STEPHEN JOWITT

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Principal Consultant
Investigations Group

Stephen Jowitt is a Principal Consultant in the Investigations Group at TRL specialising in road accident reconstruction matters. He gained a degree in Engineering at Bristol University in 1980 and has held a series of posts in accident investigation and product safety thereafter, principally in Vehicle and Highway related matters.

For 6 years he was a researcher within the Accident Research Unit at Birmingham University, analysing accident and injury severity in real world road traffic accidents. He then became a partner within a forensic consultant engineering firm and for 15 years specialised in the physical analysis of injurious events and component failures within road traffic accidents and motorsport events. He was subsequently employed by a trade association, acting as the UK representative on several European Standards committees, developing new test and inspection systems and writing consumer safety documents.

He has a particular specialism in motor sport and corporate sporting events, having been a motor racing scrutineer for over 20 years, and acted as the on-scene accident investigator from Club to Grands Prix level. He has investigated loss of control events and safety barrier performance in both 2 and 4 wheeled vehicle formats, including karting (indoor and outdoor), speedway, drag racing and on road racing circuits.

A large part of his work has been involved in assessing injury causation, including the benefits of seat belt use; Stephen has also inspected and studied protective helmets over a long period whilst acting as a motor racing scrutineer. He now acts as an expert in determining the potential for helmet loss in collisions and evaluating the protective properties of conventional helmet types, and has led research into the factors causing helmet loss and the protective qualities of cycle helmets.

For the last 5 years his research activities have included how head shape can affect helmet performance (using 3D scanning and printing); the protective performance of motor and leisure sport safety fencing; the accuracy of GPS data; and the modelling of collisions using motorsport data.

He has also investigated injury accidents involving falls from height and forklift incidents. He was a competent person for the inspection of lifting devices under the LOLER Regulations.

Stephen is a member of the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation, the Institute of Traffic Accident Investigators and the Institute of Engineering and Technology. He routinely prepares written reports for disclosure, attends meetings of experts and has presented oral evidence in Coroners', Magistrates', Crown, County and High Courts in both Civil and Criminal cases.

Notable recent publications:

2017 *What can we expect of cycle helmets? Benefits and deficiencies.* Proceedings of the 12th International Conference of the Institute of Traffic Accident Investigators

2017 *Analysis of the real-world protection offered by cycle helmets.* Journal of Personal Injury Law (Jan 2017)

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2014 *Helmet Retention Report.* TRL PPR689

2017 *Crush measurements obtained from two dimensional photographs using Photogrammetry. TRL* PPR813