



MISSOURI SHARE THE ROAD PROGRAM VISITS
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
and

LINN STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE'S
SUMMER TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE





Highway safety is very important both to the trucking industry and Missouri Department of Transportation. During the Summer Transportation Institute held by Linn Technical College and Missouri Department of Transportation, the Missouri Trucking Association and Wal-Mart Transportation presented a Share the Road Program to more than 50 Institute attendees.

During this Share the Road Program Ronald Breau, Vice President of Missouri Trucking Association, stressed the importance of the trucking industry to Missouri's economy and citizens. As Ron indicated, "The trucking industry provides transportation of commodities to and from every Missouri community and is the only source of transportation for nearly 90 percent of the communities in the state." He went on to say, "The trucking industry is proud of its safety record and has reduced the number of fatality crashes involving a commercial motor vehicle to its lowest number since the U S Department of Transportation started keeping records in 1975. As a member of the Coalition for Roadway Safety, the Missouri Trucking Association has contributed significantly to the reduction in the number of fatalities on Missouri's highways that is rapidly going downward to the same level of fatalities that happened in the 1950's. This is amazing considering that the number of vehicles sharing our highways have more than doubled for the same time period."



Gary Leu a driver for Wal-Mart Transportation and member of the American Trucking Association's America's Road Team explained why Wal-Mart participates in this program and how important it is. Following Gary's opening comments the attendees watched a video about the Share the Road Program and the importance of knowing the "No Zones" that are present around a commercial motor vehicle. Gary also took the opportunity to discuss the importance of not texting while driving.

The attendees then adjourned to the area where the Share the Road vehicle was staged with several vehicles around it. Notice that there are large vehicles staged on the left and right sides of the vehicle, the vehicle in the front is staged to demonstrate that the truck driver cannot see the taillights or brake lights of the vehicle. There is a pickup truck staged in the rear of the vehicle. Can you see it?





The Institute attendees were instructed to circle the vehicle from the right so that they could see the truck parked on the right. The next photograph illustrates the driver's view of the vehicle on the right. Some students thought that we were moving the vehicle when they went to the left side of the vehicle to enter.





This picture shows what the driver can see when in the driver's seat and the advantage that the smaller mirror (spot mirror) gives the driver to locate vehicles in the left side blind spot. In the picture below a driver is explaining the no zone areas of the vehicle to one of the Institute's attendees.





Each Institute attendee had the opportunity to sit in the Share the Road vehicle and witness firsthand the areas around a commercial vehicle where the driver cannot see another vehicle.



During the program, Darrell “Popcorn” Griffin took the opportunity to stress the importance of proper seat belt usage to the Institute attendees. Notice the red car in the background. This vehicle was staged there to represent a truck driver tailgating a car; the truck driver cannot see the vehicle’s brake lights.



The Missouri State Highway Patrol offered the attendees the opportunity to ride in the Seat Belt Convincer. The Convincer demonstrates the importance of wearing a safety belt properly by demonstrating an emergency front stop.



The photograph above was taken just before the vehicle comes to an abrupt stop.

The Missouri Trucking Industry and Wal-Mart appreciate the opportunity to participate in the Institute and educate the attendees on the importance of

“Staying Out of The No Zone”.