



2024 Track Descriptions

Child Passenger Safety (CPS)

Provides new, updated, and timely information regarding the protection of children in vehicles, from a newborn's first ride through successful seat belt fit assessment. Presentations typically cover (but are not limited to) the following areas:

- Highlight new or redesigned child restraint models and manufacturer guidance
- Review correct use instructions of child restraints and the unique features of specific models
- Examine vehicle occupant protection features affecting child safety
- Discuss best practice recommendations and policies for optimal protection
- Highlight recent child passenger safety research studies
- Review regulations affecting child restraint performance and design
- Publicize successful community child passenger safety programs
- Explore training opportunities and technological advances
- Reaching communities that are marginalized and/or underserved
- Increase awareness of prevention strategies to prevent child hot car deaths and near-misses

The primary objective is to disseminate meaningful child occupant protection information to child passenger safety technicians and instructors, State and community-based program coordinators, advocates, first responders and healthcare providers, government agencies, industry, and other collaborators. CEUs for CPST/CPSTI recertification are available.

Communications (COM)

The Communications Track shares best practices and successful, measurable earned, owned, and paid strategic media campaigns. Presentations focus on communication efforts developed by national transportation and traffic safety organizations, state and local agencies, and private sector partners. Workshops will provide useful examples and information for both communications professionals and public, private, and non-profit professionals with responsibility to disseminate traffic safety-related content and information.

Topics will include (but are not limited to):

- Creative approaches to sharing key traffic safety messages, vehicle technology, enforcement, and traffic laws with diverse groups of constituents
- Social media campaigns that engage key constituents and demographics
- Strategic campaigns that communicate the latest research and data
- Communicating the Safe System Approach
- Partnering with media to cover local and time-sensitive safety issues
- Communications resources and strategies
- Messaging to engage participation in local traffic safety issues and educational programs

Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement (CJ/LE)

The Criminal Justice / Law Enforcement Track provides current and emerging information for all parties tied to the investigation, prosecution, and supervision of individuals charged with traffic crimes, focusing on a range of topics from the vehicle stop to adjudication in court and supervision including but not limited to:

- Risky driving behavior interventions related to enforcement, arrest, and adjudication processes including impaired driving, speed, distraction, and reckless driving
- Collision Reconstruction
- Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Programs
- Electronic Warrants
- Use of Oral Fluid Testing by Law Enforcement and Trends in Forensic Toxicology
- AV Technology, Traffic Stops, and Officer Safety
- Supervision of High-Risk Impaired Drivers
- Identifying and Implementing Equitable Traffic Safety Measures
- CDL Masking and Human Trafficking

- Promoting Officer Safety and Wellness
- Community outreach and engagement
- Technologies and innovative strategies to detect and deter risky driving behaviors

The primary objective is to bring useful information to those people responsible for the enforcement and adjudication of traffic offenses within the criminal justice system including law enforcement officers, prosecutors, court staff, treatment providers, and probation supervisors, among others.

Distracted Driving (DD)

Distracted driving is any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking, texting or scrolling on your phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, interacting with the entertainment or navigation system — anything that takes your attention away from the task of safe driving.

There is a growing body of evidence that distracted driving – especially electronic and in-vehicle distractions – is a significant cause of fatalities and injuries in the United States. The distracted driving track aims to educate traffic safety professionals across the country regarding the importance of prioritizing distracted driving when considering countermeasures and strategies to reduce harm on our roadways and providing solutions to saving lives.. Workshops will include speaker presentations focused on best practices to capture distracted driving data and highlight evidence-based or evidenced-informed countermeasures to reduce distracted driving. This includes presentations on behavioral, engineering and policy programs and scientific research. All presentations should provide attendees with practical information they can use to influence distracted driving behavior and programs in their communities.

Driver Training, Assessment and Licensing (DT/AL)

The Driver Training, Assessment & Licensing Track provides comprehensive coverage of driver training, assessment, and licensing strategies, focusing on improving road safety and enhancing driver competence at all levels. This track is a valuable resource for driver training instructors, licensing authorities, policymakers, and other stakeholders involved in promoting safe and responsible driving practices. The presentations and discussions in this track encompass a wide range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Driver Education, Assessment, and Licensing Policies and Procedures: Practical approaches and innovative techniques to assess driver education, licensing regulations, laws, and policies. Also includes tools for assessing driver skills, knowledge, and behavior to improve overall road safety.
- Driver Training, Technology, and Evidenced-based Interventions: Training needs for drivers of all ages as related to advanced in-vehicle technologies on-board vehicles as well as after-market devices. The role of technology in driver training and assessment and their efficacy and potential for widespread implementation.
- International Best Practices: Successful driver training, licensing, and evidenced-based intervention programs from around the world, showcasing exemplary approaches, policies, and initiatives that have resulted in significant improvements in road safety.

By disseminating valuable information and facilitating knowledge exchange, the Driver Training/Assessment & Licensing track aims to promote evidence-based practices, support the development of comprehensive training programs, and contribute to the continuous improvement of driver competence and road safety globally.

Impaired Driving (ID)

Impaired driving is a leading source of traffic harm on our nation's roadways. Innovative and evidence-based solutions are needed to address the emerging challenges of cannabis legalization, the opioid epidemic, polysubstance usage, drug prevalence data gaps, and substance abuse and mental health disorders exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The track is dedicated to providing a platform where these evidence-based strategies, programs, and interventions are shared to reduce injuries and fatalities due to impaired driving. Workshops are developed through submissions from researchers and practitioners across all domains of traffic safety including toxicology, law enforcement, judicial, public health, clinical, and more. Proposals should provide novel, data-driven solutions to address impaired driving.

Occupant Protection (OP)

Disseminates news and information on current and future occupant protection priorities, focusing on those who have left booster seats up to our most senior occupants. Presentations typically cover (but are not limited to) the following areas:

- Enforcement and Education Programs
- Social Norming Programs and Research
- Occupant Protection Programs and Evaluations
- Regulations and Laws
- Scientific Studies
- Training Courses
- Vehicle Technology

The primary objective is to bring useful occupant protection information to the forefront that in turn will be used by practitioners, law enforcement agencies, grant managers and policy makers, among others.

Pedestrian, Bicyclist, and Micromobilist Safety (PBM)

The primary objective is to advance pedestrian, bicycle, and micromobility safety by incorporating the safe system approach, especially for high-risk, marginalized and vulnerable populations through encouraging the facilitation of equitable and safe environments for walking, biking, and micromobility use. Current research, tools and best practices are provided to the road safety and injury prevention community, including advocacy groups, educators, emergency medical services, engineers and metropolitan planning organizations, law enforcement, policy makers, public health professionals, and researchers. Workshop content includes:

- Infrastructure Programs
- Enhanced Data Processes
- Current Research
- Laws and Regulations
- Policy Initiatives
- Education and Enforcement Program Promising Practices
- Vehicle Technology

Safe System (SS)

Disseminates information and educates on the shift to a systemic view of traffic safety through the comprehensive Safe System Approach (SSA), its principles, and elements.

The primary objective is identify opportunities for real-world implementation and actions to employ the SSA and provide updates on related programs including Complete Streets and Safe Streets for All initiatives in states and communities across the U.S. This information and the examples will then be used by advocates, practitioners, planners, state and local governments and policy makers, among others.

Presentations typically cover (but are not limited to) the following areas:

- Complete Streets and Safe Streets for All initiatives
- Countermeasures to protect vulnerable road users—those outside the vehicle
- Research on effective implementation of SSA to address a road safety issue
- Equitable road safety investments in communities of color
- Vehicle safety improvements and research on proven lifesaving technologies
- Speed curbing initiatives, research and programs
- Roadway infrastructure to promote safe travel for all users
- Post crash care and first responders critical role in traffic safety

Vehicle Tech/Automated Driving (VT/AD)

As part of a Safe System Approach to roadway safety, vehicle-based countermeasures show promise in reducing the occurrence of fatalities and injuries by making vehicles and drivers safer. The Vehicle Technologies/Automated Driving Track promotes discussion on advanced technologies in production and in development, limitations on what production systems can do, advanced technologies' safety potential, and emerging issues. The goal is to empower you to promote safety by design so that maximum safety benefits are realized.