

TITLE: Development of Knowledge and Performance Tests for Heavy Vehicle Operators: Volume I, Development and Field Test

DATE: December 1984

AUTHOR(S): A. J. McKnight, NPSRI; S. L. Kelsey, & M. L. Edwards, NPSRI

REPORT NUMBER: Not a California DMV publication (DOT HS-806688)

NTIS NUMBER: Unknown

FUNDING SOURCE: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

This report describes the development and evaluation of the Truck Operator Qualifications Examination (TORQUE) consisting of the following tests:

1. Truck Operator Road Test (TORT);
2. Truck Operator Skill Test (TOST);
3. Truck Operator Manual (TOM);
4. Truck Operator Knowledge Examination (TOKE);
5. Truck Operator Pretest (TOP);
6. Truck Operator Defects Examination (TODE).

The field-validation phase of the project was done in Los Angeles, California under a subcontract to the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

SUMMARY:

The TOM and TOST evidenced sufficiently high reliability to permit their use as driver licensing tests. The reliability of the TORT was marginal. However, it was no lower than that of a conventional state road test and results on the TORT correlated significantly with results on the TOST, while scores on the conventional state road test did not. The measurement techniques employed in the TORT were recommended to improve the objectivity, reliability, and validity of road tests for heavy-vehicle operators.

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

As of the date of writing, the TORT and TOST have not been implemented by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. The department concluded that the study findings did not substantiate the recommendations to adopt the TORT measurement technique.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The tests are presented in a separate report: "Develop Knowledge and Performance Tests for Heavy Vehicle Operators: Volume II, Licensing Administrator / Examiner Manuals," December 31, 1984 (McPherson, McKnight, & Oates). This document is available to the public through the National Technical Information Service or the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The corporate author is the National Public Safety Research Institute (NPSRI).