

EA 04-009
EA 04-019
EA 04-032
PE 04-058
PE 04-059

**Trailer Safety Industry Coalition (TSIC) – ODI Meetings
(September 15, November 9 –10, and December 1, 2004)**

Representatives from the Trailer Safety Industry Coalition (TSIC) presented the enclosed (see diskette) "Powerpoint" presentation to ODI on December 1, 2004.

TSIC Representatives:

Ted Schorn, (Enkei Wheel)

Jack Clevinger, NATM (Wells Cargo)

ODI-NHTSA Representatives:

Tom Bowman

Richard Boyd

Sonny Murianka

Bruce York

Eric Ebenstein

Rae Tyson (drop-in)

(1) September 15, 2004 -

The TSIC was formed in response to an ODI briefing to a joint meeting of the RVIA, NATM, and NNMA held on September 15, 2004. A list of attendees is enclosed. At this meeting, ODI (Tom Bowman, Richard Boyd, and Eric Ebenstein) described the status of the current investigations (EA04-009 and EA04-019) addressing wheel separations and the Agency's findings to date.

(2) November 9, 2004

ODI (Tom Bowman, Eric Ebenstein) provided an update at a joint meeting conducted on November 9, 2004. A list of industry attendees is provided on the enclosed diskette word document).

(3) November 10, 2004

TSIC representatives Kim Mann, Ted Schorn, and Jack Clevinger visited ODO offices (Tom Bowman, Richard Boyd, and Eric Ebenstein) to describe the newly-organized TSIC, its objectives, etc.

(4) December 1, 2004 TSIC – ODI meeting - Described above.

TSIC activity potentially relates to

EA04-009 (Fleetwood)

EA04-019 (Jayco)

EA04-032 (Keystone)

PE04-051 (Thor Industries)

PE04-058 (Pace American)

PE04-059 (Haulmark)

GTB 12-2-04

**Aluminum Wheel Separation Meeting
Washington, DC – September 15, 2004**

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**Aluminum Wheel Separation Meeting
Washington, DC – September 15, 2004**

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TSIC MEETING PARTICIPANTS

NOVEMBER 9, 2004

**Trailer Safety Industry Coalition Meeting
November 9, 2004
Washington, DC**

Participants:

Jack Klepinger, Chairman
Bruce Hopkins, Co-Chairman
Bernie Goettker
Bob Bushnell
Steve Kildow
Bill Dunlap
Bob Williams
Scott Longanbach
Mike Kastner
Ron Williams
Tim Ball
Terry O'Rourke
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Ted Schorn
Mark Bullock
Dave Turner
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Kim Mann
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Unique Functional Products
Western World, Inc.
Dexter Axle
Dexter Axle
Dexstar Wheel Co.
Greenball Corp.
National Truck Equipment Association
Al-Ko Kober
Tredit Tire & Wheel
Tredit Tire & Wheel
Enkei Florida
Enkei America, Inc.
Keystone RV
Jayco RV
Recreational Vehicle Industry Association
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers
Carlisle Tire & Wheel
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
HiSpec Wheel & Tire, Inc.

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TSIC REPORT TO NHTSA

DECEMBER 1, 2004

Trailer Safety Industry Coalition

Report to the National Highway
Traffic Safety Administration

December 1, 2004

Why are we here?

- Continue our good communication and cooperative response to wheel-off claims
 - We see NHTSA and TSIC goals as parallel
 - We want to take responsibility for communication and will take NHTSA's message to our people, the industry
- Provide a summary of the work to date of the Trailer Safety Industry Coalition (TSIC)
 - Communication efforts
 - Technical efforts
- Describe TSIC plans for future work

History of Industry Action

- 9/15/04 Initial trailer industry meeting
 - Unprecedented cooperative industry effort to understand and improve quality and engineering aspects of wheel fastening system
 - Broad-based participation, including NHTSA
 - Established a continuing coalition (32 members) and a technical committee to “provide specific technical advice and information for the purpose of improving the safety and reliability of trailers”
 - NATM, RVIA, NMMA participation

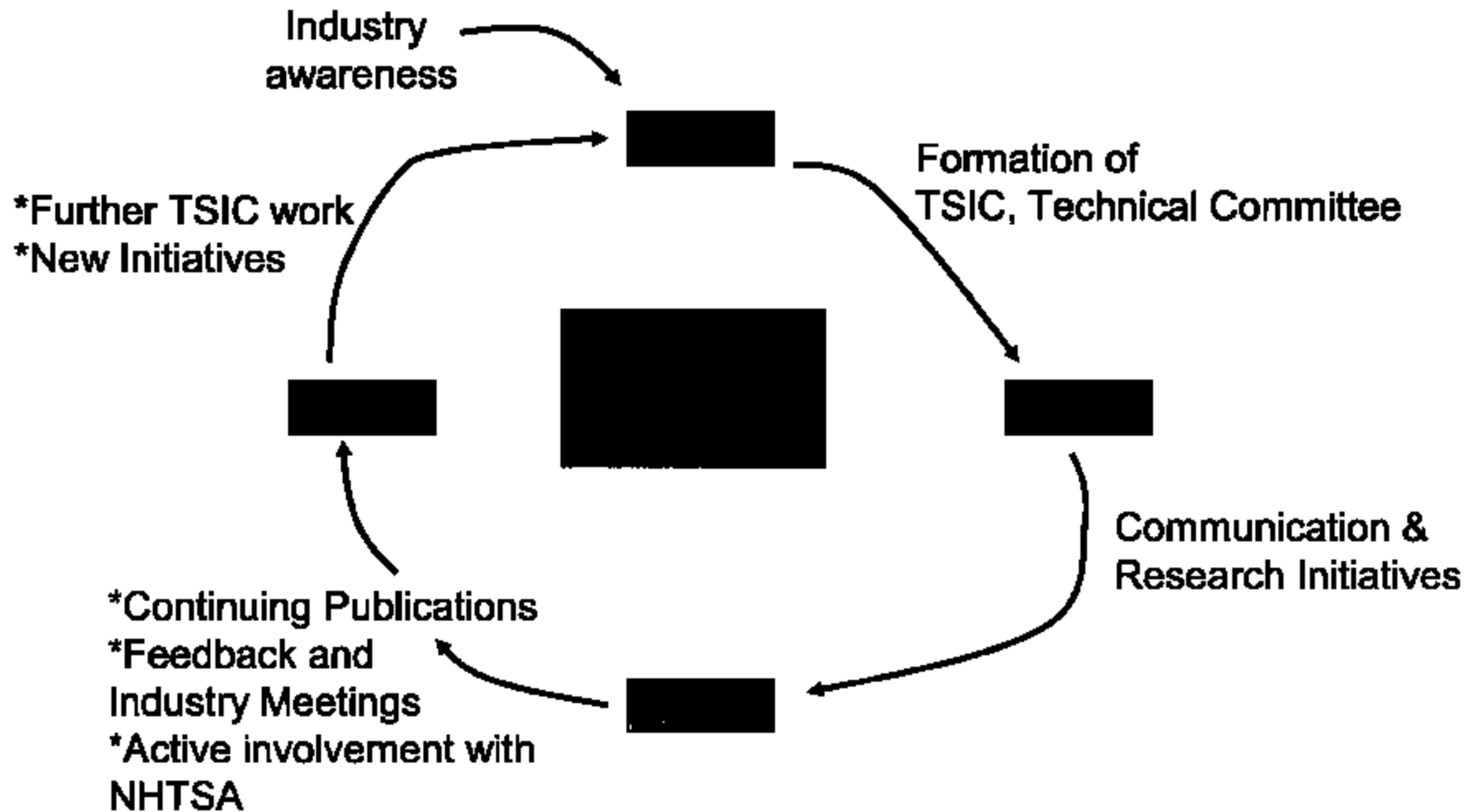
History of Industry Action

- 11/9/04 Second official meeting of the industry group, now called the Trailer Safety Industry Coalition (TSIC)
 - Broadened participation, including steel wheel suppliers, marine trailer suppliers and NTEA
 - Approved the work plan of the Technical Committee
 - Approved the committee draft of a Recommended Practices document for “Wheel Mounting and Application for Trailer Use”
 - Established formal organizational framework and future meeting
 - Received NHTSA update with continuing Q & A, feedback

History of Industry Action

- 11/10/04 Meeting with NHTSA
 - To explain steps to date
 - Develop an ongoing communication channel
 - To describe future plans
 - To set up follow on meeting, today

TSIC Response



Communication Initiative

- Goal: To widely share with trailer-related businesses what is known of recommended practices for wheel mounting and application
 - The supply chain
 - Trailer manufacturers
 - The distribution/sales chain
- Core content of initial communication is the industry-developed “Recommended Practices: Wheel Mounting and Application for Trailer Use”
- Supporting content includes:
 - Cover letter from the TSIC
 - Press Release

Communication Initiative

- Distribution/dissemination is planned through
 - The trailer-related media
 - Industry association web-sites
 - Direct mailing to association members
 - Further distribution through supply/distribution chains by members
- Timing: As soon as practical after NHTSA feedback
- This is just the first of a series of planned communications

Research Initiative

- Goal: assist the trailer industry to understand the critical aspects of the wheel/hub joint and provide guidance for the engineering and design of this assembly
- A Technical Committee was formed to oversee and deliver results on four specific projects
- Meetings were held on 10/15 and 11/9 with 13 members
- All work subject to review and approval of the full TSIC, observing principles of openness and due process

Technical Committee Work

PROJECT 1



PROJECT 2



PROJECT 3



PROJECT 4



Key variability
factors

Clamp load



Technical Committee Work

PROJECT 1



➤Project Began 9/15 and presented to the TSIC on 11/9

➤Now reviewed and approved by the Technical Committee, the TSIC and the member Association attorneys

➤Addresses basic immediate Do's and Don'ts, stresses competent engineering review on any changes, focuses on good assembly and the importance of this joint

➤Ready for publication and broad distribution

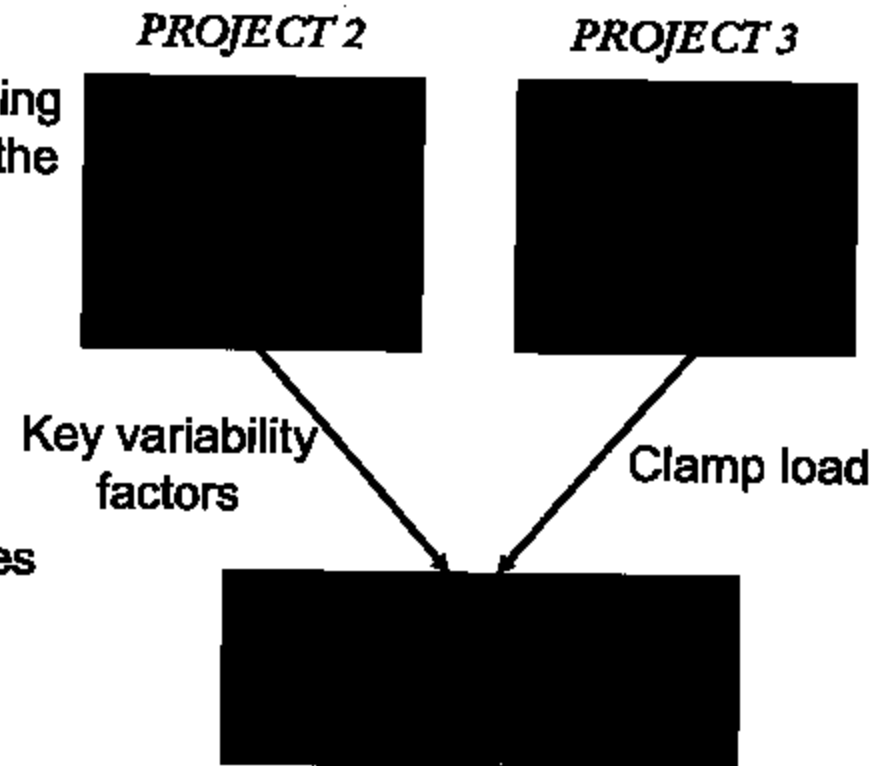
Technical Committee Work

➤ Project Began 11/9; a design and funding proposal for testing will be presented to the TSIC on 1/25/05

➤ Investigation is intended to confirm the basic science and extend it to trailer application

➤ Projects will build into a set of guidelines suitable for use by trailer makers and distributors (target completion Fall '05)

➤ Guidelines will address component condition, selection, application for load and use; will guide users about how to specify components and systems in Purchasing



Technical Committee Work

PROJECT 4



➤Project Began 11/9

➤A survey has been developed (and is being tested) to identify current practices in assembly process control within the trailer industry

➤Intention is to address the basic expectations for work instructions, equipment and tooling management, documentation and measurement system control (including calibration); training will be discussed

➤Through benchmarking and survey data, and the application of good quality systems knowledge, project to be completed by August, 2005

Next Steps

- Coordinate, consult with NHTSA regarding the immediate release of “Recommended Practices” and associated explanatory documents
- Technical Committee project work will continue; next meeting 1/11/05 in Elkhart, IN (input is welcomed from NHTSA)
- TSIC meets next on 1/25/05 in Las Vegas (NHTSA input is invited, in person or not), followed by a Technical Committee meeting
- Update report to NHTSA planned in 2/05 and periodically through the project work
- Project work and expanded , updated guidelines published, distributed by Fall 2005