

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

Bruce Bailey
Dexter Axle
2900 Industrial Parkway
Elkhart, IN 46516
Phone: 574-296-7258
Fax: 574-295-8666
bbailey@dexteraxle.com

Tim Ball
Tredit Tire & Wheel
PO Box 1157
Elkhart, IN 46517
Phone: 574-293-0581
Fax: 574-294-3239
tball@tredittire.com

Rollie Bauer
Tredit Tire & Wheel
670 W. Market St
Akron, OH 44303
Phone: 330-849-6532
Fax: 330-762-5855
rbb@tredittire.com

Tom Bowman
400 7th St, SW
Washington, DC 20590
Phone: 202-366-6961
Fax: 202-366-7882
Tom.Bowman@nhtsa.dot.gov

Richard Boyd
400 7th St, SW
Washington, DC 20590
Phone:
Fax:
Richard.Boyd@nhtsa.dot.gov

Bob Bushnell
Western World, Inc.
200 N Kit Ave
Caldwell, ID 83605
Phone: 208-459-0842
Fax: 208-459-0106
bbushnell@circlejtrailers.com

Eric Ebenstein
NHTSA/DOT
400 7th St, SW
Washington, DC 20590
Phone: 202-366-8862
Fax: 202-366-3820
Eric.Ebenstein@nhtsa.dot.gov

Leslie Epley
Crowell & Moring LLP
1001 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-624-2967
Fax: 202-628-5116
lepley@crowell.com

Andy Gehman
MGS, Inc. / NATM
178 Muddy Creek Church Rd
Denver, PA 17517
Phone: 717-336-7528
Fax: 717-336-0514
agehman@mgsmaill.com

Brad Henning
Kiefer Built LLC / NATM
PO Box 88
Kanawha, IA 50447
Phone: 841-762-3201 x37
Fax: 641-762-3245
bradhenning@kieferbuilt.com

Bruce Hopkins
Recreational Vehicle Assn.
PO Box 2999
Reston, VA 20196
Phone: 703-620-6003
Fax: 703-620-5072
bhopkins@rvia.org

John Juliano
Al-Ko Kober
21611 Protecta
Elkhart, IN 46516
Phone: 574-294-6651
Fax: 574-294-7267
Johnjuliano@al-kousa.com

Steve Kildow
Dexter Axle
2901 Industrial Parkway
Elkhart, IN 46516
Phone: 574-295-7888
Fax: 574-295-1069
skildow@dexteraxle.com

Craig Kirby
Recreational Vehicle Assn.
1896 Preston White Drive
Reston, VA 20191
Phone: 703-620-6003 x312
Fax: 703-620-5071
ckirby@rvia.org

Richard Klein
National Assn of Trailer
Manufacturers
PO Box 527
Johnson, NY 10933
Phone: 845-726-3882
Fax: 845-726-3382
klein@warwick.net

Jack Klepinger
Wells Cargo, Inc.
6902 W Hadley St
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Phone: 623-936-8150
Fax: 623-936-5808
jklepinger@wellscargo.com

Kim Mann
NATM General Counsel /
Scopelitis, Garvin, Light &
Hanson
1850 M Street, NW, Suite 280
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-296-5003
Fax: 202-783-9230
kmann@scopelitis.com

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

Thomas Marhevko
National Marine
Manufacturers Assn.
200 E Randolph Dr.
Suite 5100
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: 312-946-6200
Fax: 312-946-0388
tmarhevko@nmma.org

Carl Maxey
Maxey Companies, Inc. /
NATM
2101 Airway Ave
Fort Collins, CO 80524
Phone: 970-484-8660
Fax: 970-484-8676
cmaxey@maxeymfg.com

Jonathan McVety
Enkei Florida
1401 Wheels Road
Jacksonville, FL 32218
Phone: 904-741-1991
Fax: 904-741-1899
jmcvety@enkeiflorida.com

Terry O'Rourke
Tredit Tire & Wheel
57941 Charlotte Ave
Elkhart, IN 46517
Phone: 574-293-0582
Fax: 574-294-3240
torourke@tredittire.com

Pam O'Toole
National Assn of Trailer
Manufacturers
2951 SW Wanamaker Dr.
Suite A
Topeka, KS 66614
Phone: 785-272-4433
Fax: 785-272-4455
pam@natm.com

Brad Richards
HiSpec Wheel & Tire, Inc.
2900 Gateway Drive
Elkhart, IN 46514
Phone: 574-266-8332
Fax: 574-266-8872
bradhenning@kiefertbuilt.com

Ted Schorn
Enkei
2900 W Inwood Drive
Columbus, IN 47201
Phone: 812-373-7000
Fax: 812-342-6556
tschorn@enkeiamerica.com

Cindy Squires
National Marine
Manufacturers Assn.
444 N. Capitol St, NW
Suite 645
Washington, DC 20001
Phone: 202-737-9766
Fax: 202-628-4716
csquires@nmma.org

Ron Williams
Al-Ko Kober
400 Hardy Road
Seminole, OK 0
Phone: 405-382-8043
Fax: 405-382-8854
ronwilliams@al-kousa.com

Scott Winkelman
Crowell & Moring LLP
1001 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-624-2972
Fax: 202-628-5116
swinkelman@crowell.com

EA04-009

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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
Jane Woodruff
Ted Schorn
Mark Bullock
Dave Turner
Craig Kirby
Kim Mann
Dick Klein
Pam O'Toole
Greg Rauch
Tom Marhevko
Cindy Squires
Brad Richards

Wellis Cargo, Inc.
Recreational Vehicle Industry Association
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

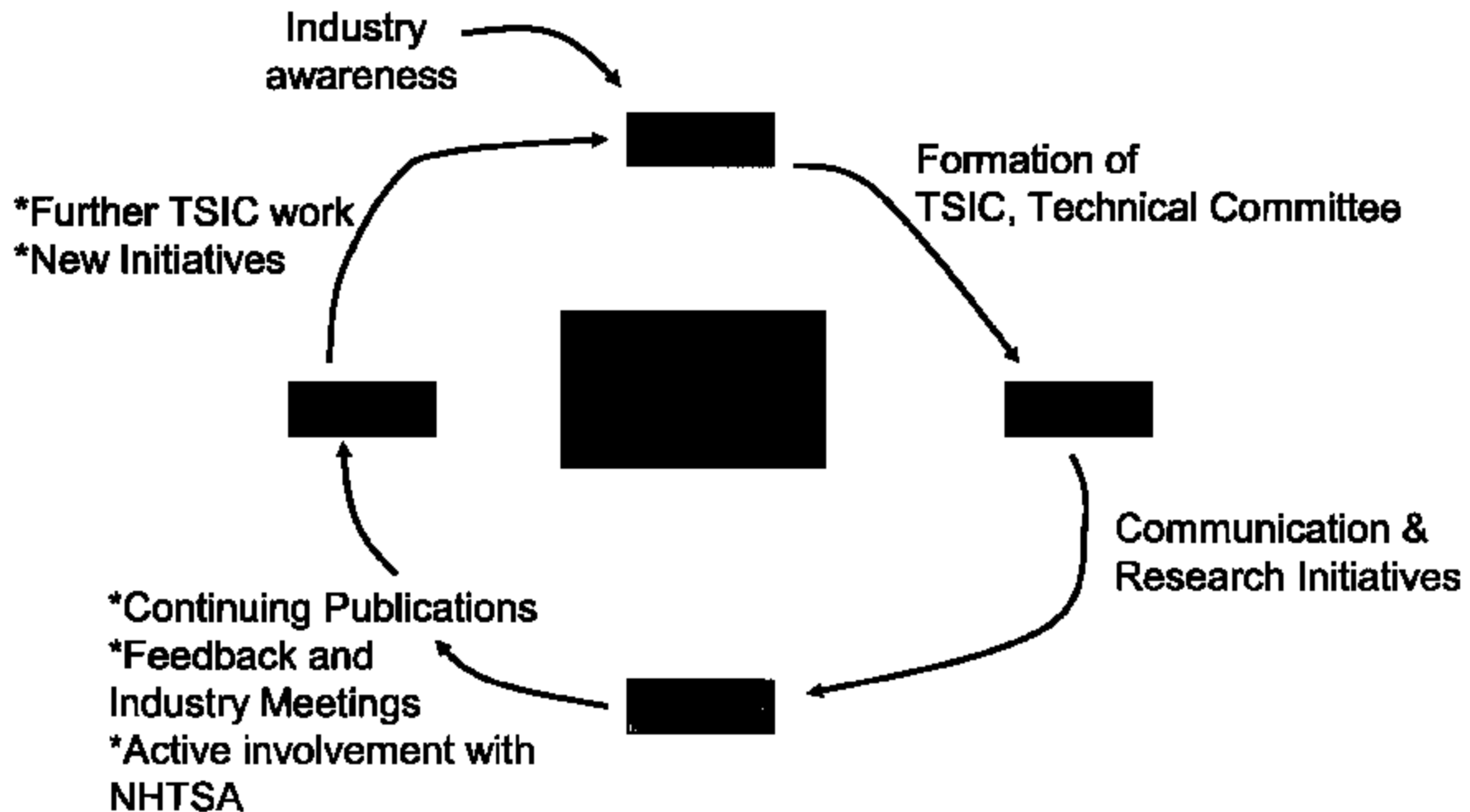
History of Industry Action

- 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



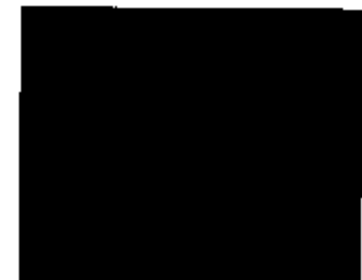
PROJECT 4



PROJECT 2



PROJECT 3



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

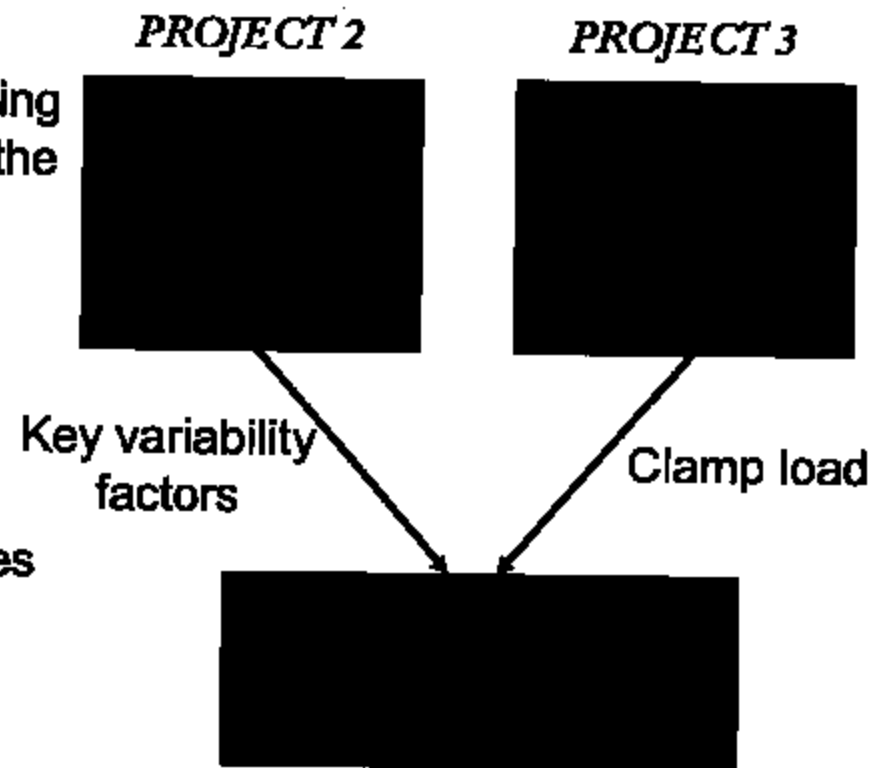
Technical Committee Work

➤ 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