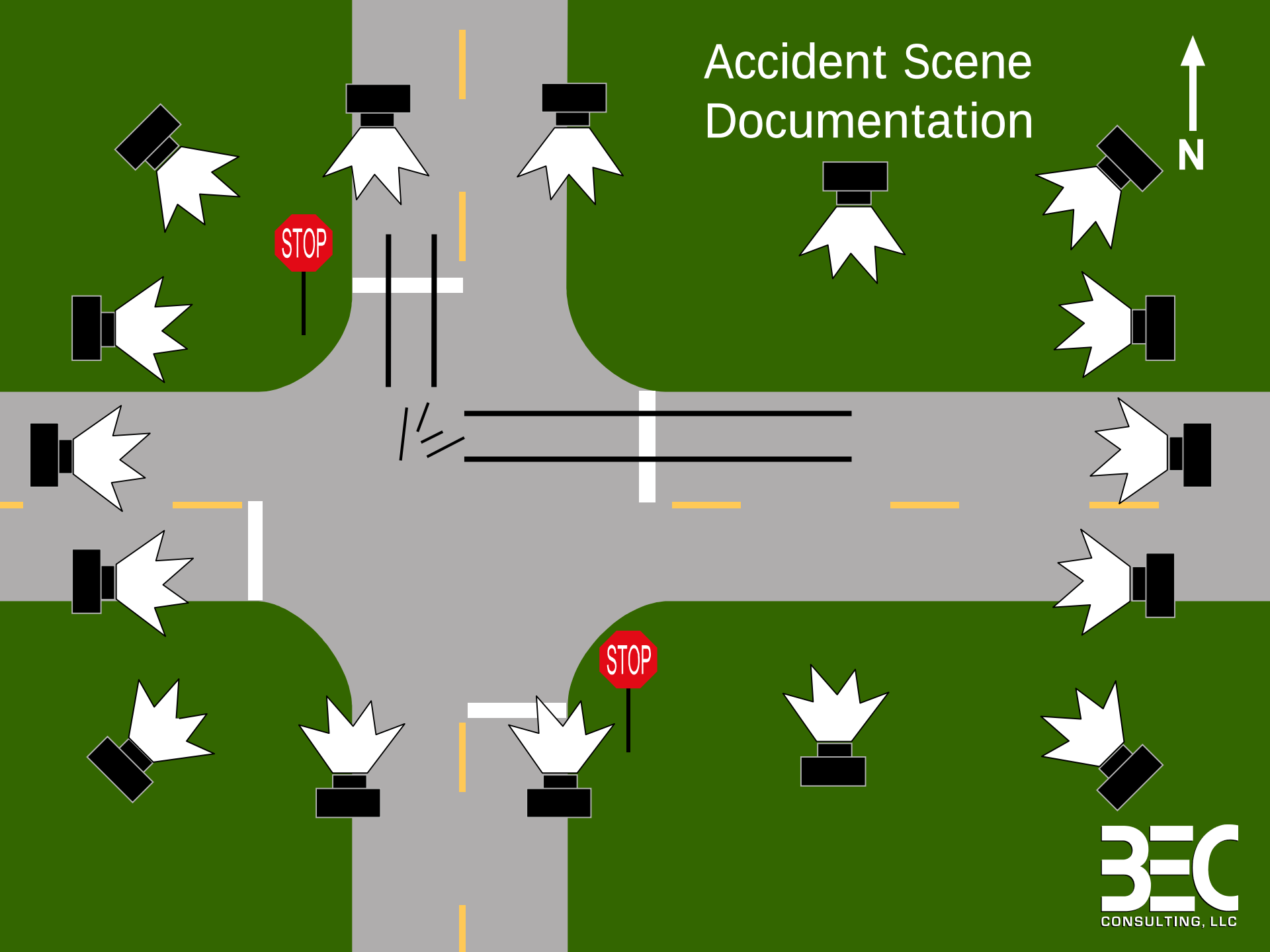
Day of Accident

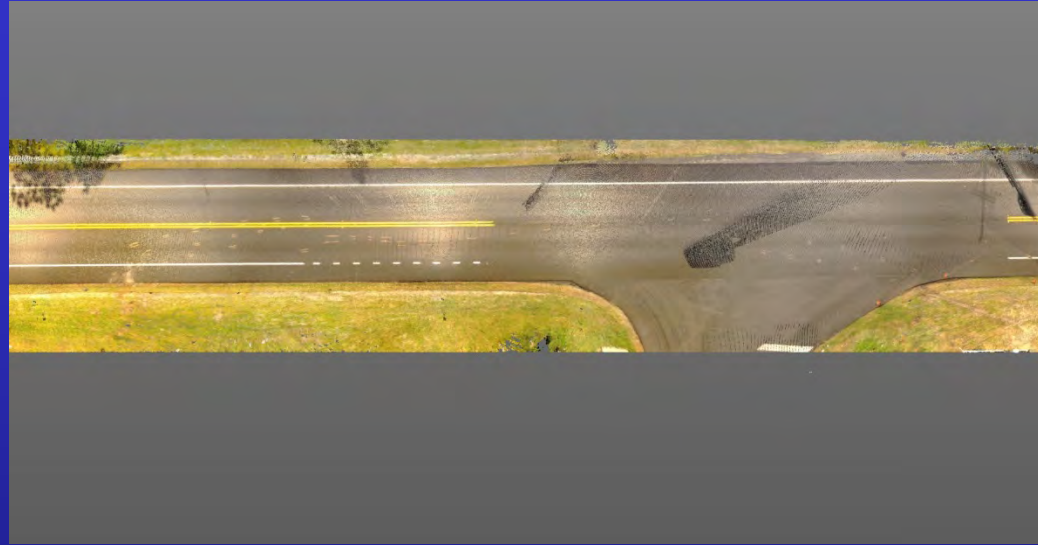


Two years after Accident



Accident Scene Documentation





**Survey or 3-D Scan of scene to
collect evidence and document
roadway geometry**







**Aerial Photography / Mapping to
collect evidence and document
roadway geometry**







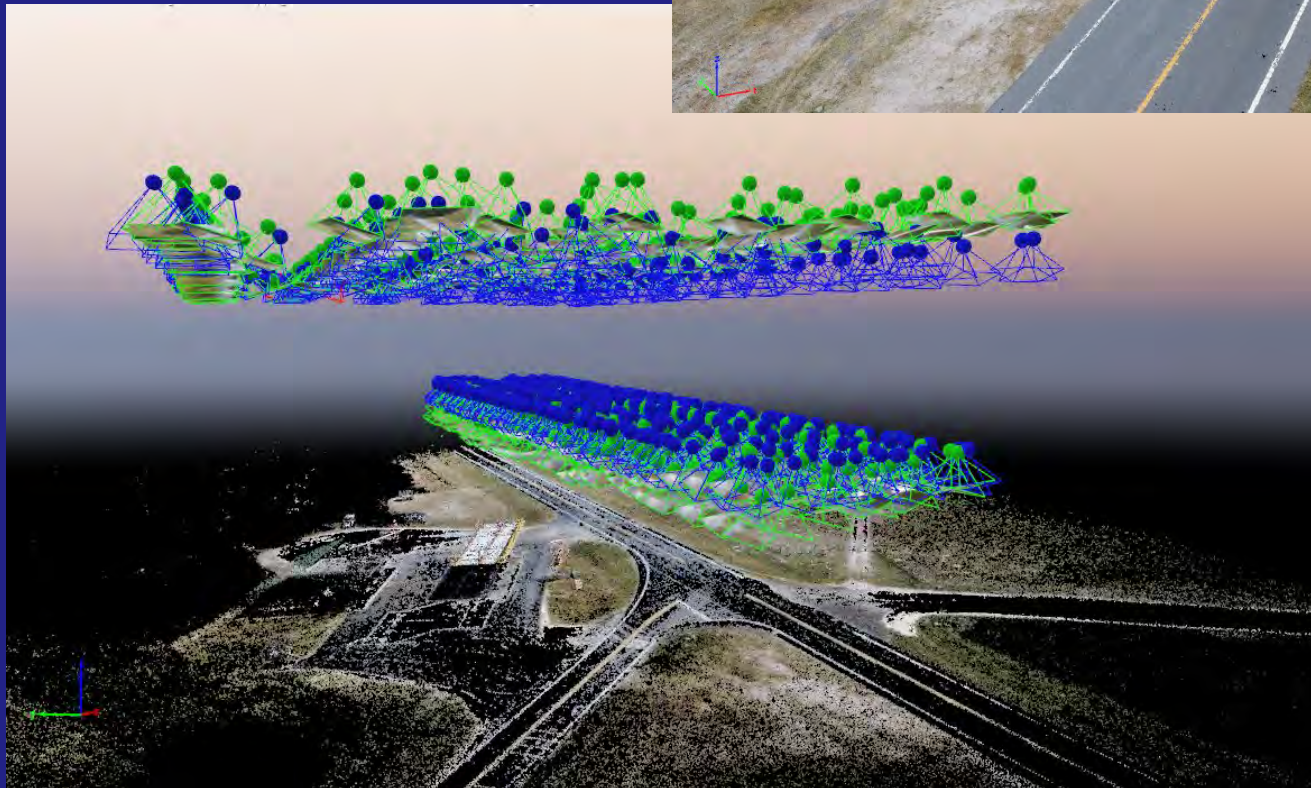
Google earth
© 2017 Google



Google earth





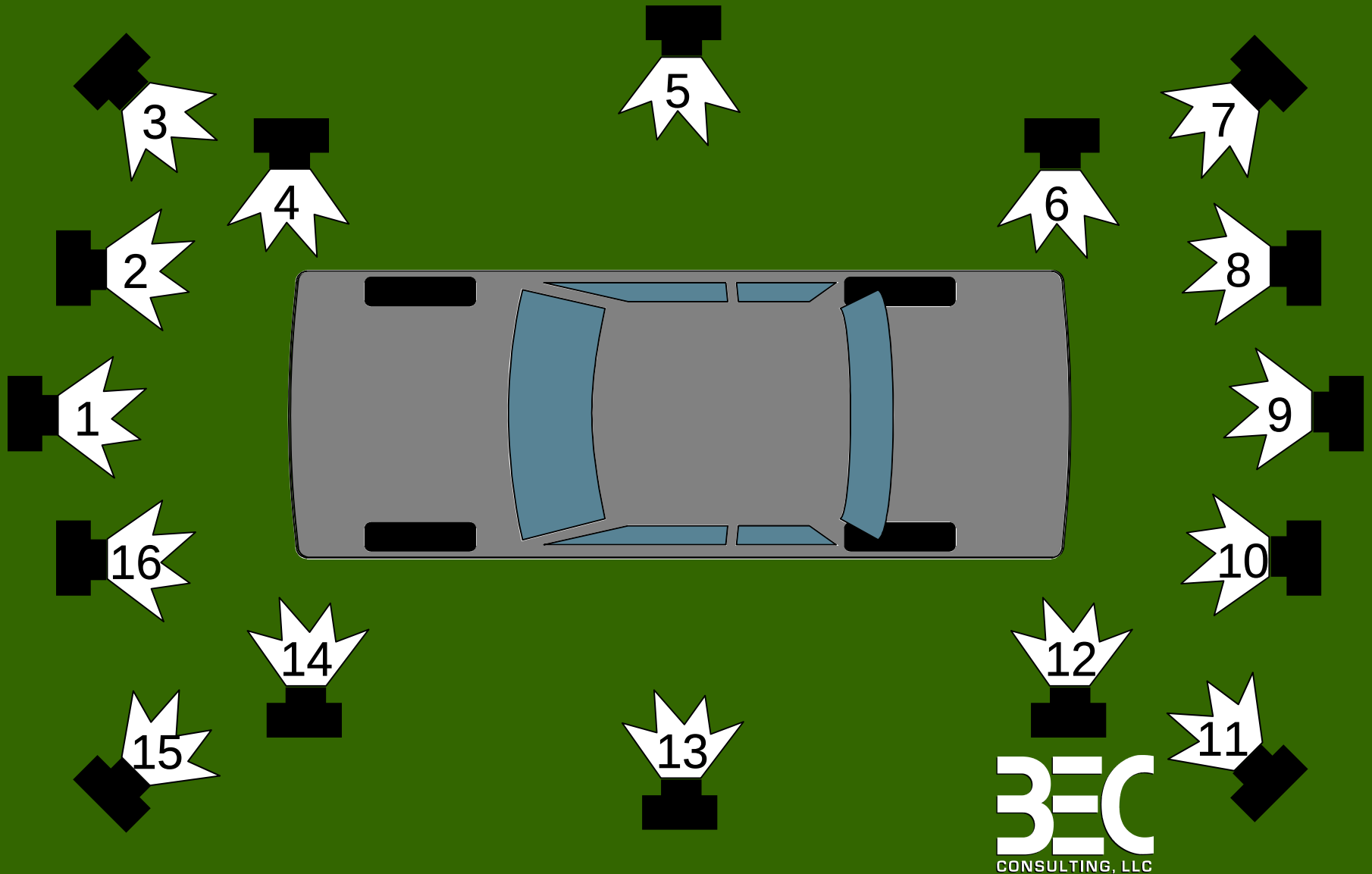


Dash Cam Video / Drivers Perspective



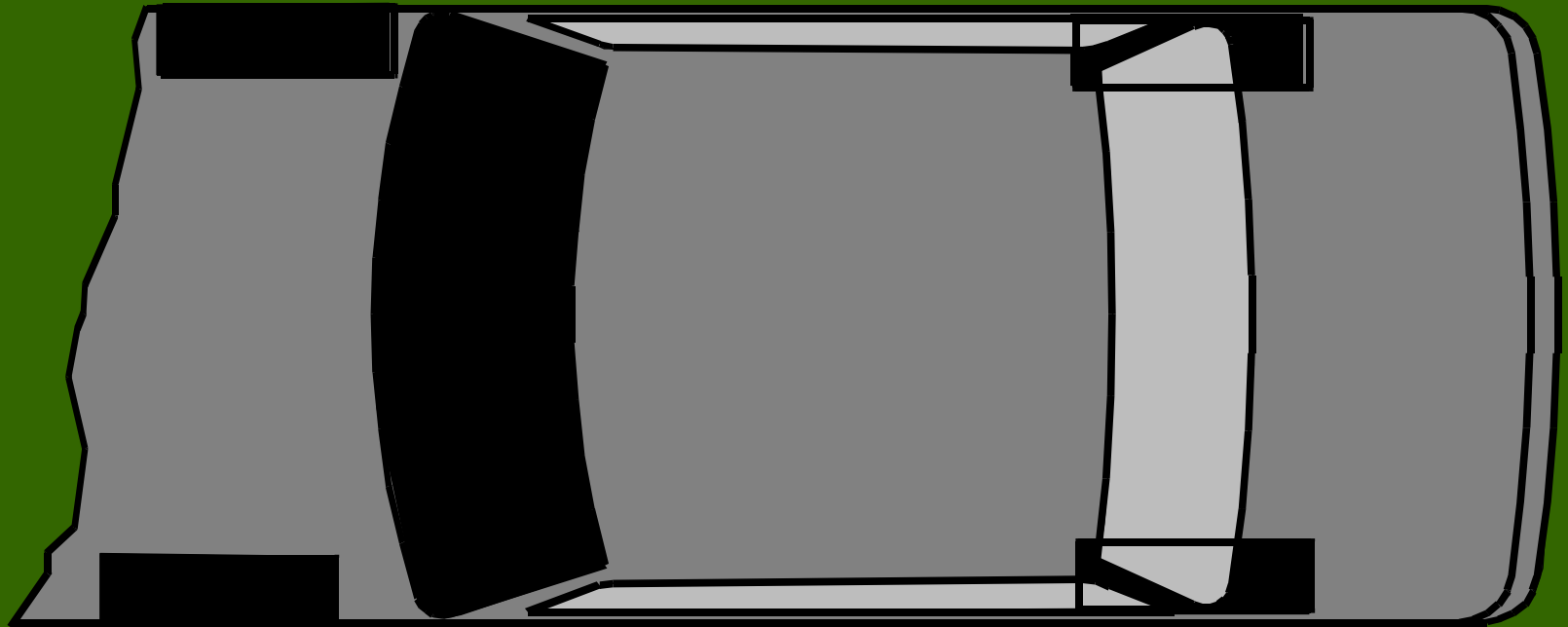
Vehicle Documentation

Minimum Exterior Photographs



Frontal Crush

2nd TAPE PERPENDICULAR

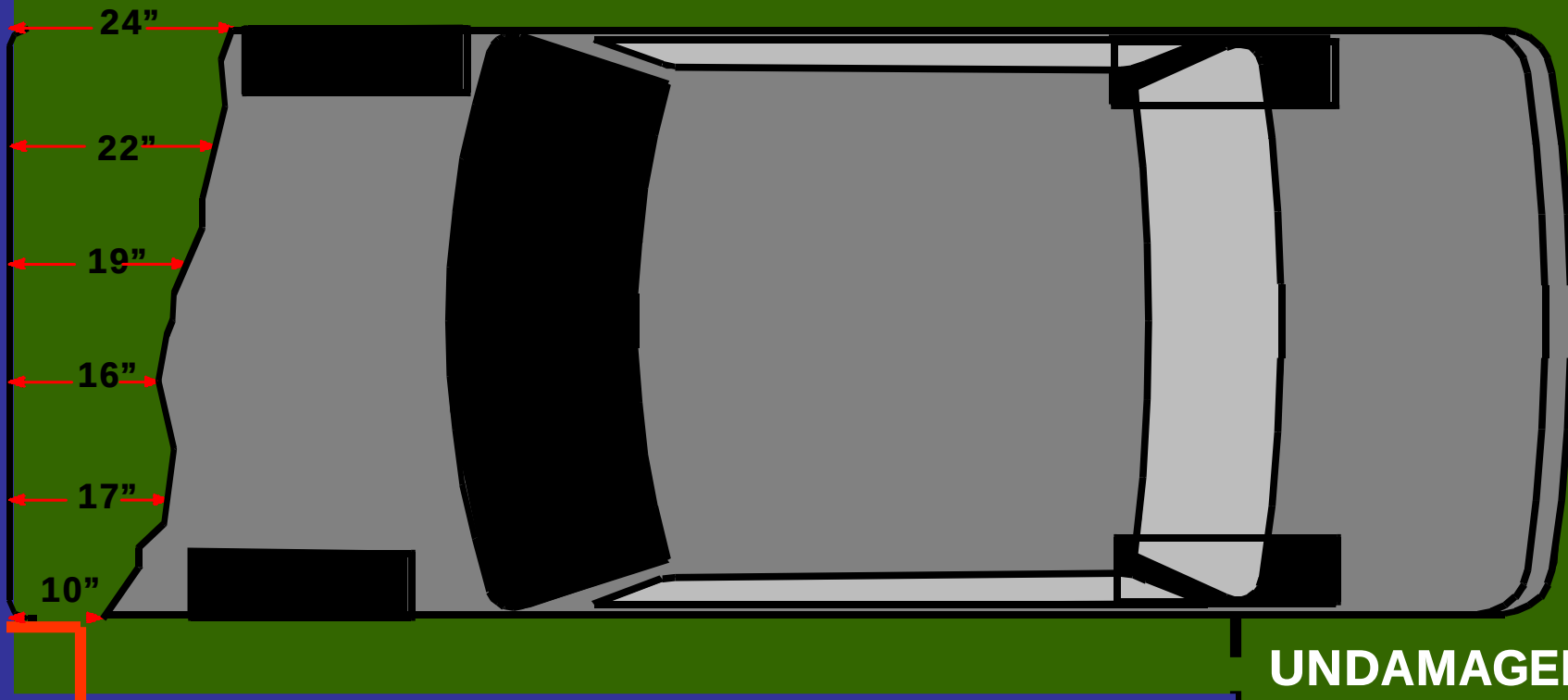


UNDAMAGED AXLE

TAPE MEASURE PARALLEL TO CAR

Frontal Crush

TAKE
MEASUREMENTS



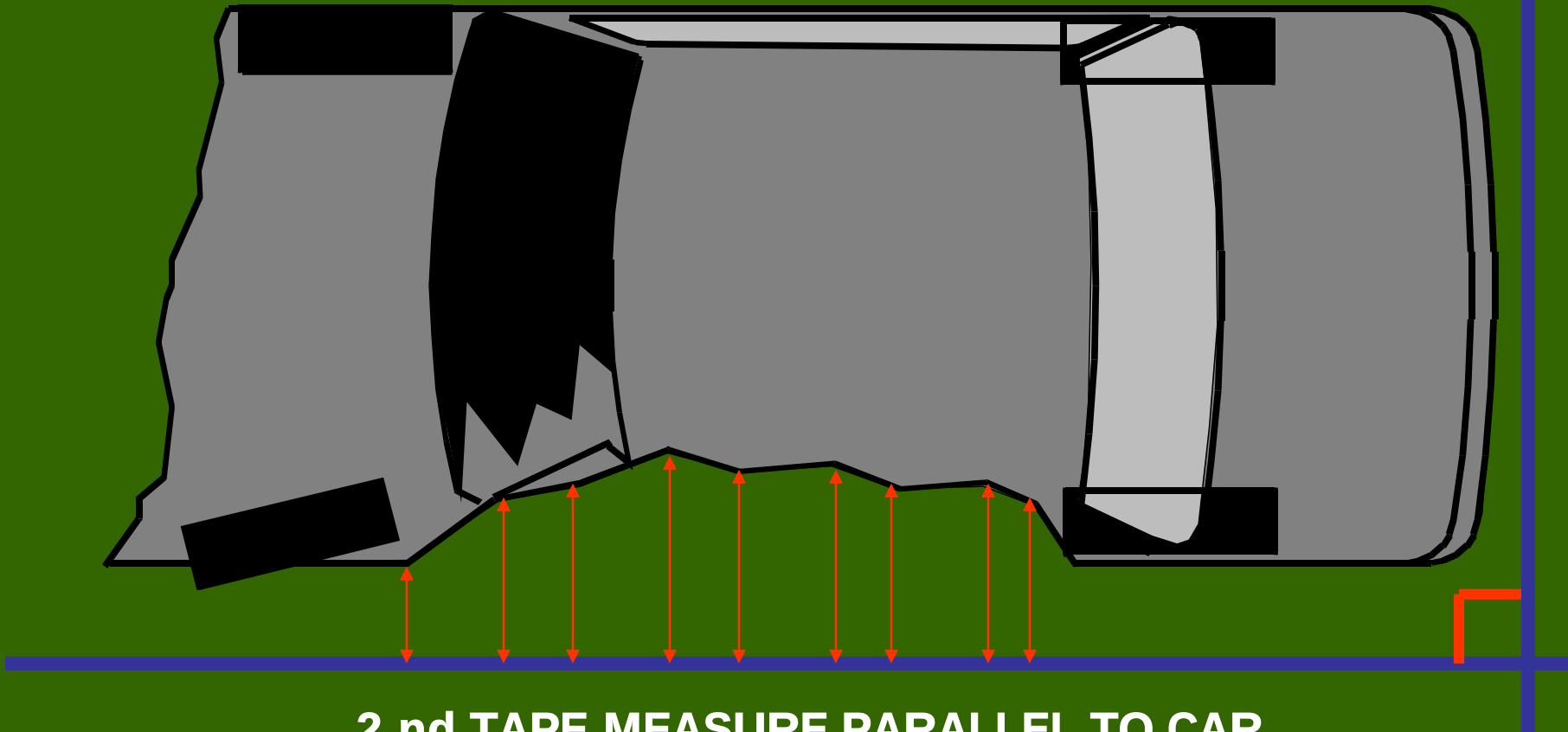
UNDAMAGED
AXLE

TAPE MEASURE PARALLEL TO CAR

Side Crush

TAKE
MEASUREMENTS

TAPE MEASURE
PARALLEL TO REAR



2 nd TAPE MEASURE PARALLEL TO CAR

3-D Scan



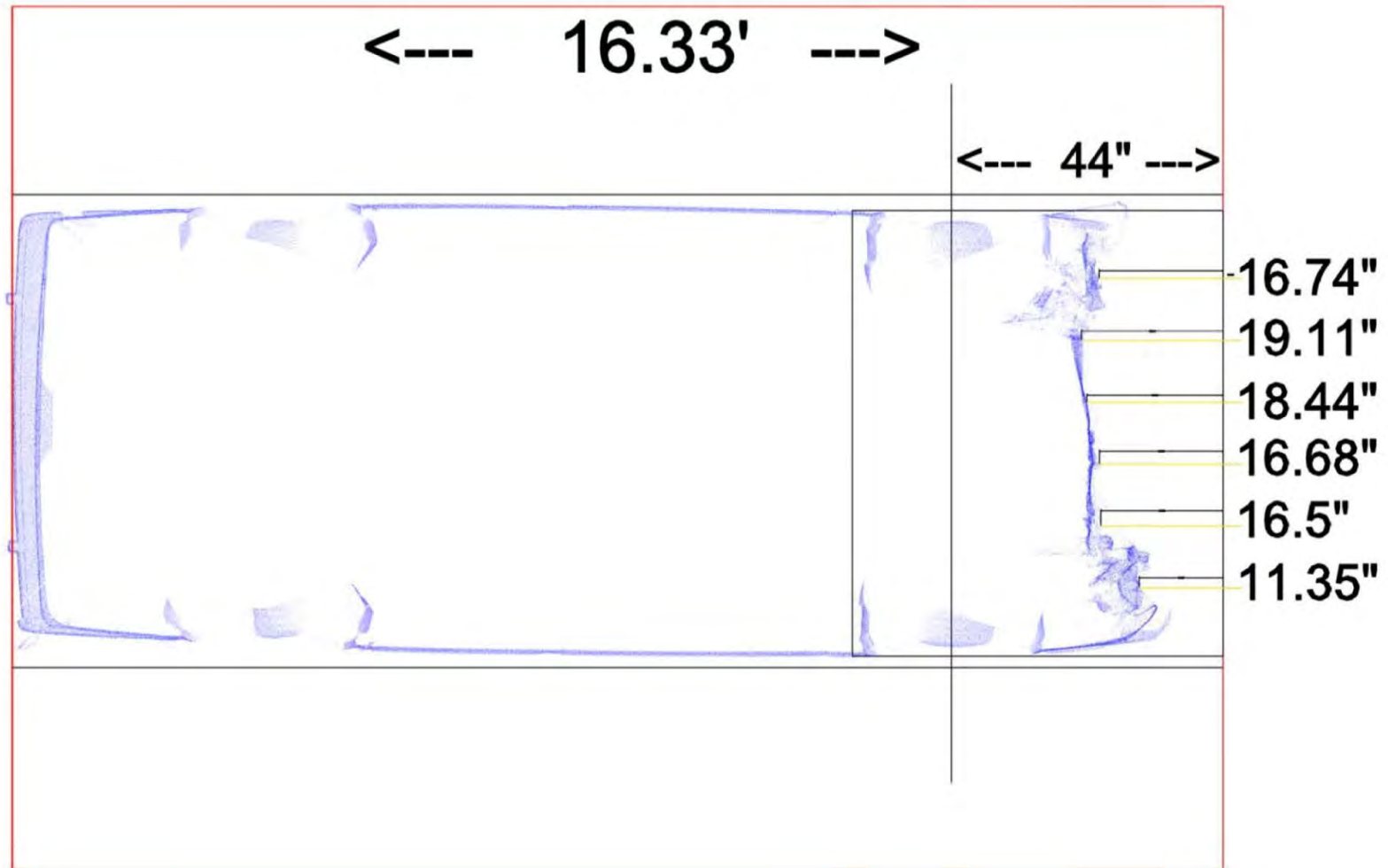
3-D Scan

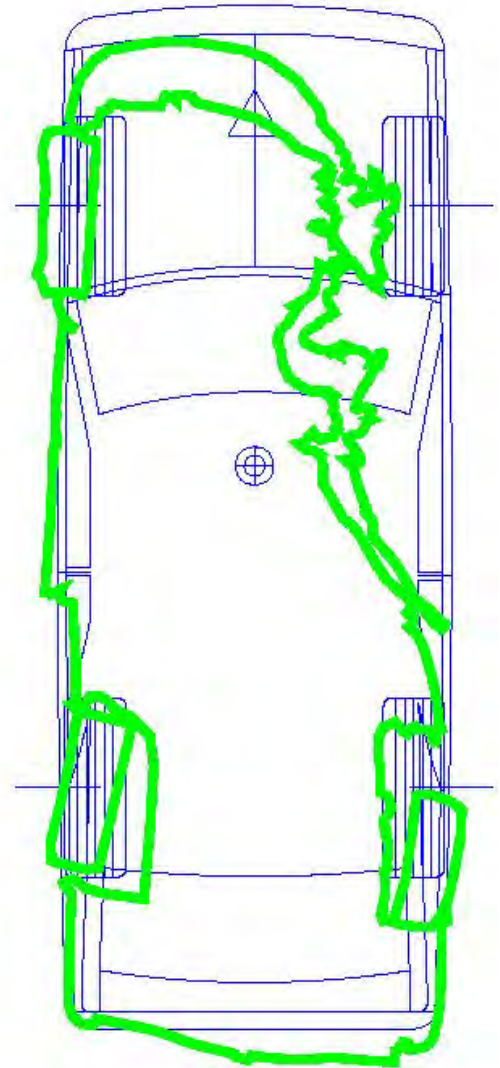
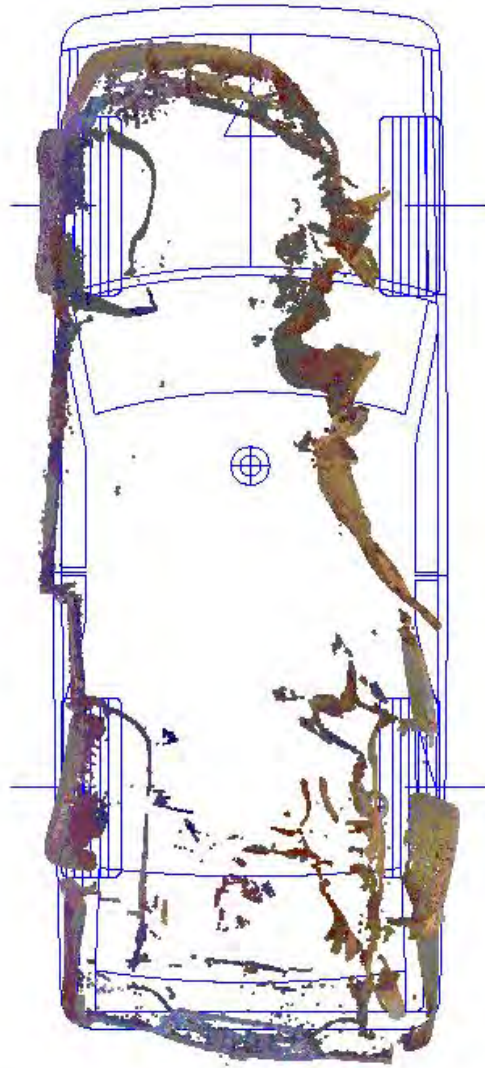


3-D Scan



3-D Scan





Light Bulb Filament Analysis





Seat Belt Pre-Tensioner



Seat Belt Documentation



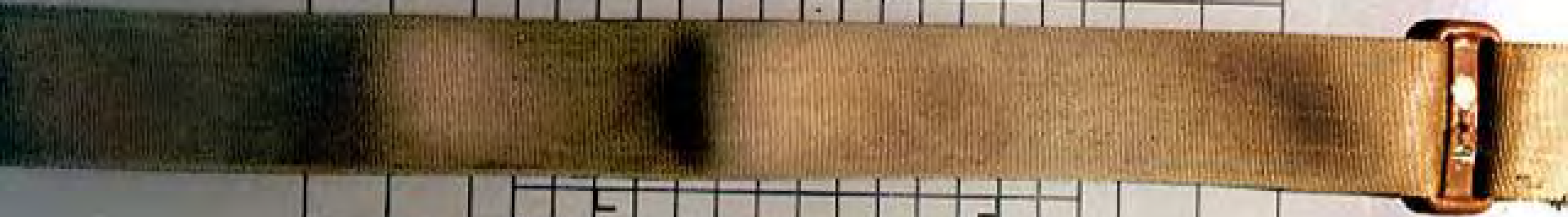
Evidence Of Seatbelt Usage

Latchplate Abrasions



Evidence Of Seatbelt Usage

Webbing Stress



Evidence Of Seatbelt Usage



Occupant Kinematics Analysis





Security Video

Bus Video of Accident



CH1



BUS:00002001

04/25/2013 15:29:20

CH2



BUS:00002001

04/25/2013 15:29:20

CH3



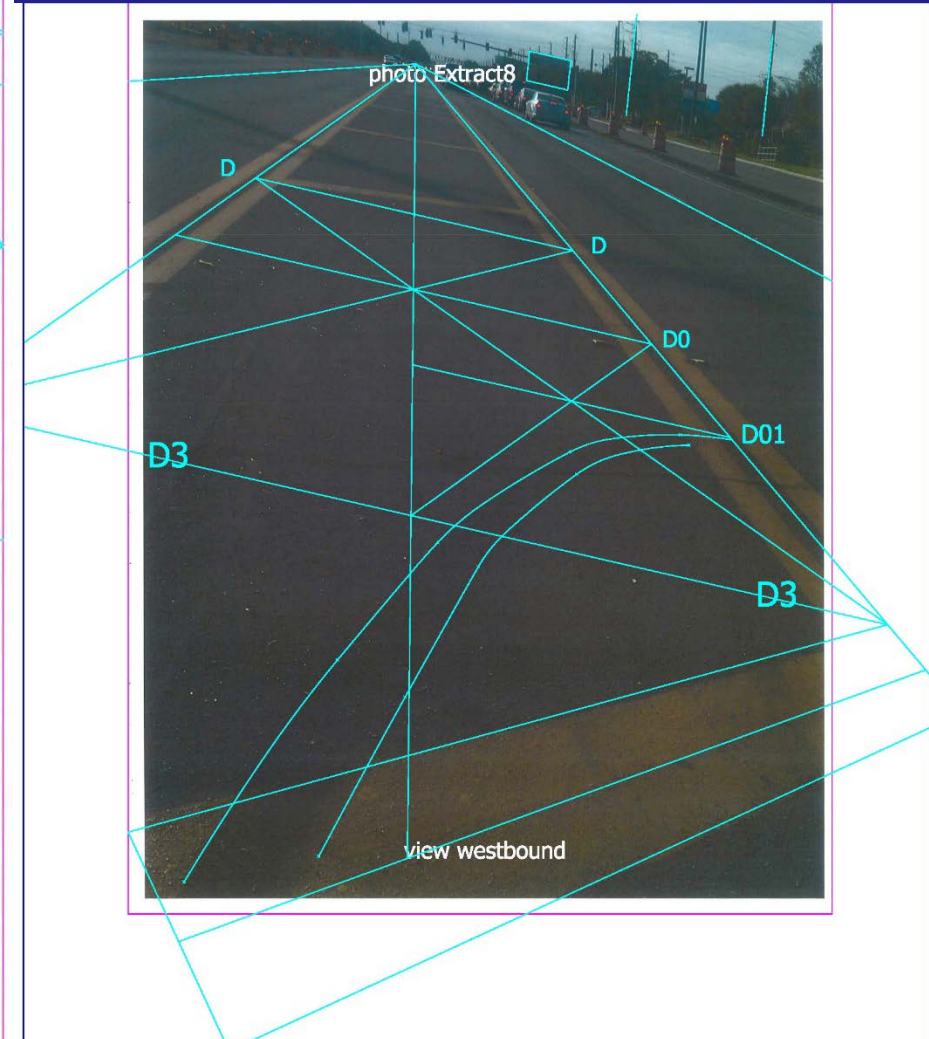
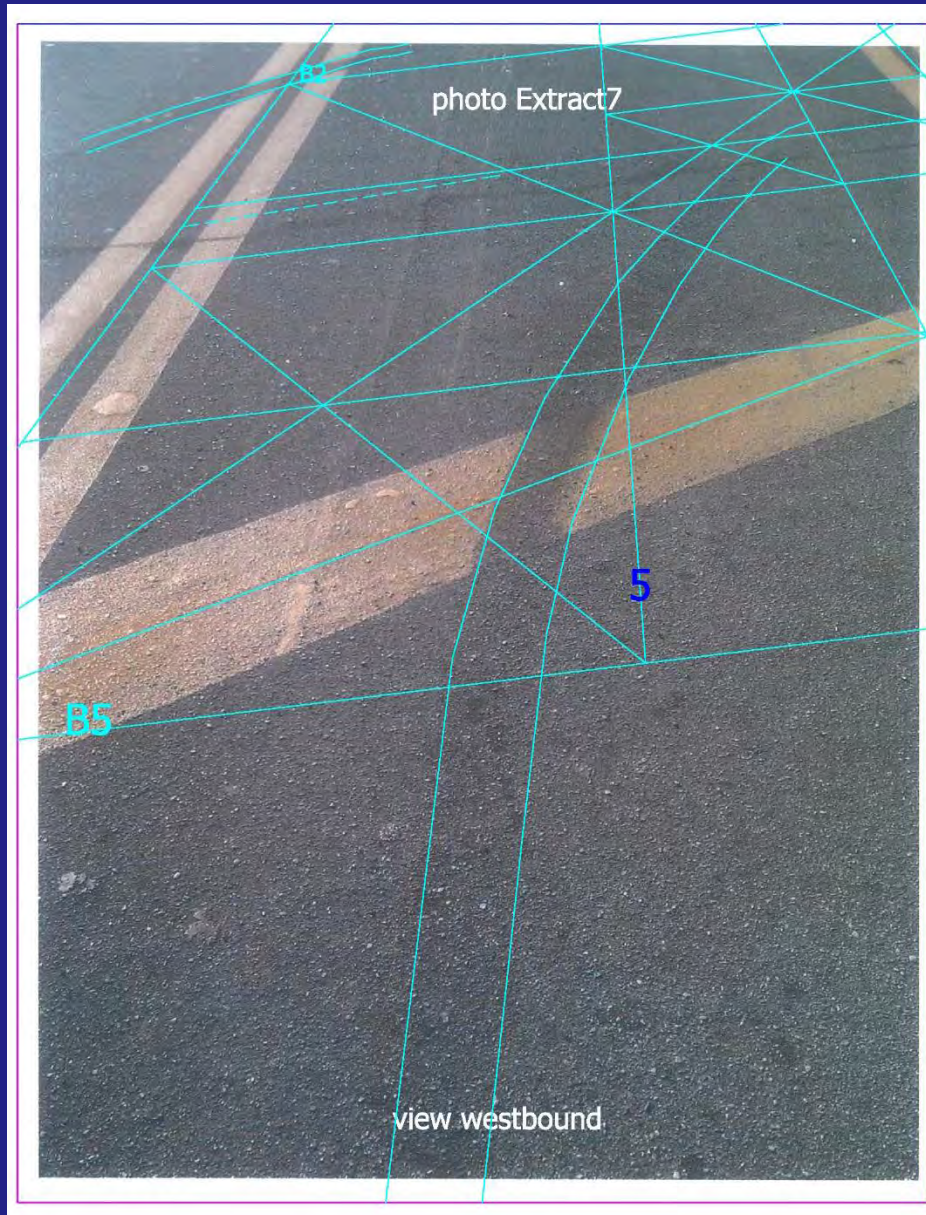
BUS:00002001

04/25/2013 15:29:20

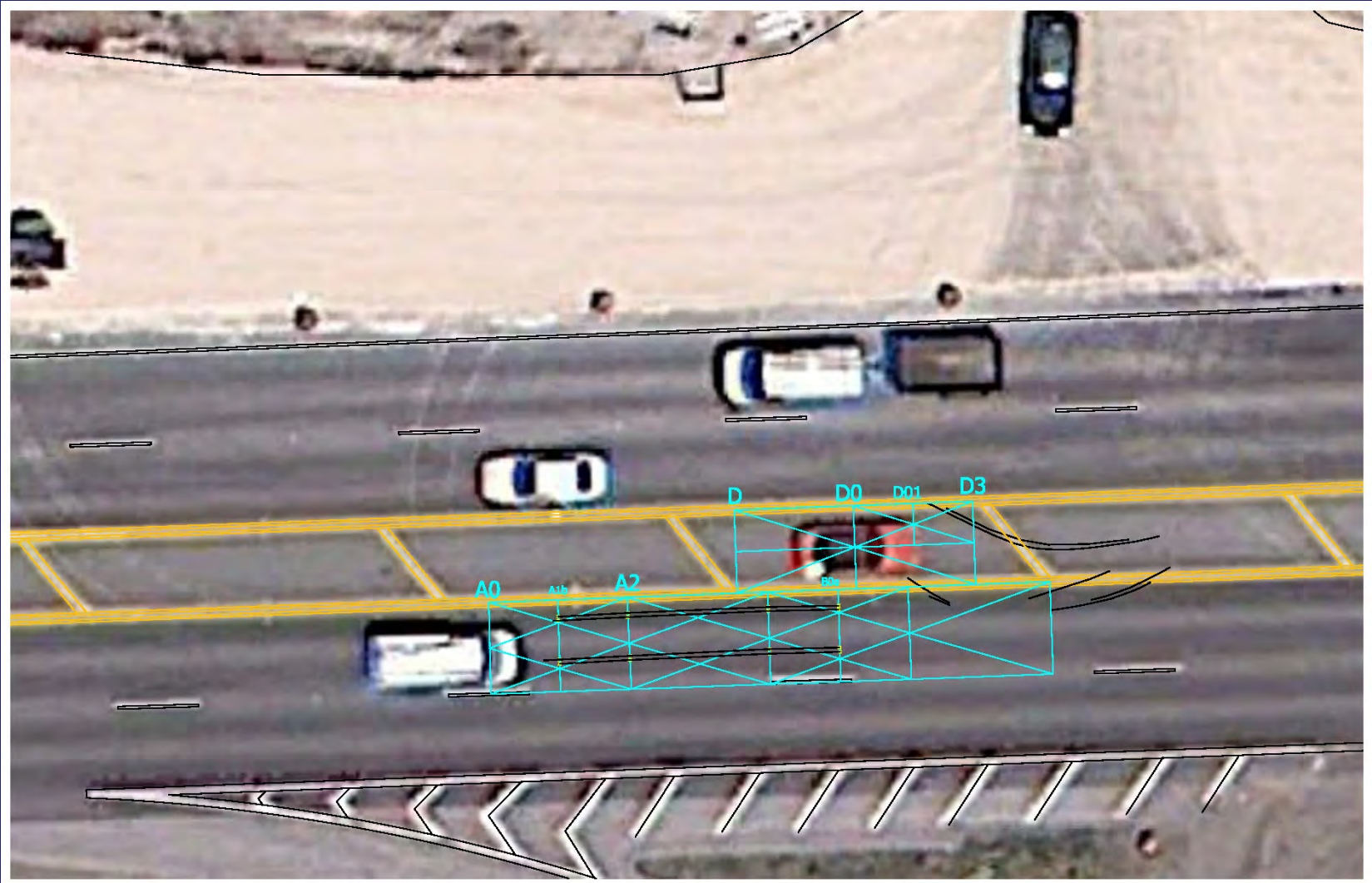
Photogrammetry

- Utilization of photographs to place evidence on a scene or vehicle.

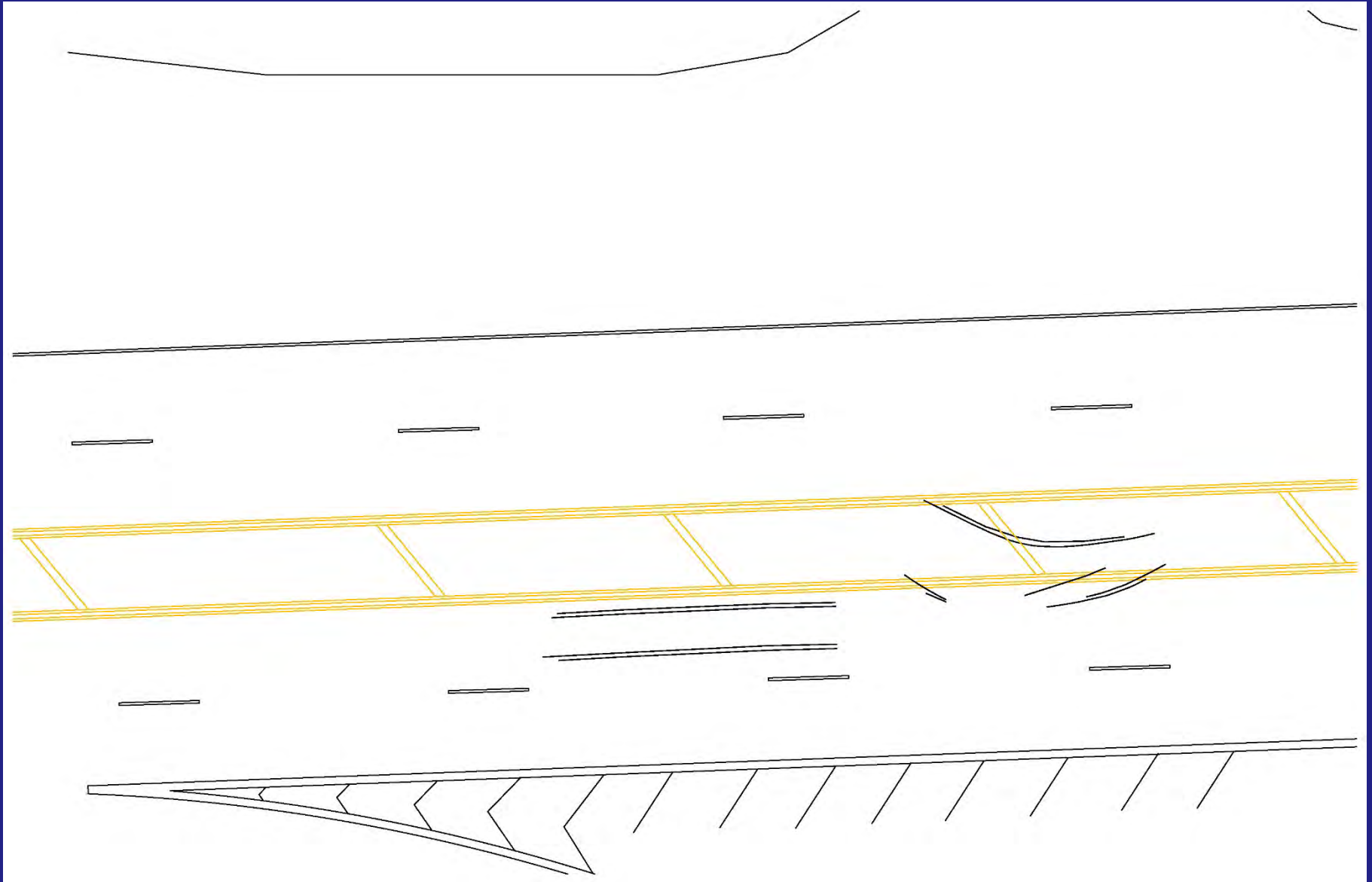
Utilize Geometry to Establish Dimensions



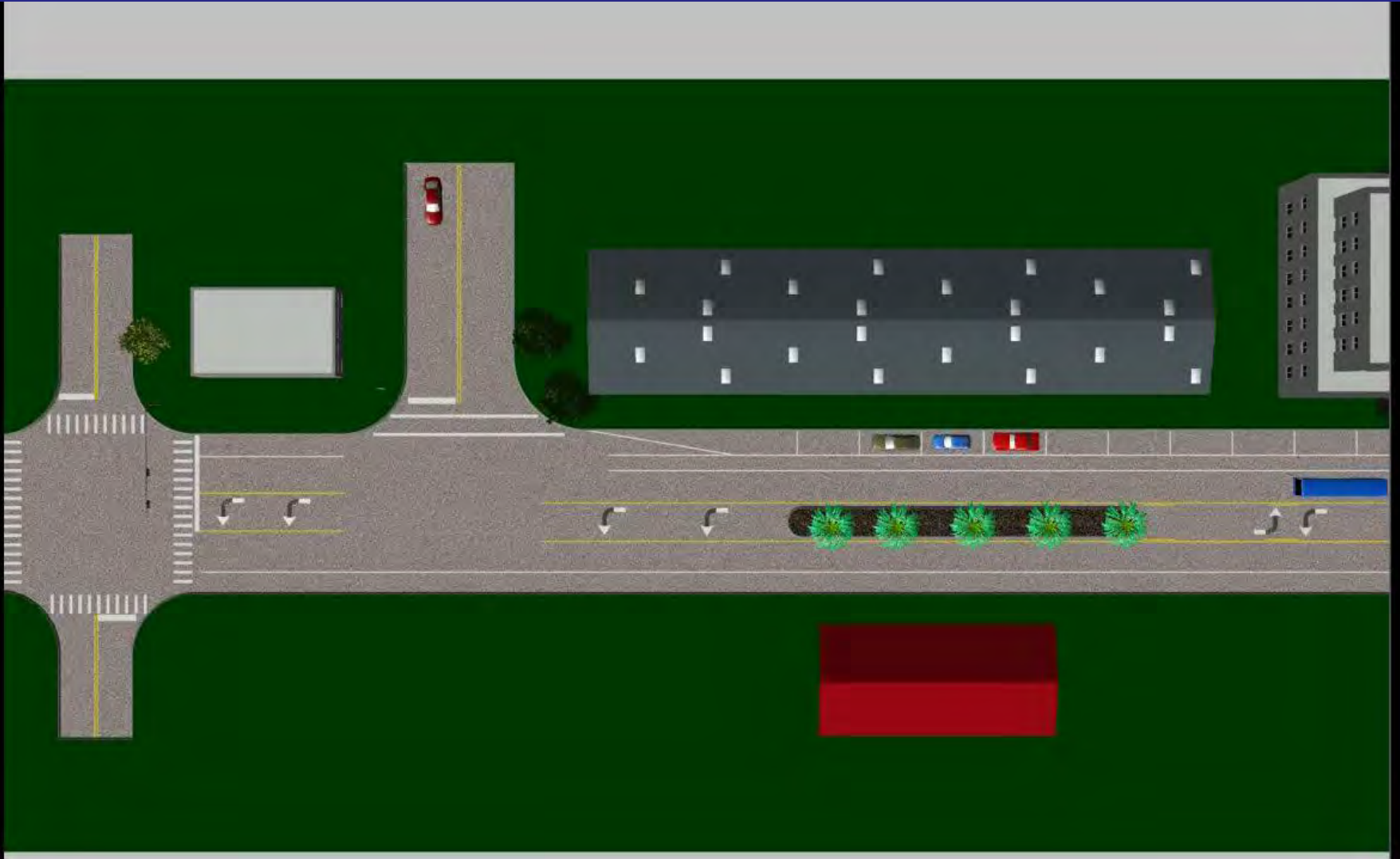
Utilize Geometry to Establish Dimensions



Utilize Geometry to Establish Dimensions



Computer Simulation



Animations









Initial Information to Obtain for review by Accident Reconstructionist

- **Photographs of vehicles and scene**
- **Witness statements**
- **Available physical evidence**
 - **Preserve vehicles / ACM / EDR / Dash Cam / GPS Tracking if possible!**
- **Security Video**
- **TV / Newspaper documentation**
- **Deposition testimony**
- **Vehicle repair estimates**
- **Any and all law enforcement reports**

- **Photographs of vehicles and scene**
- **Witness statements**
- **Available physical evidence**
- **Available Crash/ Incident Data**
 - **Preserve vehicles/ACM/EDR/Conventional GPS/ Dash Cam/GPS Tracking/Fleet Management**
 - **Security Video- Vehicle & Surveillance**
- **TV/Newspaper documentation**
- **Deposition testimony**
- **Vehicle repair estimates**
- **Any and all law enforcement reports**

Ask your expert for help!

Most attorneys are not experts in accident reconstruction – work with your expert to develop an understanding of the technical issues specific to your case and develop questions for the opposing expert.

Also we don't have to be an expert to help you with a case. Sometimes you just need a few answers or some consultation... Call us!

Role of 'Black Boxes' in Accident Reconstruction



Passenger Vehicles

- Primary Purpose - Airbag Control Module (ACM)



Commercial Vehicles

- Primary Purpose - Engine Control Module (ECM)

Passenger Vehicle 'Black Boxes'



Land Rover Airbag Control Module

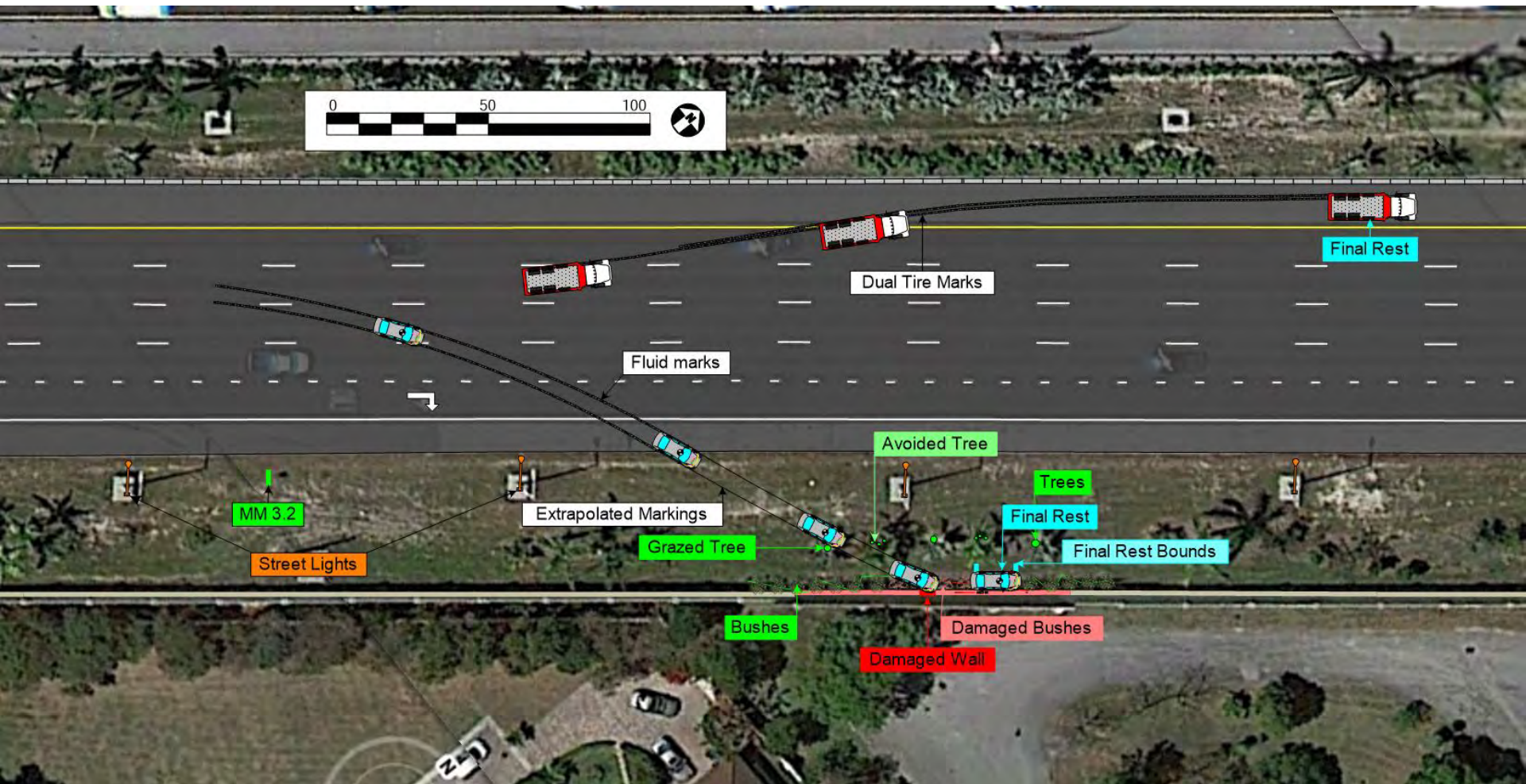


Ford Rover Airbag Control Module

Passenger Vehicle 'Black Boxes'

- Full list of covered vehicles by CDR:
www.boschdiagnostics.com
- CDR:
Acura, BMW, Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Ford, GMC, Holden, Honda, HSV, Hummer, Infinity, Isuzu, Jeep, Lexus, Lincoln, Maserati, Mazda, Mercedes, Mercury, Mini, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Oldsmobile, Opel, Pontiac, Rolls-Royce, Saab, Saturn, Scion, Sterling, Suzuki, Toyota, Volkswagen, Volvo
- Hyundai, Kia, Saab, Tesla and Subaru are also downloadable through manufacture produced software





Toyota Damage



Toyota Damage



Toyota Damage



Toyota Damage



Toyota Damage





Toyota Damage



Toyota Damage



Interior Body Contact



Passenger Seatbelt



CDR Report

DTCs Present at Time of Event (Most Recent Event, TRG 5)

Recording Status, Diagnostic	Complete
Ignition Cycle Since DTC was Set (times)	0
Airbag Warning Lamp ON Time Since DTC was Set (min)	0
Diagnostic Trouble Codes	None

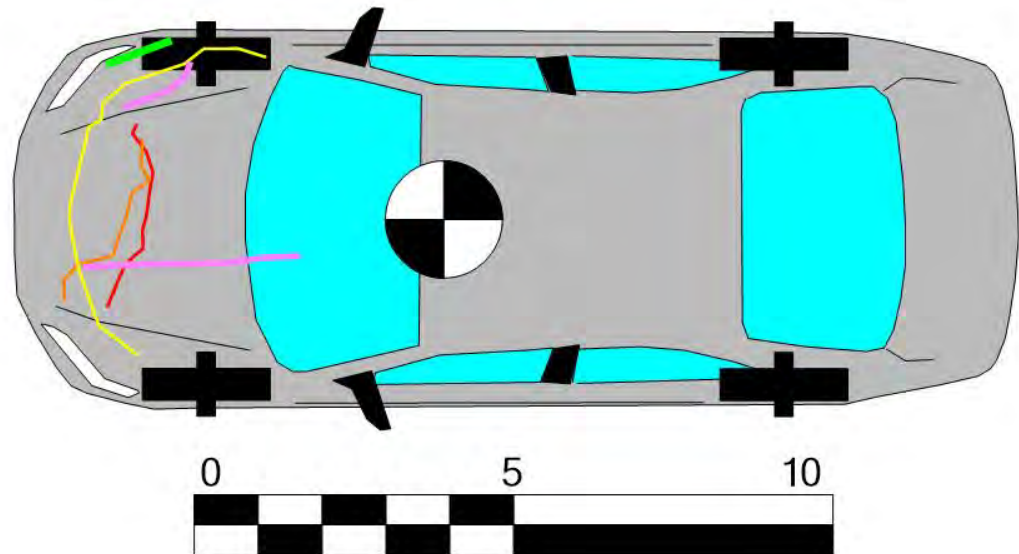
Pre-Crash Data, 1 Sample (Most Recent Event, TRG 5)

Recording Status, Pre-Crash/Occupant	Complete
Time from Pre-Crash to TRG (msec)	400
Buckle Switch, Driver	Unbuckled
Buckle Switch, Passenger	Buckled
Occupancy Status, Passenger	AM50
Seat Position, Driver	Rearward
Shift Position	Drive

Pre-Crash Data, -5 to 0 seconds (Most Recent Event, TRG 5)

Time (sec)	-4.4	-3.4	-2.4	-1.4	-0.4	0 (TRG)
Vehicle Speed (MPH [km/h])	68.4 [110]	68.4 [110]	67.1 [108]	67.1 [108]	67.1 [108]	65.9 [106]
Brake Switch	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	ON
Accelerator Rate (V)	1.09	1.05	1.05	1.09	1.09	0.78
Engine RPM (RPM)	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,600

Toyota Damage after dump truck



Dump Truck Damage



Dump Truck Damage



Dump Truck Damage



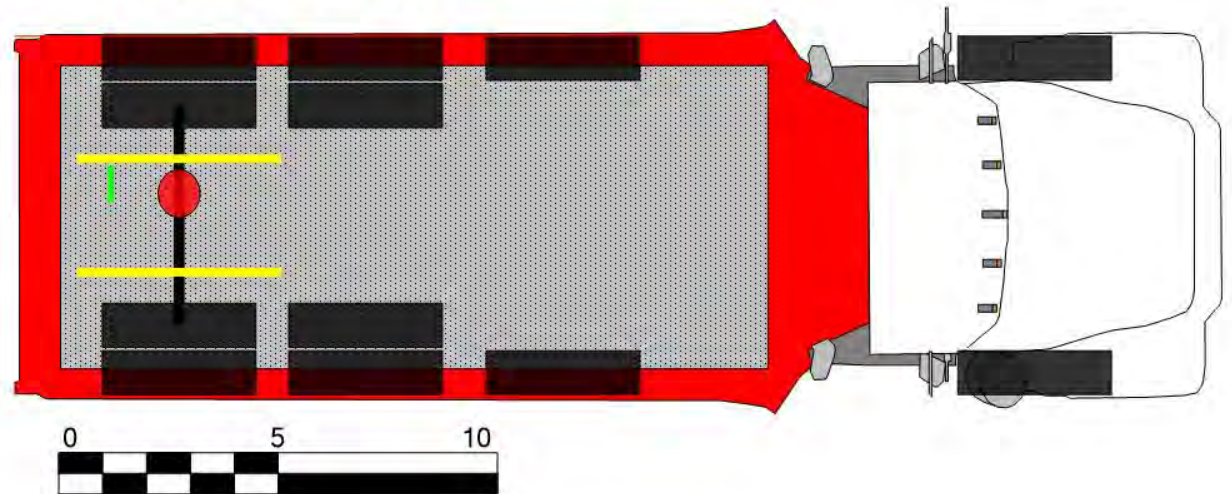
Dump Truck Damage



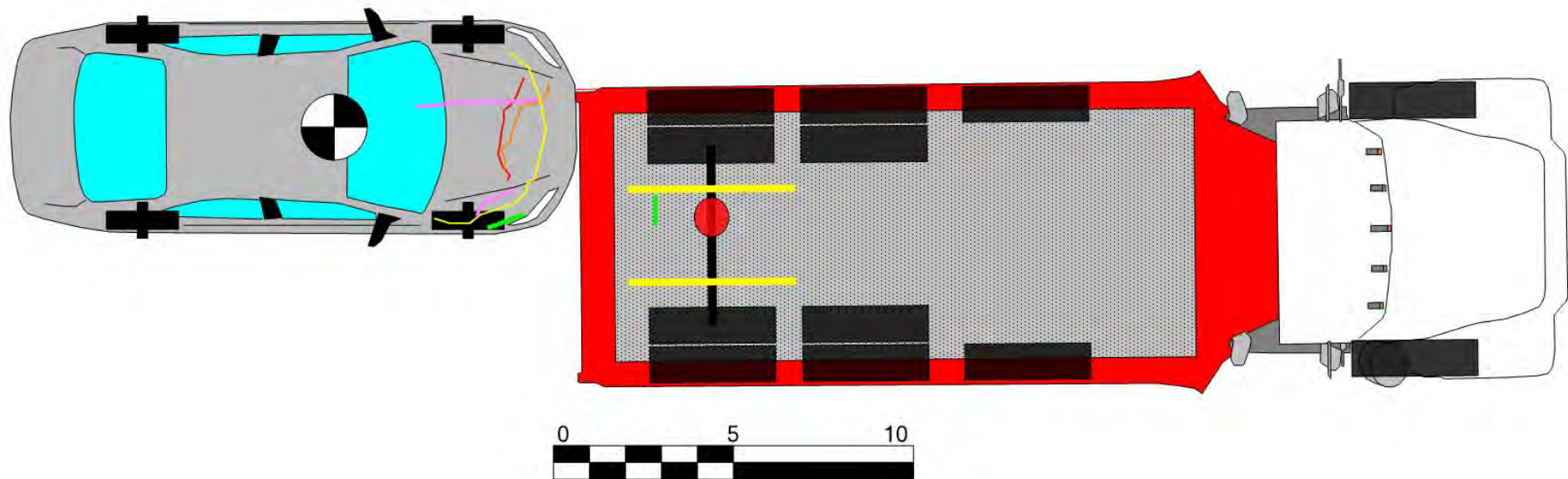
Dump Truck Damage



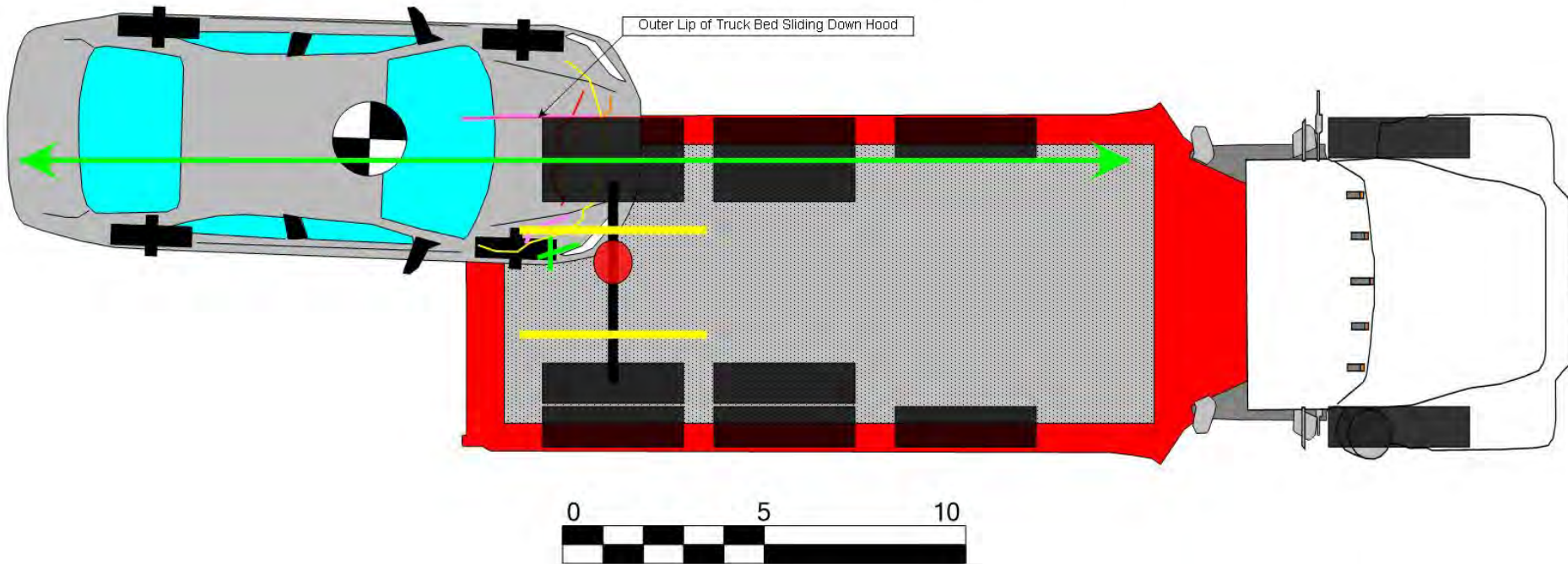
Dump Truck



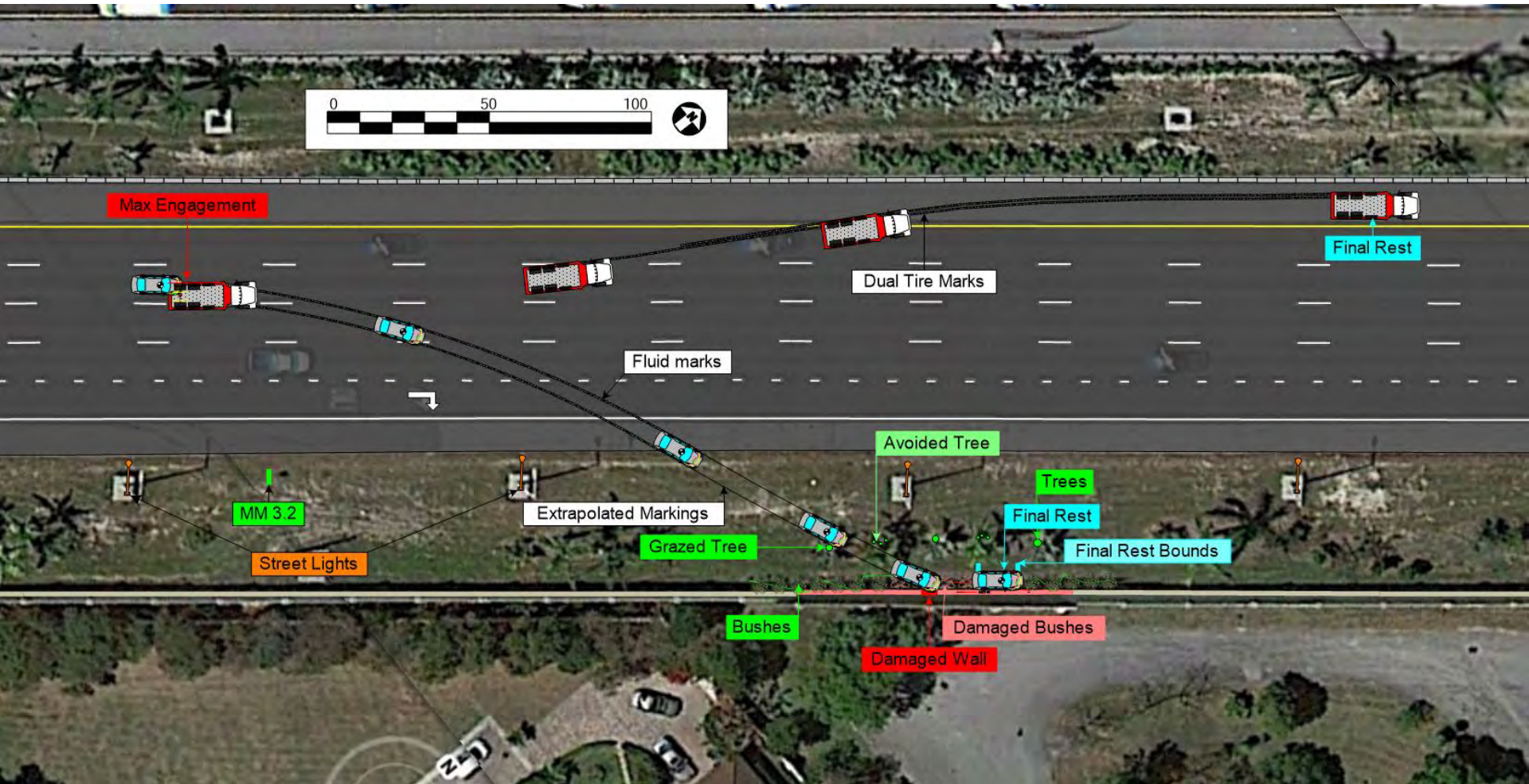
First Contact



Maximum Engagement



Different Story?



Commercial Vehicle "Black Box"



ECM Terminology per Manufacturer

- CAT
 - Engine Control Module (ECM)
- Cummins
 - Engine Control Module (ECM)
- International and Paccar
 - Engine Control Module (ECM)
- MACK
 - Vehicle Electronic Control Unit (VECU)
 - Engine Electronic Control Unit (EECU)
- Volvo
 - Vehicle Electronic Control Unit (VECU)
 - Engine Electronic Control Unit (EECU)
 - Instrument Cluster
- DDEC / MBE
 - Motor Control Module (MCM)
 - Common Powertrain Controller (CPC)
- DDEC ECM NUMBERS
 - DDEC X (CPC, MCM, ACM)
 - DDEC VI (CPC, MCM)
 - DDEC V (MCM)
 - DDEC IV (MCM)
 - MBE (VCU, MCM)

Commercial Vehicle Black Box Data

Electronic Control Module Quick Reference Guide

Engine Manufacturer	Engine or ECM Model	Year Introduced	Configuration Data	Quick Stop Data	Last Stop Data	Diagnostic Record	Preventing Data Loss
Caterpillar	ADEM II	1994	Yes	See Note 1	No	Yes	Apply parking brake, then turn ignition to the off position. Wait at least one minute before disconnecting battery.
Caterpillar	ADEM III	1999	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Caterpillar	ADEM IV	2007	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Cummins	Celect	1993	Yes	No	No	Freeze Frame	
Cummins	Celect Plus	1996	Yes	No	No	Freeze Frame	
Cummins	ISB, ISC, ISL	1998	Yes	See Note 2	No	Freeze Frame	
Cummins	ISM, ISX	1998	Yes	See Note 3	No	Freeze Frame	
Detroit	DDEC III	1993	Yes	No	No	No	
Detroit	DDEC IV	1998	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Detroit	DDEC V	2004	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Detroit	DDEC VI	2007	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Detroit	DDEC 10	2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Hino	Med. Duty	Undetermined	Yes	No	No	Freeze Frame(s)	
International	Maxxforce 11 - 15	2010	Yes	See Note 4	See Note 4	Freeze Frame	
Mack	V-Mac III	1998	Yes	Yes	See Note 5	Freeze Frame	
Mack	V-Mac IV	2006	Yes	Yes	Yes	Freeze Frame	
Mercedes	PLD w/ VCU	2000	Yes	See Note 6	See Note 6	See Note 6	
Mercedes	DDEC VI	2007	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Paccar	PX-6, PX-8	2007	Yes	Yes	No	Freeze Frame	
Paccar	MX	2010	Yes	No	No	Yes	
Volvo	Heavy Duty Engines	2002	Yes	See Note 7	See Note 7	Freeze Frame(s)	
Volvo	Heavy Duty Engines	2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	Freeze Frame(s)	
Bendix	EC60 ABS Controller	2005	Yes	No	No	Freeze Frame	

Note 1 - ECM Must Have Software Revision After November 1995

Note 2 - Sudden Deceleration Data Available Starting in 2007

Note 3 - Sudden Deceleration Data Available Starting in 2002, with ECM Software Revisions from Late 2004

Note 4 - Data Available with ECM Software Revisions 3.8.1 or Higher

Note 5 - Data Available with ECM Step 12 Software Revision

Note 6 - Data Available with ECM Software Revisions 12.09 or Higher

Note 7 - Data Available with EPA 2007 Engines having Updated Software



Rev. 08-01-12

Two potential types of events on commercial vehicle engine control modules (ECM)

- Hard brake event
 - Each engine manufacture's threshold can be different (if turned on)
 - Typical is 7 to 9 mph/s deceleration threshold to write an event
 - Can be overwritten by subsequent events
 - **DO NOT DRIVE THE TRACTOR AFTER THE COLLISION. Have it towed and stored.**
- Last stop event
 - Each time the tractor comes to a complete stop, data is temporarily written to the module.
 - Can be overwritten
 - Each engine has different definitions of a “last stop”
 - Ex. Must stop from initially traveling 30+ mph, be stopped for 2+ seconds, activate the parking brake, and turn the key to the off position with power supplied to vehicle for at least 30 seconds after key is turned off, etc. for data to record.
 - **DO NOT DRIVE THE TRACTOR AFTER THE COLLISION. Have it towed and stored.**

Commercial Vehicle “Black Box” Data

Incident Time:				Incident Odometer: 355611.			
Time	Vehicle Speed (mph)	Engine Speed (rpm)	Brake	Clutch	Engine Load (%)	Throttle (%)	Cruise
-1:00	40.0	1684	No	No	81.00	76.40	No
-0:59	40.0	1547	No	No	0.00	0.00	No
-0:58	40.5	1279	No	No	0.00	0.00	No
-0:57	41.0	1267	No	No	21.50	33.60	No
-0:56	41.5	1288	No	No	40.50	48.80	No
-0:55	42.0	1307	No	No	61.50	64.80	No
-0:54	43.0	1329	No	No	75.00	72.80	No
-0:53	43.5	1347	No	No	65.50	67.20	No
-0:52	44.0	1359	No	No	78.00	76.00	No
-0:51	44.0	1377	No	No	76.50	75.20	No
-0:50	44.5	1381	No	No	75.00	74.00	No
-0:49	44.5	1387	No	No	74.50	73.60	No
-0:48	45.0	1392	No	No	75.00	74.40	No
-0:47	45.5	1413	No	No	73.50	72.40	No
-0:46	46.0	1421	No	No	72.00	72.40	No
-0:45	46.5	1446	No	No	72.50	73.20	No
-0:44	47.0	1460	No	No	71.50	72.40	No
-0:43	47.5	1475	No	No	68.50	70.80	No
-0:42	47.5	1477	No	No	71.00	74.40	No
-0:41	48.0	1489	No	No	85.50	82.00	No

Fixed Time Progression

- GPS DATA = Fleet telematics with 1 second increments, 4-decimal XY reporting, with speed reported

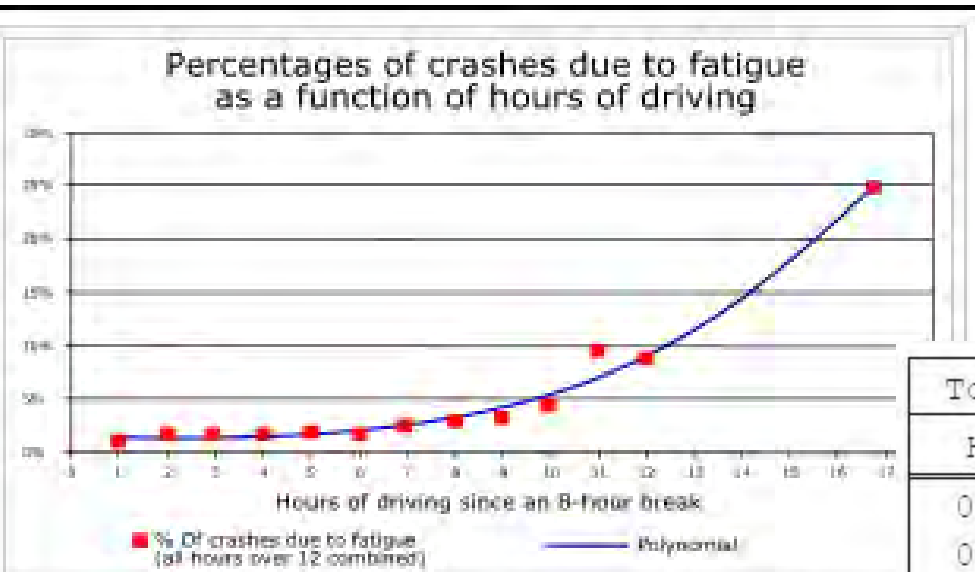
Time	MPH	Lat.	Long.	Time	MPH	Lat.	Long.
6:58:08	0	40.69071	-88.65994	6:58:28	11.5	40.68599	-88.6552
6:58:09	1.5	40.68986	-88.65974	6:58:29	12.5	40.68578	-88.655
6:58:10	3	40.68954	-88.65964	6:58:30	13.5	40.68521	-88.6547
6:58:11	5	40.68921	-88.65921	6:58:31	15	40.68506	-88.6546
6:58:12	7	40.68896	-88.65905	6:58:32	16.5	40.68498	-88.654
6:58:13	8	40.68864	-88.65895	6:58:33	18	40.68475	-88.654
6:58:14	9.5	40.68843	-88.65863	6:58:34	18	40.68424	-88.6539
6:58:15	10.5	40.68825	-88.65849	6:58:35	19	40.68419	-88.6538
6:58:16	12	40.68811	-88.6581	6:58:36	20.5	40.68397	-88.6536
6:58:17	12.5	40.68794	-88.65809	6:58:37	22	40.68379	-88.6533
6:58:18	13	40.68784	-88.65795	6:58:38	22.5	40.68356	-88.6532
6:58:19	14	40.68776	-88.65753	6:58:39	23.5	40.68326	-88.653
6:58:20	14	40.68743	-88.65713	6:58:40	25	40.68311	-88.6528
6:58:21	14	40.68759	-88.65698	6:58:41	25.5	40.68295	-88.6528
6:58:22	13.5	40.68718	-88.65657	6:58:42	26.5	40.68258	-88.6527
6:58:23	12.5	40.68691	-88.65642	6:58:43	23	40.68249	-88.6525
6:58:24	11.5	40.68684	-88.65641	6:58:44	8.5	40.68208	-88.6523
6:58:25	10.5	40.68665	-88.65598	6:58:45	2.5	40.68196	-88.6522
6:58:26	10	40.68621	-88.65572	6:58:46	0	40.68169	-88.6519
6:58:27	10.5	40.68609	-88.65551	6:58:47	0	40.68169	-88.6519

Driver Factors

In 2009, 31% of fatal tractor-trailer crashes reported driver-related factors as contributing to the collision, including:

- Driving too fast for conditions/Driving in Excess of the posted speed limit
- Failure to keep in proper lane
- Inattentive (talking, eating, etc.)
- Failure to yield right-of-way
- Failure to obey traffic signs

Driver Factors



A graph outlining the relationship between number of hours driven and the percent of crashes related to driver fatigue.

Source: [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration^{\[1\]}](#)

Total (hh:mm)	04:08	01:52	18:00
Hour (EST)	Drive (min)	Idle (min)	Off (min)
00:00-02:00	0	0	120
02:00-04:00	0	0	120
04:00-06:00	0	0	120
06:00-08:00	2	8	110
08:00-10:00	66	19	35
10:00-12:00	94	26	0
12:00-14:00	47	54	19
14:00-16:00	39	5	76
16:00-18:00	0	0	120
18:00-20:00	0	0	120
20:00-22:00	0	0	120
22:00-24:00	0	0	120

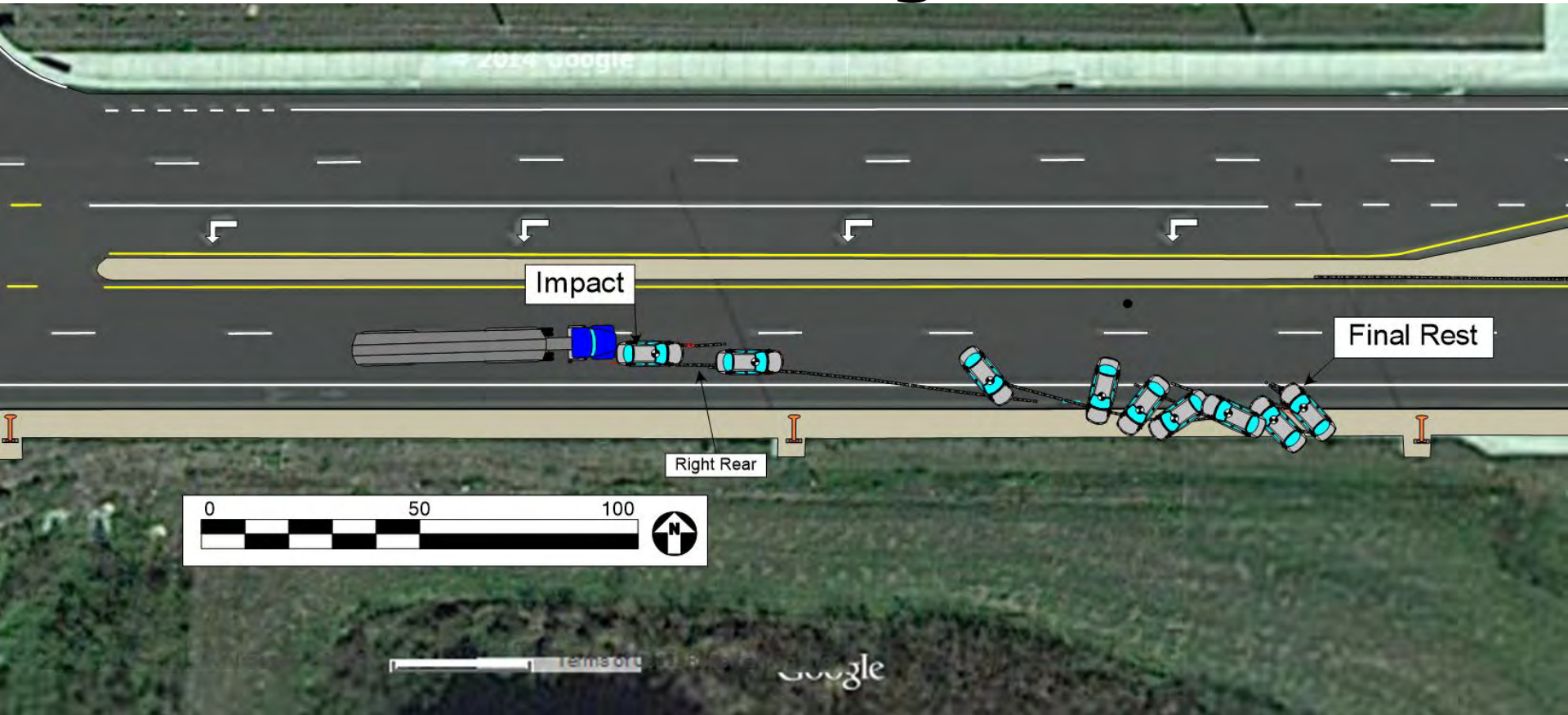
Other Sources of Data Event Data

- Video Camera
- GPS
- Infotainment
- Cell Phones
- Driver's electronic

Case Details

- 12:30 a.m.
 - Dark, dry and clear
- Driver of tractor-trailer states he saw taillights ahead.

Scaled Diagram



Tanker Truck



Front Bumper of Tanker



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



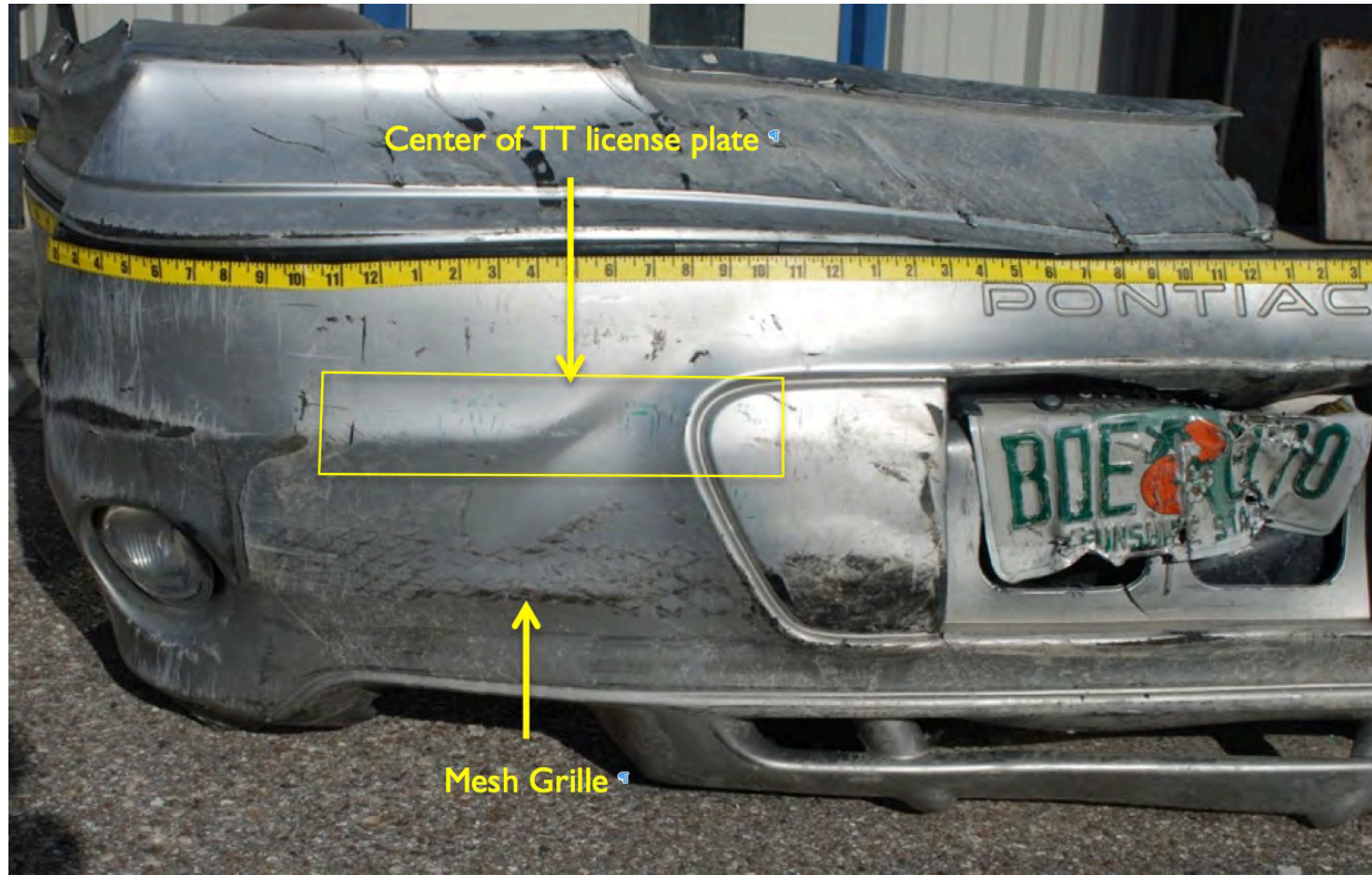
Pontiac Damage



Pontiac Damage



License Plate Transfer



Calculations

Tractor-Trailer

- Impact Speed = 45 mph
- Speed Limit = 50 mph

Pontiac

- Impact Speed = 0 mph

DDEC Reports

DDEC® Reports - Last Stop Record

Print Date: 7/23/2013 9:16 AM
DDC

Trip: 10/03/11 08:16:00 To 07/23/13 (EST)

Vehicle ID:

Driver ID:

Odometer: 279898.8 mi

Engine S/N: 471903S0096231

Last Stop Time: 7/22/2013 1:53:28 AM (EST) Last Stop Odometer: 279898.8 mi

Time	Vehicle Speed (mph)	Engine Speed (rpm)	Brake	Clutch	Engine Load (%)	Throttle (%)	Cruise	Diag. Code
-0:24	47.0	1347	No	No	63.50	68.80	No	No
-0:23	47.5	1355	No	No	49.50	56.00	No	No
-0:22	47.5	1356	No	No	35.50	44.80	No	No
-0:21	47.5	1358	No	No	37.00	46.80	No	No
-0:20	48.0	1360	No	No	36.50	46.00	No	No
-0:19	48.0	1369	No	No	43.00	52.40	No	No
-0:18	48.0	1362	No	No	45.00	53.60	No	No
-0:17	47.5	1361	No	No	42.50	51.20	No	No
-0:16	47.5	1353	No	No	37.00	46.40	No	No
-0:15	47.5	1350	No	No	23.00	36.40	No	No
-0:14	47.0	1348	No	No	26.00	38.00	No	No
-0:13	45.5	1195	Yes	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:12	42.0	1175	Yes	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:11	40.5	1139	No	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:10	39.0	1053	Yes	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:09	34.5	906	Yes	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:08	30.0	804	Yes	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:07	25.5	634	Yes	No	0.00	0.00	No	No
-0:06	21.0	592	Yes	Yes	10.50	0.00	No	No
-0:05	16.5	596	Yes	Yes	11.00	0.00	No	No
-0:04	11.5	598	Yes	Yes	11.50	0.00	No	No
-0:03	7.0	604	Yes	Yes	10.00	0.00	No	No
-0:02	3.5	605	Yes	Yes	8.50	0.00	No	No
-0:01	1.5	601	Yes	Yes	9.00	0.00	No	No
0:00	0.5	602	Yes	Yes	8.50	0.00	No	No

CDR Report

System Status At Non-Deployment

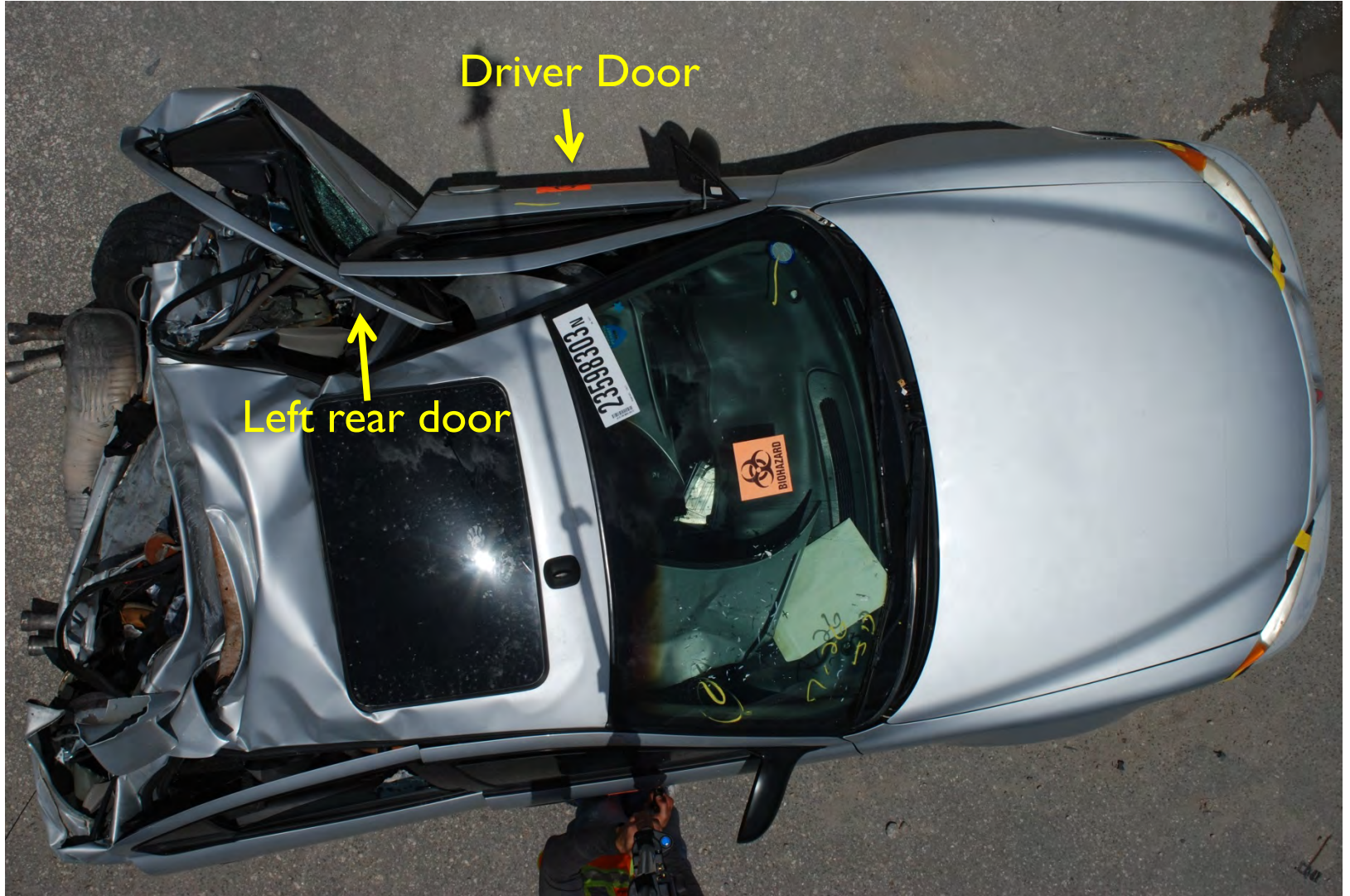
SIR Warning Lamp Status	OFF
Driver's Belt Switch Circuit Status	UNBUCKLED
Passenger SIR Suppression Switch Circuit Status (if equipped)	Air Bag Not Suppressed
Ignition Cycles At Non-Deployment	25480
Ignition Cycles At Investigation	25483
Maximum SDM Recorded Velocity Change (MPH)	-2.11
Algorithm Enable to Maximum SDM Recorded Velocity Change (msec)	100

Seconds Before AE	Vehicle Speed (MPH)	Engine Speed (RPM)	Percent Throttle
-5	0	0	0
-4	0	0	0
-3	0	0	0
-2	0	0	0
-1	0	0	0

Seconds Before AE	Brake Switch Circuit State
-8	OFF
-7	OFF
-6	OFF
-5	OFF
-4	OFF
-3	OFF
-2	OFF
-1	OFF

No Fuel





Driver Door

Left rear door

Interior Dome Lights

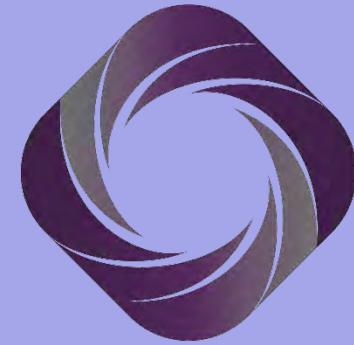


Hot Shock!





Brian Pfeifer, Ph.D., P.E.
bpfeifer@becind.com
(850)558-3121 (office)
(850)591-8698 (cell)



Rachel E. Keller, P.E.
Rachel@focusforensics.com
(813)344-0085 (office)
(813)528-2080 (cell)





The Florida Bar

651 East Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

Joshua E. Doyle
Executive Director

850/561-5600
www.FLORIDABAR.org

Certificate of Accreditation for Continuing Legal Education

227809
Tampa Bay Trial Lawyers Association
Margaret Peavler
PO Box 1913
Dunedin, FL 34697-1913

July 5, 2018

Reference Number: 1805213N
Title: Use Of Accident Reconstructionist (Forensic Engi
Level: Intermediate
Approval Period: 08/09/2018 - 02/09/2020

CLE Credits

General	2.0
---------	-----

Certification Credits

Civil Trial	2.0
-------------	-----