IIHS Low-Speed Crash Test

May 2006

INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY



Low-speed crash test Goals of new program

General:

 Reduce the real-world property damage costs associated with low-speed crashes by promoting stability, compatibility and energy absorption

Front tests:

- Encourage taller and more stable front bumpers to prevent front underride
- Encourage wider bumpers to protect corners

Rear tests:

- Protect against SUV override and car underride
- Encourage wider bumpers to protect corners

IIHS will conduct first public test program in fall 2006

- 2006 program will evaluate bumpers on cars
- 2006 program will involve four tests of each car
- Will continue to monitor RCAR working group and may alter procedures in the future



Low-speed crash test Fall 2006 program

- Evaluation consists of four tests:
 - Full front, full rear, front corner, rear corner
- Tests conducted into contoured bumperlike barrier with an energy absorbing element
 - Assembly drawings of the barrier and the absorber can be found on IIHS website:

www.iihs.org/ratings/protocols/pdf/iihs rcar barrier.pdf

Rigid steel backstop (mounted to barrier)

25 mm rearward of barrier face

200 mm tall

340 cm radius to match the radius of the steel bumper barrier

- Public information will include damage costs and a rating (good, acceptable, marginal or poor)
 - Rating procedures to be determined





Full Frontal Test Test Configuration

- Barrier height:
 - 457 mm from the ground to the lower edge of the barrier
- Speed: 10 km/h







Front Corner Test Test Configuration

- Barrier height:
 - 406 mm from the ground to the lower edge of the barrier
- Speed: 5 km/h
- Overlap: 15%
 - Based on vehicle width at the front axle (excluding exterior mirrors, flexible mud flaps and marker lights – SAE J1100)







Full Rear Test Test Configuration

- Barrier height:
 - 457 mm from the ground to the lower edge of the barrier
- Speed: 10 km/h







Rear Corner Test Test Configuration

- Barrier height:
 - 406 mm from the ground to the lower edge of the barrier
- Speed: 5 km/h
- Overlap: 15%
 - Based on vehicle width at the rear axle (excluding exterior mirrors, flexible mud flaps and marker lights – SAE J1100)







Low-speed crash test

Vehicle Preparation

- Tires are inflated to the manufacturer recommended inflation for lightly loaded condition
- Fuel tank is filled to at least 90% of capacity
- All other fluid reservoirs are filled to at least their minimum indicated levels
- Front and rear license plates and brackets are removed along with all fasteners
- Bolt-on trailer hitches that are optional equipment are removed but fasteners are reattached, if possible
- All lights, wipers, climate control and sound systems are turned off except daytime running lights
- Ballast weight of 77.1 kg is added to the driver seat
- The ignition switch is turned on but the engine is not started
- The transmission is placed in the neutral position and the parking brake is fully released

