MOBILE SIMULATOR TRAINING FOR SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

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TheTrust
in partnership with the Alliance and SCIP
BACKGROUND

- Arizona School Risk Retention Trust, Inc.
- Established in 1986
- Administered by Ashton Tiffany, LLC
- Provides property and liability coverages
- 250 members (public school districts and community colleges)
Total Insurable Value

$23 billion the value of buildings and contents covered by the Trust

Equivalent to 89 ASU Sun Devil Stadiums
STUDENT COUNT COVERED: 853,000
It would take almost 9 Disneylands to host all the students covered by the Trust

VEHICLES COVERED: 13,000
This includes 5,600 buses—5 times the number in the Valley Metro Phoenix fleet

$25 MILLION
The value of Trust claims in 2016/2017
($15M in property claims alone)
WHY?
Bus Claims History, 2002–2008

Data valued at 12/31/2008
Bus Claims Count (Average), 2002–2008: Top 4

Data valued at 12/31/2008

- Unsafe Turn: 85
- Rearended Other Vehicle: 37
- Backing: 29
- Unsafe Passing: 24

Legend:
- Blue: Unsafe Turn
- Orange: Rearended Other Vehicle
- Gray: Backing
- Yellow: Unsafe Passing
Bus Claims Cost (Average), 2002–2008: Top 4

- Unsafe Turn: $185,928
- Collision With Oncoming Vehicle: $187,539
- Collision With Pedestrian: $248,760
- Rearended Other Vehicle: $661,890

All costs reflect gross incurred; data valued at 12/31/2008.
EXPLORATION
FIRST STEPS

- Staffing
- Training modules
- Scheduling
PROPOSED STRUCTURE

• Day 1: classroom training (all drivers)
• Day 2+: simulator session (3 drivers at a time)
SIMULATOR MANUFACTURERS

- Doron Precision Systems, Inc. (NY)
- FAAC, Inc. (MI)
- 5DT (CA)
OTHER

- Insurance policy
- Dept. of Public Safety
- Parking
- DOT# or not
- Weight limits
- Maintenance plan
- Warranty
DEVELOPMENT
TIMELINE

• Board approval: June 2008
• Purchase of simulator: Fall 2008
• Launch: January 2009
COSTS

One-time capital purchase ($360K):

• mobile simulator
• trailer
• truck
COSTS, CONT’D

Annual operating expenses ($83K):

- simulator service agreement
- personnel
- gas, maintenance, storage
PROCESS

- Training is scheduled
- Simulator trainer is scheduled
- Training takes place at district
- “Executive Summary” report is sent to district
- Report is sent to DPS
INITIAL TRAINING MODULES

- Mirror adjustments
- Safe turning
- Safe backing
PICTURE TIME
Blind Spots

A blind spot is an area that is hidden from the driver’s view. Blind spots are caused by structural parts of the bus.
Bus Claims History, 2002–2016

Data valued at 7/31/2017
2015 PROGRAM ANALYSIS

- Loss data do not clearly show that the program is impacting the frequency or severity of claims
- Board satisfaction
- Member satisfaction
“The technology of the simulator gave ‘real time’ on-the-road experience, to demonstrate defensive driving in several scenarios.”
“Drivers can be subjected to all types of situations, even some that they may not face in everyday travels. During training we can talk about these situations, but to experience them makes the point come across even better.”
“I hear feedback from my drivers, and they all commented about scenarios and what they had to do to avoid crashes. Some even got into discussion about how they handled these scenarios. I loved that part.”
CHALLENGES

• Severe auto liability losses
• Driver selection and retention
• Ongoing maintenance costs
• Staffing the program
• Scheduling
REVISIONS TO THE PROGRAM

- Greater participation at industry conferences
- Revised Executive Summary document
- Web scheduling functionality
- Additional modules
QUESTIONS?

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