

NTSB 2015

MOST WANTED

LIST OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Critical changes needed to reduce transportation accidents and save lives







Since 2003, the NTSB has found distraction from portable electronic devices (PEDs) as a cause or contributing factor in 11 accident investigations. Those crashes resulted in 259 people injured and 50 people killed. The first step toward removing deadly distractions will be to disconnect from non-mission-critical information. All modes of transportation need to rise to today's distraction challenges.

DISCONNECT FROM DEADLY DISTRACTIONS





Complex machinery such as cars, planes, trains, ships, and pipelines require operators to be at their best — not impaired by alcohol or drugs. Drivers, transportation operators and enforcement authorities also need good information to make informed decisions about the use of illicit drugs and over-the-counter medications. To prevent accidents, reduce injuries and save lives, we need stronger laws, swifter enforcement, and expanded use of technology to end substance impairment.



END SUBSTANCE IMPAIRMENT IN TRANSPORTATION







Every day, hundreds of federal, state, and local helicopter pilots fly emergency medical service, law enforcement support, search and rescue, and other missions. The NTSB has investigated more than 130 accidents involving federal, state, and local public helicopter operations. These accidents can be reduced by developing and implementing safety management systems; scenario-based training; fatigue management; helicopter technology; and crash-resistant flight recorder systems for all aircraft.

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PTC could have prevented this head on collision of two freight trains in Goodwell, Oklahoma



IMPLEMENT POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL IN 2015



In 1969 the NTSB first recommended a forerunner to Positive Train Control (PTC,) a technology that can stop rail accidents before they happen. Since then we have seen deaths and injuries in accidents that PTC would have prevented. In 2008, Congress mandated that railroads implement PTC by the end of 2015. After 45 years of recommendations and seven years since the law passed, the time to make railroads safer is **now**.







IMPROVE RAIL TANK
CAR SAFETY

More crude oil and ethanol than ever is moving across America's rails. But accidents demonstrate that the tank cars moving these flammable liquids are not up to the task. It's crucial to strengthen existing rail tank cars and new rail tank car regulatory requirements.





MAKE MASS TRANSIT SAFER

Every day, millions of people take some form of mass transit to or from shopping, work, classes, or other destinations. Mass transit comprises light rail, commuter rail, subways, ferries, streetcars, buses and trolley buses. Although each system has unique equipment, operating environments, and challenges, all can benefit from strengthening their organizational safety cultures. Deploying advanced technologies will also make mass transit safer.





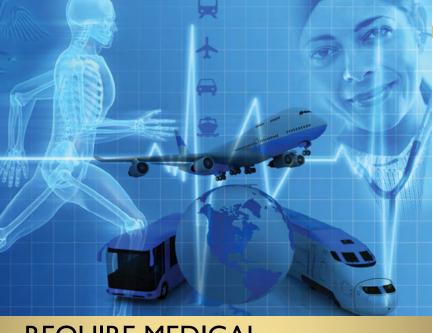


PREVENT LOSS OF CONTROL IN FLIGHT IN GENERAL AVIATION

While airline accidents have become rare in the U.S., pilots of non-airline flights and their passengers still die by the hundreds in general aviation (GA) accidents every year due to pilot loss of control. These accidents can be reduced through ongoing pilot education, flight currency, self-assessment, and vigilant situational awareness in the cockpit.







REQUIRE MEDICAL FITNESS FOR DUTY

The NTSB has investigated numerous accidents in which it found that the medical condition of the vehicle operator contributed to the cause of a crash. Medical conditions and treatments directly affect safety when they impair transportation professionals' performance. Those suffering from impairing medical disorders should not be at the controls unless they receive medical treatment that mitigates the risk to the public.





Commercial trucking is integral to our economy, but crashes, injuries and deaths involving commercial trucks have been increasing over the past several years. The NTSB has a long history of calling on the regulators to improve their oversight of operators, drivers, and vehicles. To manage their safety risks, trucking companies must go beyond securing regulatory compliance from all their employees, and proactively identify operational hazards and potential solutions.



STRENGTHEN COMMERCIAL TRUCKING SAFETY





The NTSB has investigated more than a dozen airline or commercial charter accidents involving procedural, training or compliance issues. Pilots are trained in safety procedures. They can prevent such tragedies by complying with procedures every flight, every day. This will take collaborative efforts by crews, operators, and the regulator. Working together, they can develop effective procedures and training, and ensure that crews do what they are trained to do.

STRENGTHEN PROCEDURAL COMPLIANCE

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The NTSB's Most Wanted List highlights safety issues identified from the NTSB's accident investigations to increase awareness about the issues and recommended safety solutions.

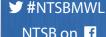
The National Transportation Safety Board is an independent Federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation - railroad, highway, marine and pipeline. The NTSB determines the probable cause of the accidents and issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, the NTSB carries out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinates the resources of the Federal Government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members impacted by major transportation disasters.

National Transportation Safety Board 490 L'Enfant Plaza S.W. Washington, DC 20594

http://www.ntsb.gov/mostwanted 202-314-6000









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