

NEWS



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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News Release

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PAPER ANALYZING THE EFFECT OF TRUCK TIRE TYPE ON FUEL EFFICIENCY WINS PYKE JOHNSON AWARD

The 2011 recipients of the Transportation Research Board's (TRB's) Pyke Johnson Award are Oscar Franzese and Helmut E. Bill Knee, both of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Lee Slezak of the U.S. Department of Energy. The Pyke Johnson Award is presented annually by TRB for the outstanding paper published in the field of transportation systems planning and administration.

The winning paper, "*Effect of Wide-Based Single Tires on Fuel Efficiency of Class-8 Combination Trucks*," has been published in the *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, No. 2191. The award, which honors the 23rd Chairman of the Board's Executive Committee, will be presented on January 24, 2011, at the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture and Presentation of Outstanding Paper Awards during the Board's 90th Annual Meeting.

Using performance and situational data collected over a two-year period for long-haul operations of a fleet of Class-8 trucks, the award-winning paper assessed the effect that different types of tires have on the fuel efficiency of Class-8 trucks. According to the authors, fuel efficiencies are higher when using all new generation single wide-based tires or a combination of duals and new generation single wide-based as compared to trucks equipped with all dual tires.

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Oscar Franzese has been on staff at the Center for Transportation Analysis, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), for the last 18 years, where he has managed projects for several federal agencies. He holds a Ph.D. in transportation engineering from Ohio State University, a master of science degree in transportation engineering, and a master's degree in city and regional planning. Active in TRB, Franzese is an editor and the recipient of several ORNL Significant Event Awards.

Bill Knee has been with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory for more than 34 years, including about 12 at the Center for Transportation Analysis. He serves as the Group Leader of the Transportation Systems Research Group, which conducts applied and basic research in simulation modeling, visualization, test track testing, and field operational testing for various federal agencies, state departments of transportation, and private industry. Knee's research interest is in energy efficiency and sustainability aspects of advanced technologies. He is active in TRB, serves on the Board of Directors of the Intelligent Transportation Society of Tennessee, and is the recipient of several ORNL Significant Event Awards. He holds master and bachelor of science degrees in nuclear engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles, and an MBA in management from the University of Tennessee.

Lee Slezak is the Vehicle Technical Analysis and Evaluation Manager at the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Program.

More than 10,000 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 90th Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, January 23-27, 2011. The meeting, held at the Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 4,000 presentations in 650 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. TRB facilitates the sharing of information on transportation practice and policy by researchers and practitioners; stimulates research and offers research management services that promote technical excellence; provides expert advice on transportation policy and programs; and disseminates research results broadly and encourages their implementation. A major focal point of TRB's activities, the Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest.

Organized in 1920, TRB is a division of the National Academies, which include the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council. The nation turns to the National Academies for independent, objective advice on issues that affect people's lives worldwide.

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