

WINTHROP FORENSICS

Quarterly

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Winthrop Forensics
is the engineering firm
specializing in:

Accident Reconstruction
Biomechanical / Injury
Causation Analysis
Premises Liability
Product Defect
Forensic Exhibits
Forensic Animations

Inside this issue of **WFQ**:

In this issue of **Winthrop Forensics Quarterly** we present some information with respect to Premises Liability issues.

The Statistical Edge proffers some interesting Private Industry Injury statistical data. The *Did You Know?* article covers several of the technical definitions found within the Means of Egress / Exits Section of typical Building Code(s). Lastly, we include several frame grabs of a recent Forensic Animation created for a case by Winthrop Forensics.



This is the first installment of **Winthrop Forensics Quarterly** to be designed and distributed digitally in PDF format. Color printed copies will be sent by request.

WHAT IS THIS?

SOURCE: *Safecar.gov*



This is the new Tire Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) warning lamp symbol on automobile dashboards. The TPMS continuously monitors the pressure in the tires and warns the driver when tire pressure is below the minimum acceptable level by illuminating a warning lamp. The TPMS warning lamp is required on all 2008 model and later vehicles.

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Did You Know?

MEANS OF EGRESS / EXITS

Technical Definitions

American Heritage © Dictionary defines Egress as:

EGRESS - NOUN:

1. The act of coming or going out; emergence.
2. A path or opening for going out; an exit.

Premises Liability cases often require a working knowledge of the technical definitions that are contained within the applicable Building Code. Although the definitions given below are taken from the *2003 International Building Code*, Chapter 10 - MEANS OF EGRESS (Section 1002), similar terms can be found throughout other Building Code(s).

1002.1 Definitions.

The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

ACCESSIBLE MEANS OF EGRESS.

A continuous and unobstructed way of egress travel from any point in a building or facility that provides an accessible route to an area of refuge, a horizontal exit or a public way.

CORRIDOR.

An enclosed exit access component that defines and provides a path of egress travel to an exit.

EGRESS COURT.

A court or yard which provides access to a public way for one or more exits.

EXIT.

That portion of a means of egress system which is separated from other interior spaces of a building or structure by fire resistance rated construction and opening protective as required to provide a protected path of egress travel between the exit access and the exit discharge. Exits include exterior exit doors at ground level, exit enclosures, exit passage ways, exterior exit stairs, exterior exit ramps and horizontal exits.

EXIT ACCESS.

That portion of a means of egress system that leads from any occupied portion of a building or structure to an exit.

HAND RAIL.

A horizontal or sloping rail intended for grasping by the hand for guidance or support.

MEANS OF EGRESS.

A continuous and unobstructed path of vertical and horizontal egress travel from any occupied portion of a building or structure to a public way. A means of egress consists of three separate and distinct parts: the exit access, the exit and the exit discharge.

NOSING.

The leading edge of treads of stairs and of landings at the top of stair way flights.

OCCUPANT LOAD.

The number of persons for which the means of egress of a building or portion thereof is designed.

PUBLIC WAY.

A street, alley or other parcel of land open to the outside air leading to a street, that has been deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use and which has a clear width and height of not less than 10 feet (3048 mm).

RAMP.

A walking surface that has a running slope steeper than one unit vertical in 20 units horizontal (5-per cent slope).

STAIR.

A change in elevation, consisting of one or more risers.

STAIRWAY.

One or more flights of stairs, either exterior or interior, with the necessary landings and platforms connecting them, to form a continuous and uninterrupted passage from one level to another.

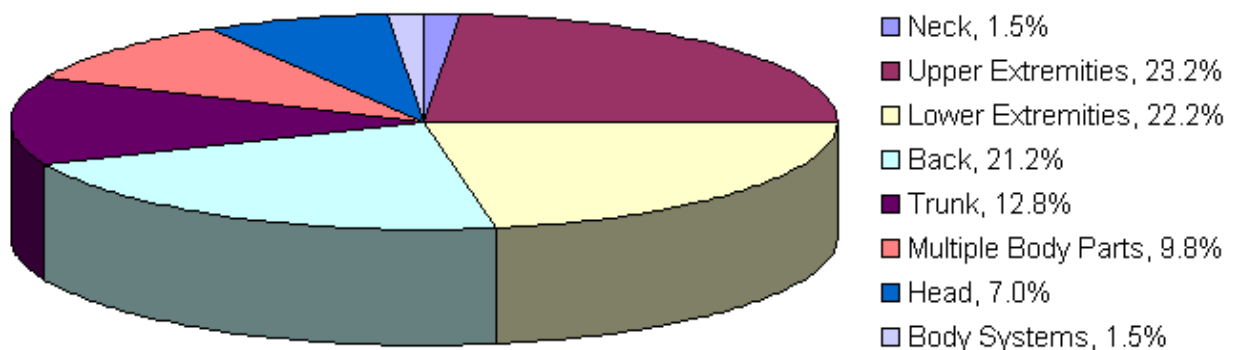


The Statistical Edge

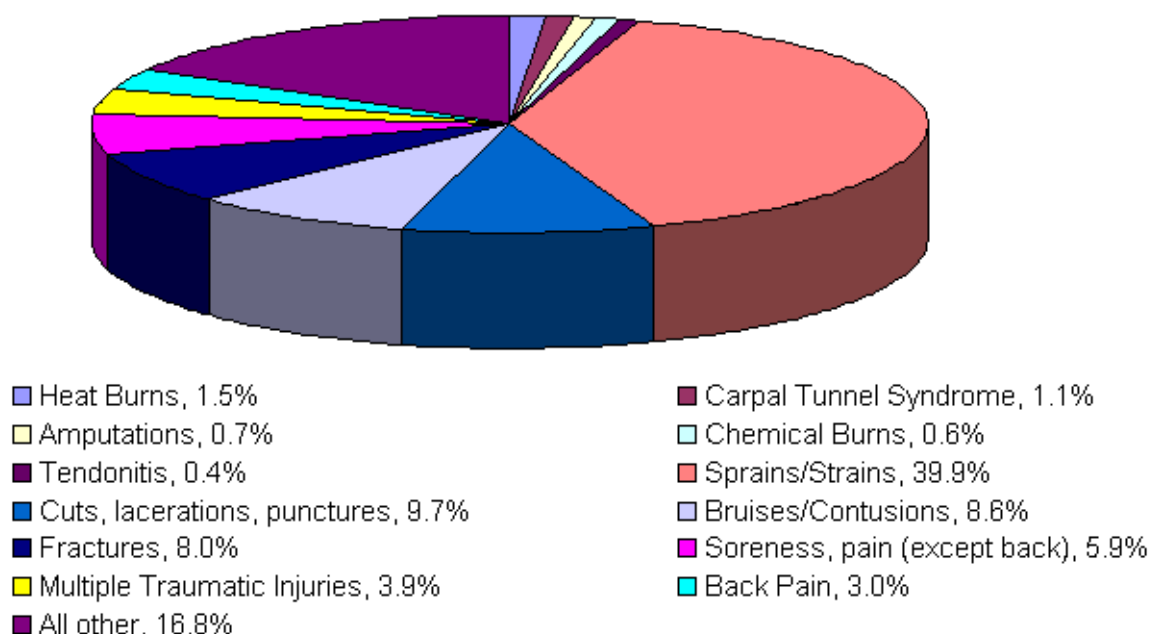
Injuries and Illnesses Data for 2006 PRIVATE INDUSTRY

This data shown is for the calendar year of 2006 for the Distribution of Injuries and Illness for cases involving days away from work within Private Industry. The data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, November 2007.

Distribution of Injuries and Illnesses by Body Part



Distribution of Injuries and Illnesses by Injury Type



FORENSIC ANIMATION by Winthrop Forensics, LLC.

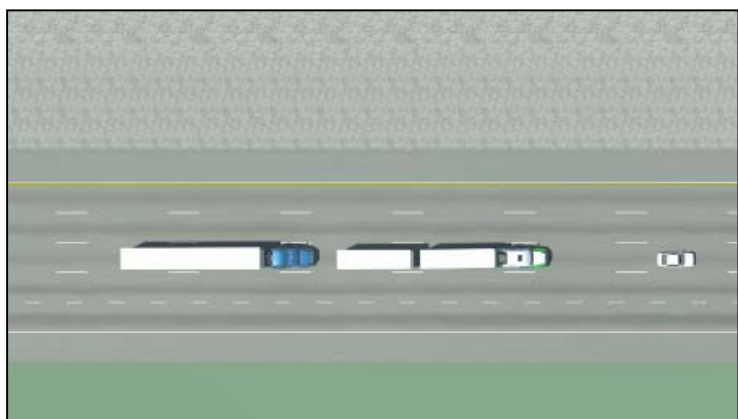
TOP VIEW

DRIVER'S VIEW

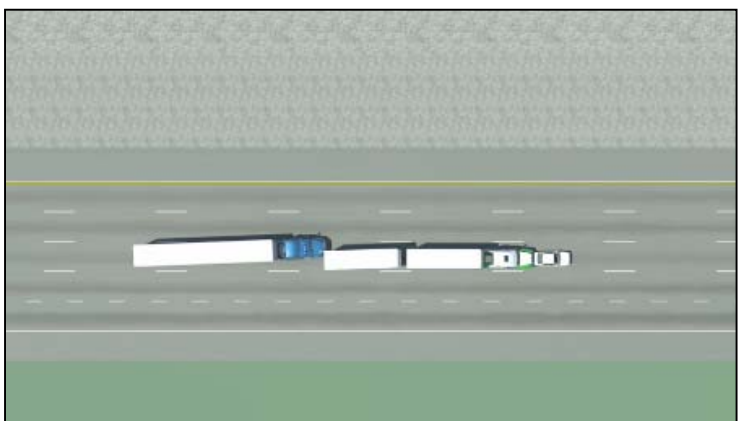


Shown below are several frame grabs of the above Forensic Animations created by Winthrop Forensics. The left column shows the *Top View* of the corresponding *Driver's View* shown in the right column.

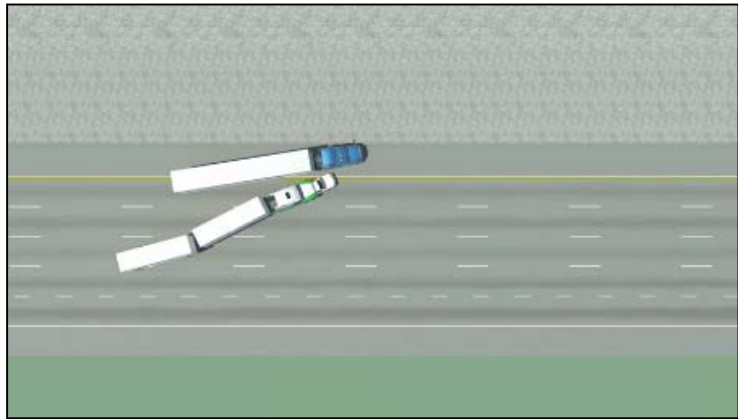
Time = 0.5 seconds Pre Impact



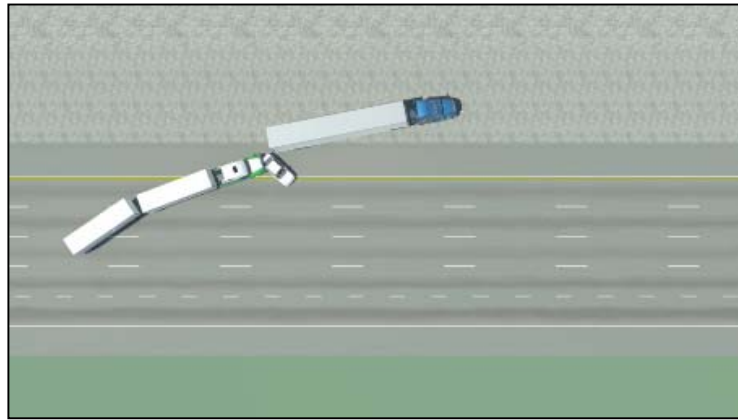
Time = 0.0 seconds (Impact)



Time = 2.6 seconds Post Impact



Time = 3.9 seconds Post Impact



Time = 5.9 seconds Post Impact

