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SHRP 2 Naturalistic Driving - Crash Risk Study and Roadway Information Databases: Background and Field Study Update

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Volunteer drivers in six US states are pioneering new territory for all of us as they participate in the largest study of driving behavior ever conducted. Driver behavior has been identified as the major factor in about 90% of roadway crashes. Now for the first time, technologies can be combined to gather objective, scientific information about what happens when people crash, when they experience a near-crash, and when they drive without incident. The intent of the Second Strategic Highway Research Program's (SHRP 2) Naturalistic Driving Study (NDS) is to determine what risks are inherent in the relationship of a driver's performance to the roadway design and to traffic conditions. If we can understand how drivers interact with and adapt to their vehicles, the traffic environment, the roadway characteristics, the traffic control devices, and the environmental conditions that together create the driving experience, then we can identify how to reduce the risk of a crash and make significant improvements in highway safety. This presentation will include an overview of the SHRP 2 Safety Program, the Naturalistic Driving Study and the Roadway Information Data Collection Projects.

Bio(s):

Charles Fay is a Sr. Program Officer with The National Academies' Transportation Research Board's Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2).

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