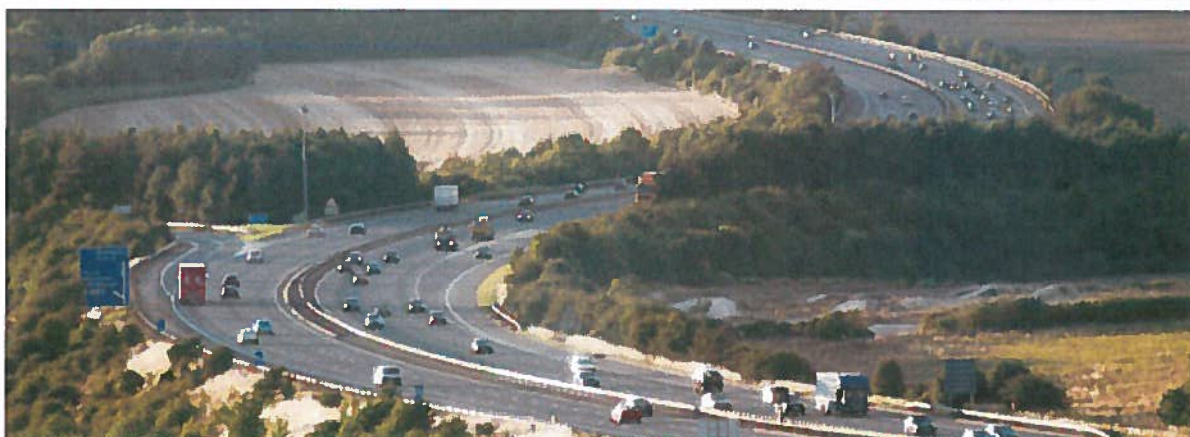
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 18 March 2015



MarkingCollector - showing the way forward



Road markings are an important safety element on our highways. TRL has developed the MarkingCollector, a technology that measures with pinpoint accuracy the condition of the markings from a vehicle travelling with the normal traffic flow.

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Getting inside the minds of the HGV community



TRL has been asked by Transport for London (TfL) to improve the understanding of how HGV operations are carried out in London, and why this group of vehicles is currently over-represented in accidents.

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Body of Evidence



TRL has launched a three-day evidence-based practice course to help organisations build more rigour and empirical evidence into their day-to-day processes and protocols to assist business case judgements.

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MarkingCollector – showing the way forward

18/03/2015

Road markings are an important safety element on our highways. TRL has developed the MarkingCollector, a technology that measures with pinpoint accuracy the condition of the markings from a vehicle travelling with the normal traffic flow.

For drivers, the visibility of the road markings is crucial because they not only show lane delineation but they also provide advance information about what lies ahead. This includes the direction the road is taking, where entry and exit junctions are located, where overtaking is not permitted and helpful information such as speed limits. The ability of the markings to deliver this information to drivers is dependent on their condition. TRL's MarkingCollector measures both the retroreflectivity performance of the marking, which is critical for night-time visibility, and the amount of erosion of the markings footprint.

Research by TRL has enabled the mechanisms that cause unrepeatability in existing road marking condition measurement devices to be better understood. This has led to the introduction of novel concepts and advanced technology in the design of the MarkingCollector. As a result, high levels of repeatability in the measurements from MarkingCollector have been achieved and TRL believes that the year-on-year degradation of the markings can now be monitored for the first time. This will lead to cost savings because it will allow predictive maintenance schedules to be adopted, targeting only areas where condition is heading towards unacceptable levels, rather than fixed schedule replacement regardless of condition.

MarkingCollector is able to function from the centre of the lane and simultaneously measure the condition of the lane markings on both sides of the vehicle whilst operating day or night at speeds up to 120kph. A fully operational preproduction prototype was demonstrated publicly in November 2014 and 2015 sees the launch of the MarkingCollector for sale to survey contractors and for commissioned surveys by TRL.

The MarkingCollector demonstrates a significant advance in the ability to safely measure road markings at traffic speed with no disruption to other vehicles. It can be integrated with other measurement equipment, either provided by third parties or by TRL, including the TRL DataCollector and TRL ImageCollector.

For more information, contact: Richard Lodge Tel: +44 (0)1344 770057 Email: rlodge@trl.co.uk

Getting inside the minds of the HGV community

18/03/2015

TRL has been asked by Transport for London (TfL) to improve the understanding of how HGV operations are carried out in London, and why this group of vehicles is currently over-represented in accidents.

HGVs, their drivers and operators are frequently in the news following involvement in accidents, particularly in London and particularly involving vulnerable road users.

TRL is conducting research with HGV owners, drivers and business leaders to learn first-hand the industry's views, explore the challenges the industry faces, understand their role in road safety and finally seek views on what can be done to improve the safety of HGV operations for all road users.

Shaun Helman from TRL said: "Everyone recognises the issues facing HGVs operating in large urban centres. They carry out important work delivering goods around the clock, without which our economy would suffer. The research explores how a culture of safety and mutual understanding can be developed to ensure the continuation of this important work as safely as possible".

Have your say on this important issue by completing an online survey, which should take no longer than 25-30 minutes. The survey is open to anyone involved in HGV operations in London, including drivers, managers, owners and clients who use HGVs as part of their business. All completed surveys will be entered into a prize draw for £100 (12 available) or an iPad Air 2 (three available). In addition, a £2 charity donation will be made for each completed response (up to maximum of £1,500).

To take part – please register by visiting <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/registration>

Body of Evidence

18/03/2015

TRL has launched a three-day evidence-based practice course to help organisations build more rigour and empirical evidence into their day-to-day processes and protocols to assist business case judgements.

Organisations seeking to introduce more rigour and justification for strategy and policy now have the opportunity to support their financial decisions through TRL's training course on evidence-based practice. Applicable to a variety of audiences in both the private and public sector the Evidence based Practice (EBP) course is relevant to all staff in an organisation.

The training course, which can be tailored to individual needs, covers the essentials of evidence-based practice and, in its five elements, provides information and advice to ensure that delegates are aware of how to implement the approach in practice.

The three-day training course, adopts a formal presentation style and includes interactive sessions with feedback. However the course is a-la-carte, in that delegates can choose to do only one or two days, rather than all three.

The EBP course has recently been completed for Sustrans, the leading charity enabling people to choose healthier, cleaner and cheaper journeys. Delegates attended from a number of local authorities across the South West and the feedback was extremely positive including one delegate who said:

"I took a lot from the course. I'm currently using the principles of EBP to prioritise investment through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund Access to Education programme in Devon. With a limited budget it's crucial we maximise value for money by targeting schools which have the highest potential for travel behaviour change."

The course covers the evidence-based practice model and process, and is divided into five stages:

- Formulating an answerable question from research (creating a structured question for research)
- Finding evidence from research (ensuring a clear search process is adopted to ensure all relevant evidence is gathered)
- Critical appraisal of evidence (determining the strength of different types of evidence)
- Implementing change (creating evidence-based recommendations for practice and processes for adoption)
- Evaluating performance (determining the effectiveness of introducing the evidence-based recommendations)

A number of benefits have been associated with adopting this approach including the enabling of professional accountability by justifying and providing a clear account and rationale for practice. It also informs decision-making, taking into account the three main components from the model; research evidence, client preferences and professional judgement and encourages a questioning approach to research.

It also ensures interventions are chosen to provide the largest return on investment and confidence to make long term investments in products, services and techniques.

Delegates are encouraged to answer post-course questions to help focus the training including how practice will change as a direct response of the EBP training, the most important learning from the course and its overall strengths and relevance.

For further information or to book a place, please contact:

Poppy Husband on +44 (0)1344 770277 or email [phusband@trl.co.uk](mailto:p Husband@trl.co.uk)

