NMVTIS Business Rules Working Group Meets in Santa Fe

The NMVTIS Business Rules Working Group (NMVTIS BRWG) met in Santa Fe, New Mexico on April 16th and 17th. The working group met to continue to discuss the NMVTIS modernization plan, the development of the Performance Management Concept (PMC) pilot, and the Salvage and Junk Vehicle Best Practice.

Overall, the working group had a very productive two days and made great strides on each topic on the agenda. Sam Amaya, Director of Vehicle Systems for AAMVA, joined the working group to gather additional details for the business requirements for NMVTIS modernization, and the working group deliberated many questions and the benefits gained from improving the system. The working group further discussed the methodology and timing to roll out the PMC pilot. Additionally, they took feedback from the board and dialogue held at the AAMVA Workshop and Law Institute on the Salvage and Junk Vehicle Best Practice into consideration in order to position the document to be reviewed and approved by the board, then published. A date has not yet been determined for the next face-to-face meeting but the group intends to come together for two meetings in fiscal year 2019.
Law (Connecticut)
With less than two months left in the 2019 legislative session, a universal helmet law has already been stripped from a larger bill. A second bill, which increases the age from 18 to 21 - required for operating or riding a motorcycle with a helmet, is still alive and awaiting action in the House of Representatives. Advocates, who believe that second bill falls short, are now working to find a lawmaker willing to try to amend it during the remaining days of the session with the universal helmet law language. They acknowledge it's been a challenge. Read the article at wtnh.com.

Gender X Identification Bill Clears Massachusetts Senate
The Massachusetts Senate on Thursday voted 39-1 to allow residents to choose a nonbinary gender designation of 'X' on driver's licenses and birth certificates, a move the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus said 'marks the law catching up with the reality of peoples' lives.' Ev Evnen, the interim executive director of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition, held up their own driver's license at a press conference after the vote to illustrate the significance of the bill to people who are transgender, intersex or nonbinary, meaning they do not identify as either male or female. Read the article at nepr.net.

DMV Encouraging New Yorkers to Go Paperless for Earth Week
The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles...encouraged New Yorkers to celebrate Earth Week by signing up for paperless electronic reminders. It takes just a few minutes of your time to sign up to receive email and/or text reminders before your driver license, non-driver ID card, registration, or vehicle inspection expires. 'Signing up for paperless reminders is just one way you can do your part to help save paper and celebrate Earth Week,' Acting DMV Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder said. 'Our e-notifications, which can be received via email, text, or both, can also save you from missing an important expiration date.' Read the article at mytwintiers.com.

Law Ends State License Suspensions for Non-Driving Offenses (Pennsylvania)
A new Pennsylvania state law is now in effect, ending the practice of suspending driver's licenses for those convicted of certain non-highway safety violations, including drug offenses. Gov. Tom Wolf signed the legislation in October and it took effect Monday. In a statement, Wolf says the change removes a roadblock for someone who needs a valid driver's license to find and keep a job, especially where public transportation isn't readily accessible. Read the article at witf.org.

Texting While Driving Bill Passes Florida House
The House has voted to allow law enforcement to pull over drivers for texting while driving. Lawmakers approved the measure (HB 107) on a 104-9 vote during a Tuesday floor session. A companion bill (SB 76) filed by Sen. Wilton Simpson has been placed on the Senate calendar for a final vote. Currently, texting while driving is only a secondary offense, meaning drivers can only be cited for the violation if pulled over for some other reason. The present measure, sponsored Reps. Emily Slosberg and Jackie Toledo, would make the violation a primary offense, which allows officers to pull a driver over for that reason alone. Read the article at floridapolitics.com.
Georgia DRIVES with New Technology Coming May 2019
A new system upgrade is coming to the state of Georgia's Department of Revenue tag offices. The Georgia DRIVES software update will go live on May 28, 2019. The Department of Revenue is excited for the upcoming Memorial Day launch of the DRIVES Project which will improve efficiencies and reduce costs for handling the annual registration of over 10 million vehicles. As we transition from the old system to the new Georgia DRIVES, it is important for vehicle owners to be aware of planned service outages leading up to the Memorial Day launch and to plan accordingly,” states Department of Revenue Commissioner, Lynne Riley. Read the article at wfxl.com.

New License Plate Agency to Open in Nash County (North Carolina)
The NC Division of Motor Vehicles will open a new license plate agency (LPA) on Tuesday, April 23 in the Nash County town of Spring Hope. LPAs offer vehicle registration services and title transactions, as well as vehicle license plate renewals, replacement tags and duplicate registrations. Currently, 128 license plate agencies operate across North Carolina. In addition, services such as property tax payments and registration renewals can be completed online at www.MyNCDMV.gov. Read the article at ncdot.gov.

Oklahoma Highway Patrol Hosts Motorcycle Safety Class
With spring approaching, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol is bringing awareness to motorcycle safety. Troopers hosted their OHP Safe Riders class in Durant Saturday to teach motorcyclists how to avoid collisions. 'It greatly aids them in their capabilities of handling and maneuvering their motorcycle,' said Oklahoma Highway Patrol spokesperson Lt. Scott Hampton. 'Most importantly, it teaches them skills they probably didn't arrive to the class with.' During training, each of the participants were shown emergency maneuvers that could be useful in real life scenarios. Read the article at kten.com.

TxDOT Urges Drivers To 'Look Twice For Motorcycles' (Texas)
As spring weather draws more motorcyclists onto roadways the risk of fatalities increases. Last year 417 motorcyclists died on Texas roadways, an average of more than one fatality a day. It's a number the Texas Department of Transportation is working to reduce by asking motorists to be extra vigilant. TxDOT is launching 'Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles' – a campaign supporting National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month this May. 'Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles' urges drivers to be extra cautious, since motorcyclists are more difficult to see and less protected than other motorists. Read the article at txdot.gov.

Texas Assembled Vehicles Legislation Passes House; Moves to Senate
Legislation (H.B. 1755) introduced in Texas to create a specific registration and titling class for assembled vehicles, including kit cars and dune buggies, and former military vehicles passed the House and now awaits consideration in the Senate Transportation Committee. H.B. 1755 will provide guidance to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles on how to treat assembled vehicles. Currently, there is no specific registration and titling class for certain assembled vehicles such as dune buggies. Read the article at sema.org.

Michigan Secretary of State Prepares for Real ID Regulations in 2020
On Oct. 1, 2020, everyone flying in the United States, even on domestic flights, will have to have a certain type of identification to travel... The Michigan Department of State is reassuring residents that obtaining one of these 'Real IDs' can be as easy as renewing a driver’s license. New licenses and state identification cards can be used as a Real ID. 'The whole concept of Real ID is, under the new federal law beginning Oct. 1 of 2020, you have to have what's classified as a Real ID to board domestic flights in the United States and enter certain facilities, such as certain federal facilities, U.S. military bases and nuclear power plants,’ said Shawn Starkey, communications director for the Michigan Department of State. 'For people looking to fly domestically who don’t have a passport, which also is considered a Real ID, this could be a big deal.' Read the article at candgnews.com.

**Waymo Set to Bring a Motor City Plant Back to Life to Manufacture Driverless Cars (Michigan)**
The birthplace of America’s auto industry and driving culture will soon have one of the world's first plants making driverless cars. Alphabet's Waymo has picked an idled American Axle & Manufacturing Holdings facility in Detroit as the site where it will equip vehicles made by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and Jaguar Land Rover Automotive with self-driving technology. The Mountain View, Calif.-based company will lease the factory and start work on its self-driving vehicles this summer, creating 'hundreds' of jobs over time, according to company blog posts. Read the article at fortune.com.

**Wisconsin DMV Recommends Getting Real ID Soon Before Federal Enforcement Starts**
Federal officials are finally putting the REAL ID standard into use for airline travel, so now’s the time to get your license upgraded. The change will come in October of 2020. Wisconsin DMV deputy administrator Patrick Fernan says the state has been issuing the upgraded licenses since 2013. 'So everyone in Wisconsin will have had the opportunity, when 2020 rolls around, to provide the documentation necessary to get a REAL ID during their normal renewal time.' Read the article at wrn.com.

**Phoenix City Council Votes down 'Vision Zero' Plan (Arizona)**
The City of Phoenix is trying to figure out how to solve a deadly problem. Pedestrians are being hit and killed walking on City streets in record numbers. There was a total of 89 deaths last year. City Council members were considering a program called 'Vision Zero,’ but not anymore. It failed due to a tie vote of four to four. It’s a street safety project that aims to have zero fatal traffic crashes. Under it, speed limits are reduced and lanes are made narrower in high collision areas. Read the article at azfamily.com.

**Arizona Outlaws Hand-Held Phone Use While Driving**
Arizona ended a decade of resistance to restrictions on using a cellphone while driving when Gov. Doug Ducey signed a law Monday outlawing holding a phone behind the wheel. It is now the 48th state to ban texting and the 18th to ban hand-held phone use while driving, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Read the article at abc15.com.

**Cops Draw Blood to Catch Impaired Drivers (California)**
Drugged driving is a growing concern as more states legalize marijuana and the opioid epidemic rages on. To fight it, more communities are training police officers to draw drivers’ blood at police stations or in vans, as in Arizona. And on-call judges are approving warrants electronically, often in a matter of minutes at any time of day or night. Together, the blood tests and e-warrants 'could be a game-changer in law
enforcement,' said Buffalo Grove, Illinois, Police Chief Steven Casstevens, the incoming president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Read the article at pewtrusts.org.

Gender 'X': Nevada Allows Non-Binary Option for Driver's License and ID's
People in Nevada can now get a driver's license or ID card with an 'X' for their gender instead of 'M' for male or 'F' for female. The Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles started giving that option Monday in a 'final step in a years-long effort to modernize policies toward transgender residents and those who don't identify with either sex.' 'The DMV is committed to being inclusive and realizes some people don't want to be forced to identify as either male or female,' said DMV Director Julie Butler. 'We would like to thank the Nevada community groups who brought these issues to our attention and worked with us to bring about the changes.' Read the article at 1.cbn.com.

Officials Urge Caution as Motorcycle Fatalities See Largest Increase in Utah History
In 2017, 38 motorcyclists lost their lives on Utah roads. In 2018, that number rose to 47. It's hard to pinpoint why exactly the numbers have gone up, said John Gleason, spokesman for Utah Department of Transportation. However, increased distraction is at least one possibility for the increased statistics. 'Everyone is connected to their phones,' Gleason said. 'We all want to be connected. If an email comes in, if a call comes in, you feel the need to answer it right away, or a text message, you feel the need to respond right way. And when you're out on the road, that's just not a good time to do that.' Read the article at heraldextra.com.

Many Drivers Who Test Positive for Marijuana Have a Child in the Car, Survey Finds (Washington)
Nearly one in seven Washington state drivers traveling with kids tested positive for THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, researchers reported Thursday. Based on a roadside survey, the researchers determined that 14.1 percent of drivers with children on board had used cannabis, according to their report published in the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs. 'One of the things I would like consumers to know is that cannabinoid products can be impairing,' said study co-author Angela Eichelberger, a senior research scientist with the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. 'And different products and methods of ingestion might have different effects.' Read the article at nbcnews.com.

OTHER NEWS

Bernie Moreno Launches CHAMPtitle in Bid to Disrupt Auto Titling
Auto dealer-turned-tech entrepreneur Bernie Moreno and business partner Shane Bigelow announced Friday morning that the technology underlying their new digital auto titling company, CHAMPtitle, is 'good to go.' Under the umbrella of Ownum, a tech incubator-slash-laboratory conceived by Moreno and Bigelow to 'unlock business growth and make government more efficient,' CHAMPtitle will be sold to U.S. states (and potentially foreign governments) in the hopes of radically streamlining the car titling process. Moreno testified from personal experience that the current paper-based system can be cumbersome and risky for consumers, dealers, manufacturers, and insurance companies. Moreno called car titling an 'elegant and simple' application of blockchain technology, one that was 'completely and utterly different' from the world of cryptocurrencies and token sales...Bigelow outlined the technology in broad strokes and said that unlike 'electronic' titling, which merely puts paper records on a computer screen, a fully digital system (built on private blockchains) means that car titles, and relevant information about a vehicle
and its ownership history, would be instantly available on mobile devices. Read the article at clevescene.com.

FMCSA’s New Requirements for Entry-Level Driver Training
Instructional Technologies Inc. (ITI), a provider of training solutions for the transportation industry, has released the name of its new training program for drivers wanting to obtain a CDL: On Ramp Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT). This new system adopts new requirements demanded by FMCSA and will be fully operational by February 2020 for state, public, and private CDL schools. Read the article at fleetowner.com.

Training on Collision Avoidance Tech Is Essential, Industry Experts Say
Training is a critical step when incorporating collision avoidance technology into fleets, according to representatives from the trucking industry. Todd Porter, vice president of safety for Sentinel Transportation, said that training can help drivers become familiar with new technology and help them adjust their driving habits. For example, he said that when his fleet improved its braking systems, drivers had to shift their practice of 'stabbing' the brakes to applying constant pressure. Porter spoke at the National Transportation Safety Board’s webinar on collision avoidance technologies April 18. Read the article at ttnews.com.

Survey: 2 in 10 Admit to Driving While High on Marijuana
The next time you hit the road here’s something to think about, that driver next to you may be high as a kite. A new report from DriversEd.com, the leading online driving school, found 21 percent of U.S. drivers admit to having driven while high from marijuana and six percent admit to driving after ingesting it. Survey data found that 58 percent said they believe that legalized recreational marijuana use would lead to increased danger on roads while 91 percent said they believe marijuana can impair a driver’s driving ability. Read the article at miami.cbslocal.com.

IIHS Thinks the Back Seat Needs a Safety Overhaul
The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety goes a step above and beyond federal crash tests, subjecting new cars to an ever-changing battery of tests that seeks to force automakers to continually tweak their cars to improve passenger safety. The Institute's latest effort brings that focus to the back seat. The IIHS on Thursday published a story in which the group claims that back seat safety has long existed at a disadvantage compared to occupants in the front row. Thus, the IIHS is working to develop a new vehicle evaluation that will get automakers to improve their safety systems for back seat passengers. It's currently researching exactly how to evaluate these improvements in the future. Read the article at cnet.com.

AAA Studies Why Older Drivers Turn in Their Keys and How They Can Drive Longer
AAA commissioned researchers at Columbia University to determine how changes in physical, mental and social health affect driving mobility for older adults. Researchers evaluated eight domains: depression, anxiety, fatigue, sleep disturbance, pain interference, physical functioning, pain intensity and participation in social activities. The study found that increased fatigue and poor physical functioning are leading factors that can result in older adults limiting their driving. The good news is that by staying active, older drivers can improve their physical health and may be able to extend their time behind the wheel. AAA recommends that older adults who are physically able, should do regular weekly exercises that include balance training, aerobics and muscle strengthening. Read the article at spacecoastdaily.com.
@AAMVACo has been watching the twitter feed and decided to highlight some of the tweets here. Links are provided within most of the tweets, and we have also provided a link to each tweet as well. Note that you do not have to have an account or sign in to Twitter to view the message posts, images associated with the post, and the reach of the message (retweets, favorited, etc.).

Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVACo.

Check out recent @AAMVACo Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVACo mentions!***

AAA Chicago @AAAChicago | View the Tweet
On April 26, as part of Distracted Driving Awareness month, AAA, @ILPoliceChiefs, @IDOT_Illinois, @ILStatePolice, the @KaneCoSheriff + many others will run a high visibility enforcement campaign to educate drivers on distracted driving and enforce the laws. #IDDAW

CO Dept. of Revenue @CO_Revenue | View the Tweet
It’s #TakeYourChildToWorkDay at the Department of Revenue! Children and parents played Jeopardy this morning at the Lakewood DMV.
KansasDOT @DriveSafeKansas | View the Tweet
Governor Laura Kelly signed SB94 (Defensive Driving) and SB17 (Motorcycle Endorsement) bills into law today. Both bills are aimed at improving traffic safety education on our roadways. #ksleg @ksgovernment @GovLauraKelly

MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet
Administrator Nizer is on NBC 4 live this morning talking about REAL ID #MDOTNews
NHTSA @NHTSAgov | View the Tweet
We're wrapping up Distracted Driving Awareness Month with a tweet up! Help us spread the word by sharing with your friends, families, and followers. #JustDrive

VermontDMV @VTDMV | View the Tweet
Donate Life Month features an entire month of local, regional and national activities to help encourage Americans to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and to celebrate those that have saved lives through the gift of donation. @DonateLifeVT #VT #BTV @DLNewEngland