Lifesavers 2020

Workshop Session 5: Monday, March 16 from 10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Location: Track AD, Room Number 5/6

Workshop Title: What Older Drivers Need to Know About Automated Vehicle Technology

Workshop Description: Research indicates that consumers have limited knowledge of the latest automated vehicle (AV) safety technology. Many drivers overestimate the technology’s benefits and are unaware of when these features might fail. Explore what this research means for older adults who are still healthy, active drivers and leave armed with a set of questions every consumer (regardless of how many birthdays you’ve had) should ask when purchasing a new vehicle.

Moderator: Elin Schold Davis, OTR/L, CDRS, FAOTA (escholddavis@aota.org) Program Manager: Community Access and Driver Initiatives, American Occupational Therapy Association

Please refer to the Lifesavers website for posted PowerPoint presentations

Speakers: Andrew D. Koblenz (akoblenz@nada.org)

Andrew D. Koblenz is the National Automobile Dealers Association's executive vice president of legal and regulatory affairs and General Counsel. He directs the association's Legal and Regulatory Group, which represents NADA and dealer interests before federal agencies. Koblenz supervises a staff of six attorneys specializing in franchise and state law, corporate law and federal regulatory affairs.

Prior to his current position, Koblenz was vice president of industry affairs from June 2001 to February 2006, directing the activities of NADA's Industry Relations and Industry Analysis departments, as well as the association’s American Truck Dealers Division.

Previously, he served as NADA’s executive director and special counsel for industry affairs for two years, representing the interests of franchised automobile dealers in policy, operational and other discussions with vehicle manufacturers.

Before joining NADA, Mr. Koblenz served for five years as a senior attorney with the American Automobile Manufacturers Association. There, he advised the association on a variety of issue areas including sales, credit, leasing, and finance law, product safety and liability, intellectual property and benefits and taxation.

From 1990 through 1994, Mr. Koblenz was a partner at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Richardson, Berlin & Morvillo where he specialized in corporate and securities matters.
Mr. Koblenz attended Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. and received his B.A. in political science, summa cum laude, in 1978. In 1981, he received his J.D., cum laude, from Harvard Law School. Mr. Koblenz is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the American Law Institute.

Bruce Mehler bmehler@mit.edu

Session Title: Older adults and automated driving technologies: How are they (and the rest of us) going to get the information and training we need to be safe and successful consumers?

Short bio: Bruce Mehler is a Research Scientist in the AgeLab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His current research interests center on driver attention management, workload assessment, individual differences in response to cognitive demand and stress, and in how individuals adapt to new technologies and user interfaces. He is a senior member of the technical teams for the Advanced Human Factors Evaluator for Attentional Demand (AHEAD) and the Advanced Vehicle Technology (AVT) consortia at MIT.

Selected references:


Sherrilene Classen, PhD, MPH, OTR/L, FAOTA, FGSA (sclassen@phhp.ufl.edu)

Sherrilene Classen, PhD is Professor and Chair, Department of Occupational Therapy, College of Public Health and Health Professions, University of Florida, and an Extraordinary Professor at Stellenbosch University in Cape Town, South Africa. Dr. Classen is an internationally funded prevention-oriented rehabilitation scientist who studies fitness-to-drive issues in at-risk drivers using clinical assessments, driving simulators, on-road assessments, in-vehicle technologies, and autonomous, connected, electric and shared vehicles. Her scholarly work utilizes both a public health and a rehabilitation science approach to bring depth and breadth in understanding driving and mobility from multiple perspectives. Since 2002, she has received competitive external funding (totaling ~$9 million) from U.S. agencies (e.g., National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Defense, Department of Transportation, industry and other organizations) as well as agencies in Canada and abroad. She has (co)authored over 160 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, and special journal issues; is the editor of a handbook on driving simulation (AOTA Press, 2017); and has presented more than 270 papers at scientific conferences. Dr. Classen is Editor-in-Chief of the Occupational Therapy Journal of Research, serves on various (inter)national committees related to driving, is a Fellow of the American Occupational Therapy Association and the Gerontological Society of America, and an inductee to the American Occupational Therapy Foundation’s Academy of Research.