

From: The Engineering Institute <smathews@enginst.org>
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2011 12:31 PM
To: smathews@enginst.org
Subject: Design and Development - Feature Engineer and E.I. Updates

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The Engineering Institute Newsletter

September - October 2011

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Updates

Update: May-2011



Professional Engineer David Beltran

Featured Engineer

In our May issue we introduced testing Engineer David Beltran. We want to congratulate David in his recent accomplishment of becoming our newest Professional Engineer. David

is instrumental in all the design, development, and testing conducted at The Engineering Institute. Be watching for our special addition newsletter that will highlight some of the latest engineering capabilities and samples David and his fellow engineers are excited to announce.



Evidence Manager

Design and Development

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) explains that a safety-related defect includes "any defect in performance, construction, a component, or material of a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment." ([NHTSA](#)) The engineers and testing technicians at the [Engineering Institute](#), using standardized testing set forth by ISO, SAE, FMVSS, NHTSA, and FFA, have the expertise to test and study the performance, the construction, the components, and the materials of various types of motor vehicles, such as but not limited to motor cycles, passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles and all-terrain vehicles.

For instance Senior Testing Engineer, [Alex Roberts](#) was instrumental, through his UTV testing, where some of his recommendations were used to improve the safety design of UTV's. [Dr. Chandra Thorbole](#) and [Dr. David Renfro](#) examined and identified the best shoulder strap configuration of the three-point harness for rollover occupant protection. Professional Engineer David Beltran led the recent Head Injury Criteria (HIC) testing. With the design, development, and testing capabilities available at The Engineering Institute, no task is too large or too small. We provide free consultations, testing protocols and estimates.



HCTD Head

Update: August-2011 Issue

We introduced Shane Alexander, Evidence Manager, in the August newsletter. Shane is now an authorized process server for Washington County and Benton County, Arkansas. This is a new service The Engineering Institute now offers.

Shane Alexander



Fire investigator Cord Guthrie

Feature Engineer

On the surface a fire may appear to have destroyed any chance of locating the origin and cause. Despite its appearance, however, the charred evidence (such as a fire pattern) can provide valuable information as to the origin and cause of the fire. To investigate and analyze the origin and cause of a fire the investigator must be educated and experienced. Whether you are a legal professional or an insurance adjustor with a case involving a vehicle fire, a commercial building fire, or a residential fire, Engineering Institute's forensics and certified fire investigator, [Cord Guthrie](#) has the education and ten years of experience conducting comprehensive fire investigations.



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Fire Prevention week is October 9th through 15th this year. An important fire safety tip from fire expert Cord Guthrie is that "fires can start anywhere; safety is the best way to reduce the chance of a fire. Make sure you have a fire extinguisher in your home. "

According to the National Fire Protection Association the leading causes of house fires are household appliances, such as dryers and cook top stoves. Properly inspecting and cleaning the dryer vents can reduce the chances of house fires. Additionally, as we enter the winter season, make certain your wood stove or fireplace is in proper working order. Call a professional chimney sweep, if need be. Maintaining a smoke alarm will alert occupants of a house fire. In the event of a fire, "stop, get out, and call for help."



Suspect electrical wiring discovered during an investigation

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