Event Data Recorders

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Overview

• Recommendations history
• Heavy vehicle event data recorders
• Engine control modules (ECMs)
Recommendations History

- Other modes of transportation require crash event recording
- 1999 and 2010 bus recommendations concerning event data recorders
- Status remains “Open—Unacceptable Response”
Heavy Vehicle Event Data Recorders

- Dedicated, crash-protected recorders on heavy vehicles
- Similar to recorders in other modes of commercial transportation
Engine Control Module (ECM)

• Primary functions
  – Fuel delivery, engine performance
  – Communicate with other electronic systems
  – Diagnostic fault codes

• Secondary functions
  – Data recording, but not dedicated event data recorder
  – No expectation of data survivability
Crash ECMs

Chattanooga
2008 Thomas Built school bus
Cummins ECM
Crash ECMs

Baltimore
2005 New Flyer transit bus
Cummins ECM
Crash ECMs

Baltimore, MD and Chattanooga, TN Event Data Recorders

No event data recording function
**Summary**

- NTSB has long advocated for event data recorders
- Without dedicated event data recorders, critical data remain unavailable
- Data would improve commercial vehicle safety