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Evaluation of Advance Compatibility Frontal Structures Using the Progressive Deformable Barrier

45th GRSP – May 2009

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Overview

Introduction

- Vehicle selection
- Test Configuration
- Method of Test Evaluation
- Test results / Comparison
- Conclusion







Introduction

- Bilateral agreement between French DSCR and US NHTSA to enhance cooperation and increase the efficient use of resources to promote the development of improved vehicle safety programs and related regulations.
- Investigate whether barrier deformation using PDB, intrusion, and dummy injury measures can differentiate compatibility performances between vehicles.
 - Evaluates criteria of self protection and partner protection in the offset frontal crash test configuration with vehicles that have structures designed for good partner protection.
 - Compares current tests with prior research conducted under the cooperative agreement.
 - Compares the results to prior car-to-car crash tests and real world crash analysis.





Prior Research

- Prior effort between DSCR and NHTSA (ESV Paper No. 07-0303)
 - PDB Offset tests with a body-on-frame Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck and a unibody Chrysler Town & Country minivan

U.S. NCAP Testing

- Full width rigid barrier at 56 km/h
- Frontal stiffness and force matching height data available for both Honda Odysseys

U.S. Vehicle-to-Vehicle Tests

 Honda Odysseys (with and w/o ACE) were crashed into a Ford Focus in a full frontal crash configuration



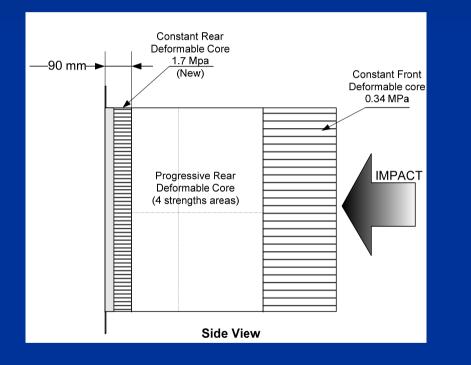






Test Configuration

PDB-XT = PDB + 90mm in the back



- Offset PDB+
- 50 % overlap
- 60 km/h



2 Belted 50th percentile males – Driver had Thor-Lx legs



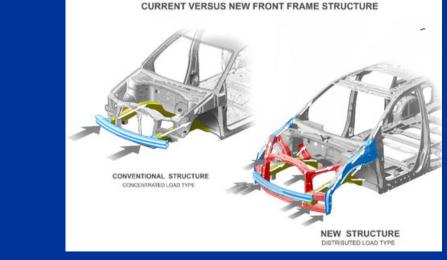


Vehicle Selection

2 Honda Odyssey minivans



MY 2004 – w/o ACE MY 2005 – with ACE



Body-in-white showing Honda ACE structure







Method of Test evaluation

- Test Severity Evaluation
 - Equivalent Energy Speed
- Self Protection (Vehicle based metrics)
 - Compartment intrusion
 - Dummy injury criteria
- Partner Protection (Barrier based metrics)
 - AHOD Average Height Of Deformation
 - ADOD Average Depth Of Deformation
 - Dmax Maximum Deformation







Test Severity

Odyssey with ACE



Odyssey without ACE



- PDB Energy Absorbed by the barrier: 104 kJ
- EES: 49.6 km/h

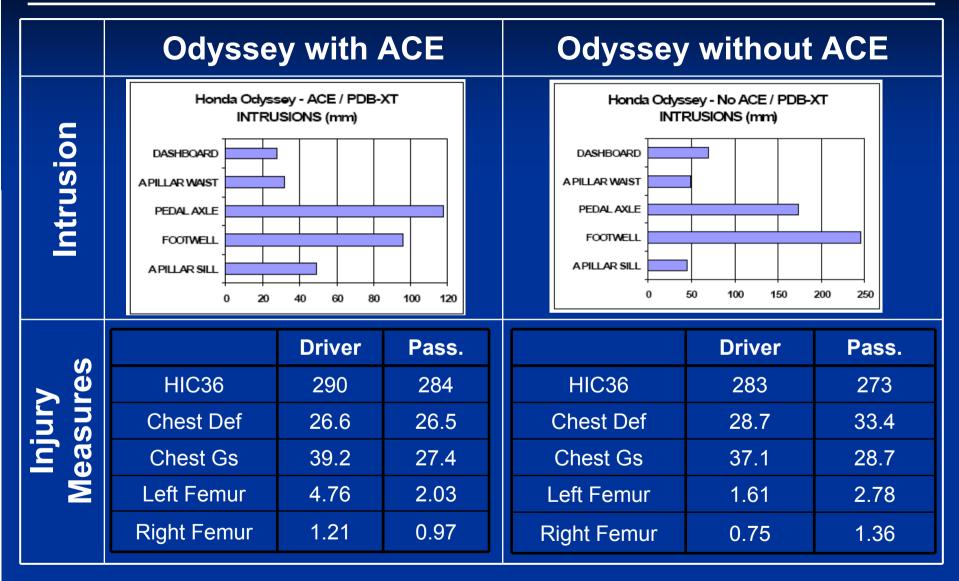
- Energy Absorbed by the barrier: 97 kJ
- EES: 50.6 km/h







Self Protection

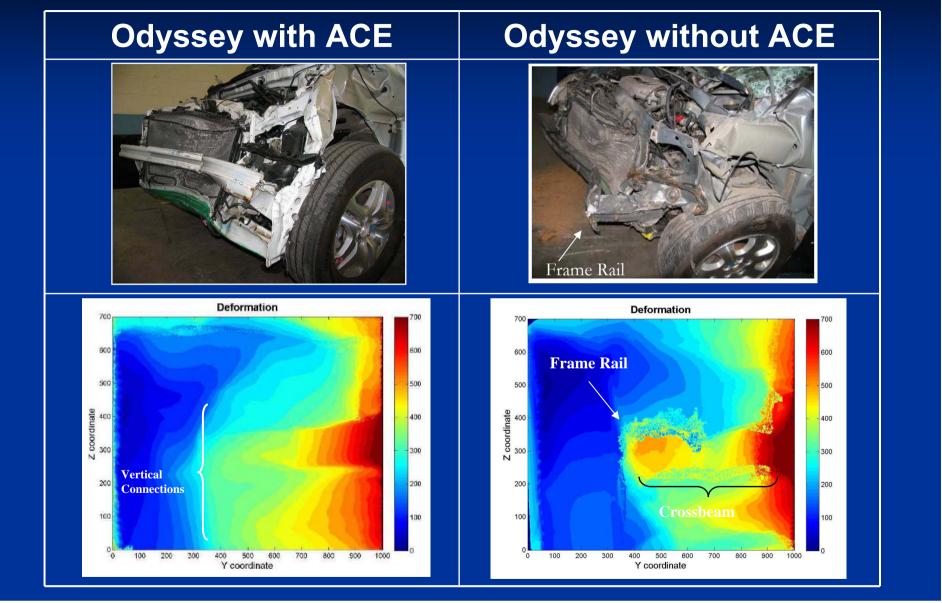








Partner Protection: Front End Behavior 1/3

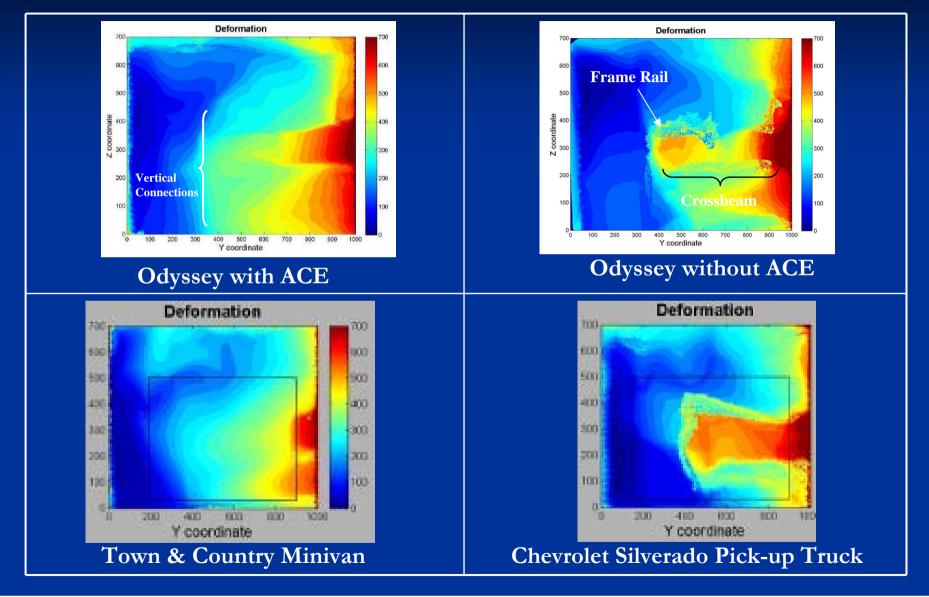








Partner Protection: Parameters 2/3

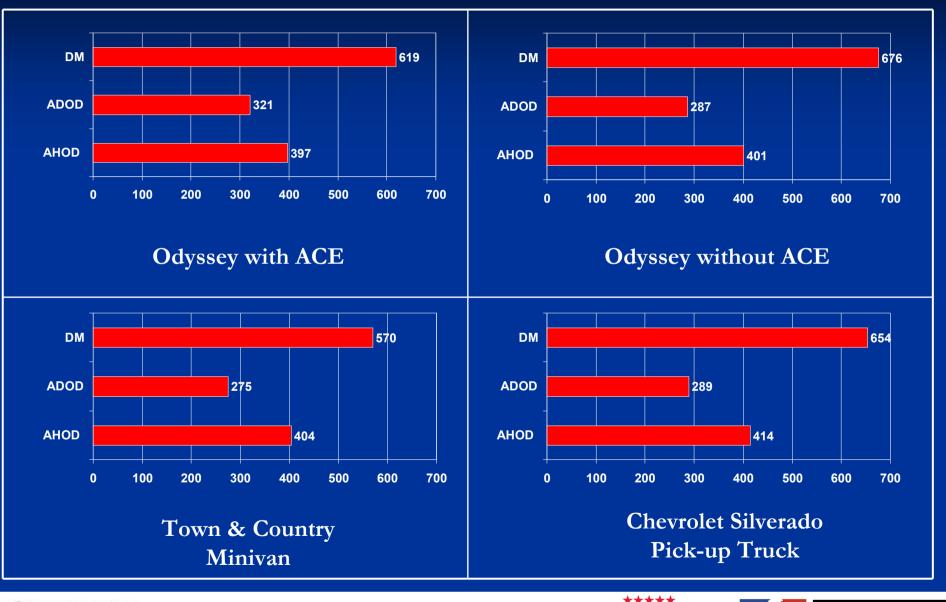








Partner Protection: Parameters 3/3









Vehicle-to-Vehicle Crashes: Stiffness

	KW400* N/mm	Accel. At CG in Focus (m ² /s)	Accel. At CG in Striking Vehicle (m ² /s)
2002 Ford Focus	934		
Bullet Vehicles			
2005 Chrysler Town & Country	1,137	90.5	47.6
2003 Honda Odyssey w/o ACE	1,448	108	32.1
2005 Honda Odyssey w/ACE	1,456	113.5	40.3
2003 Chevrolet Silverado	1,619	86.2	32.9

* KW400 is the stiffness-related crush energy absorbed by a vehicle in the first 400 mm of crush (also called work stiffness).





Vehicle-to-Vehicle Crashes: Performance





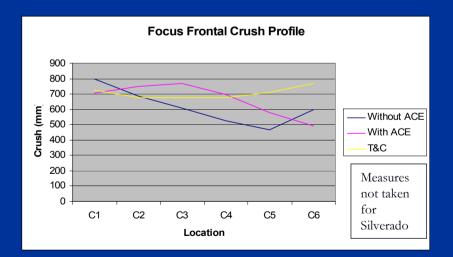


Bullet: Odyssey with ACE

Bullet: Odyssey without ACE Bullet: Town & Country Minivan



Bullet: Chevrolet Silverado P/U Truck



Target Vehicle is a 2002 Ford Focus







Real World Performance of ACE



2005 Honda Odyssey (2,102 kg)



2006 Ford Escape (1,545 kg)

- NASS CDS Case No. 2007-04-0137
- Minor severity crash
- CDC code of 01FYEW02
- Principle direction of force: 20°
- Honda Odyssey
 - ∆V = 15 km/h
 - Airbags deployed
 - Driver sustained minor injuries
- Ford Escape
 - Airbags did not deploy
 - Driver sustained minor injuries
- Intrusion in both vehicles likely insignificant (based on photos)







Summary

- Homogeneous deformation of the PDB suggests good horizontal and vertical engagement with a partner vehicle, as shown by the vehicle-to-vehicle tests.
- Analysis of compatibility metrics indicates stiffness alone may not indicate aggressivity.
- Further evaluation is needed to address both the stiffness of the vehicle as well as the homogeneity of that stiffness.







Full Analysis can be found in ESV Paper 09-0329

The End





