

North Dakota Industrial Commission

Oil and Gas Research Council

**Commercial Driver's License
Training Simulator Program**

Final Report

June 15, 2011

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Accomplishments:

In November of 2010 the Doron Commercial Drivers License simulator was delivered to Williston. Training of instructors was provided by Doron in February 2011. The simulator includes a library of dozens of pre-loaded scenarios designed to achieve specific training objectives; designed and evaluated by professional traffic safety and trucking industry training professionals. CDL training exercise scenarios are provided and drivers can practice on the skills course or driving range in the virtual world. The Doron training materials provided the framework for new or experience truck driver training, remedial training objectives or defensive driving needs. Results indicate that an integrated and focused curriculum of instructor-led, behind-the-wheel, and simulator based training reduces accidents by 12% to 43%, with increased driver retention and lower driver turnover or washout.

The simulator replicates the driving compartment of a truck and is equipped with a 10-speed transmission. It includes essential components found in late model trucks, including air brakes and trailer air supply. It meets the trucking industries' unique training requirements by being customizable, upgradeable, and modular. The high quality real-time visual system is specifically engineered to provide views from the driver's seat of truck. To complete the realistic visual display, remote controlled real-time rear-view mirror images are synchronized and imbedded in the appropriate simulated window images.

In Fiscal Year 2011, a total of 96 individuals utilized the CDL Simulator. This simulator will allow us to do CDL evaluations along with refresher training for area trucking companies. Some of these individuals also completed the CDL training program. The simulator enhances the CDL training program by allowing new drivers the chance to practice shifting and driving in a safe environment. TrainND has contacted 176 companies regarding this training program and received over 20 inquiries. The simulator will be used extensively in the years to come.

Budget Narrative:

In order to meet the grant requirements the TrainND Division at Williston State College contacted area oil and gas industry businesses for the \$50,000 match. Industry partners donated equipment needed to enhance the current CDL training program, as well as cash. Enermax donated a semi-truck and flatbed trailer valued at \$30,000; Marathon Oil donated \$15,000 in cash; and Missouri Basin Well Services donated \$5,000 in cash.

The total cost of the Doron Commercial Driver’s License Simulator was \$192,315. The Oil and Gas Research Council funded \$50,000 of the project, cash donations from companies funded \$20,000, and TrainND funded the remaining amount of \$122,315. The equipment donated by Enermax is used for both the CDL Training program as well as the CDL evaluation program. The semi-truck and flatbed trailer are a valuable training addition to the program and enhance the training individuals will receive from the simulator.

Budget:

Commercial Driver's License Simulator Match			
Item	Company	Value	
Semi-truck	Enermax	\$25,000	
Flatbed Trailer	Enermax	\$5,000	
Cash	Marathon Oil Company	\$15,000	
Cash	Missouri Basin Well Services	\$5,000	
	TOTAL	\$50,000	

DORON CDL SIMULATOR	
Funding Source	Amount
Oil and Gas Research Council	\$50,000
Company Cash Match	\$20,000
TrainND - Northwest	\$122,315
TOTAL	\$192,315