Call for Volunteers in 2002

IEEE Project 1616

Motor Vehicle Event Data Recorders (MVEDRs)
Draft Standard

Worldwide, the millions of injuries and fatalities resulting from traveling are symptoms of the multi-faceted problems encountered in seeking to define and improve vehicle and highway safety. These problems are rooted in a century of rapid growth combined with a lack of scientific crash data. The challenge during the second century of highway vehicles is to use advanced technology to improve safety. To this end, the IEEE Standards Association has inaugurated a new standards project, tasked with the development of standards for Motor Vehicle Event Data Recorders (MVEDRs), project P1616. The Working Group is now seeking technical expert volunteers to join the group.

What's been done: Over the past decade major worldwide research and development of automotive recorders has resulted in significant safety findings. Both the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) made tremendous contributions towards safety by sponsoring and supporting Working Groups in light vehicles, trucks, buses and motor coaches. These were composed of members of academia, the industry, and other government agencies. In addition, there have been International Symposiums and Enhanced Safety of Vehicles conferences, and a dedicated NHTSA website now exists devoted to sharing resources (http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/edr-site/). Much has been done and a solid foundation exists for further development.

The time has come for a defined, independent standard for Motor Vehicle Event Data Recorders (MVEDRs) for controlling these on-board event data recorders in highway vehicles.

Each vehicle OEM and aftermarket vendor builds some control into these emerging automotive recorders. Without an independent, openly defined protocol, applications and operating systems cannot automatically determine the type of data to capture and share. This IEEE 1616 standard will provide a minimum data subset which will allow uniformity and enhance the value of crash data extensibility to provide for growth and product differentiation. Users of this standard may include those who specify, purchase, design, and build highway motor vehicles and their subsystems. They will benefit from a simplified process of integrating diagnostic information from multiple subsystem suppliers.

Where we're at: There is a need to identify, characterize and establish a standard for advanced Motor Vehicle Event Data Recorder (MVEDR) technology that effectively provides pre-crash, crash and post-crash data parameters from all types and classes of highway motor vehicles except motorcycles. It is important to identify, characterize and establish a minimum subset of data parameters that can be gathered and openly shared with public, industry and government. Volunteers with expertise in the following areas are invited to join this working group: In-car electronics & communications for passive and active safety, Safety critical sensors, actuators & electronic control units, On-board diagnostic modules with flexible bandwidth, Collision free bus access modules, Optical transmission solutions, High-speed data communication protocols, Global Positioning System (GPS) embedded chips, Wireless communications via RF or IR, Telematics and Survivability. A website dedicated to this project is available at http://grouper.ieee.org/groups/1616/home.htm

The next meeting will be held in Washington, DC. Prospective working group members may attend the meeting. Meeting information is as follows, and an agenda is available upon request. January 22, 2002, 9:00-12:00 at IEEE/USA, Conference Room A, 1828 L Street, N.W. Washington, DC. To join the P1616 Working Group or for more information, contact: Tom Kowalick, P1616 Chair at mvedr@ieee.org or at 910-692-5209.