

Training

CASR has been active in using its expertise in in-depth at-scene crash investigation to train prospective crash investigation teams located in other countries.

In 2006, CASR received a request from the Thai Government Office of Transport Planning (OTP) to help set up crash investigation teams at five universities in Thailand. In response to this request, CASR ran a week-long crash investigation training course in Adelaide that was attended by 18 engineers from Thai universities and government agencies.

The Director General of the Malaysian Institute for Road Safety Research (MIROS) recently requested that CASR train two engineers in at-scene crash investigation. The two engineers trained with CASR for a period of two months in late 2007/early 2008 before returning to MIROS to co-ordinate crash investigation activities.



Centre for Automotive Safety Research

The Centre conducts high quality independent research that enables rational decision making, leading to reductions in the human and economic losses from road crashes.

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Dr Matthew Baldock is a Research Fellow who has worked at the Centre for over 10 years. Dr Baldock has worked on a wide variety of road safety projects. In 2004, he was awarded a PhD on the "Self-regulation of the Driving Behaviour of Older Drivers", together with the Frank Dalziel Prize for the best PhD thesis in Psychology.

CENTRE FOR
AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY RESEARCH



In-depth crash investigation





Goals

- To identify the factors that contribute most to the occurrence of road crashes
- To examine mechanisms of injury in road crashes
- To identify specific locations in need of treatment
- To determine system wide infrastructure issues requiring potential policy change
- To build profiles of crash-involved drivers for use in case-control studies

Research outcomes

- Travelling speed and the risk of crash involvement
- The role of medical conditions in crashes
- Travelling speed and pedestrian collisions
- Pedestrian crash reconstruction and testing
- Identification of infrastructure issues
- Understanding rear end crashes
- Audit of the Traffic Accident Reporting System
- Understanding roll over crashes
- Relationship between road infrastructure and older drivers
- Understanding tailgating
- Impact of electronic stability control
- Pedestrian and cyclist solutions in the metropolitan area
- Alcohol and pedestrians



CASR crash investigators attend the scene immediately after the crash.

At the scene we:

- Photograph the scene and all crash-involved vehicles
- Discuss the crash with police attending the scene
- Mark the final position of the vehicles and any skid or gouge marks
- Introduce ourselves and have brief discussions with crash participants and witnesses
- Conduct an engineering survey of the crash site
- Examine the vehicle(s)
- Record video footage of the approach to the crash site from a driver's perspective

After the crash we:

- Obtain a police report on the crash
- Obtain injury information from hospitals
- Obtain the results of any alcohol or drug tests
- Conduct a detailed interview with consenting crash participants and witnesses
- Review the design and crash history of the site
- Review the crash and licensing history of the drivers
- Review the Coroner's file for fatal crashes
- Produce computer-aided crash reconstructions
- Perform a multi-disciplinary review of the crash

