

**EVENT DATA RECORDERS – “BLACK BOXES”**

Having access to the “Black Box” data from each vehicle involved in an accident is critical when you are evaluating vehicle accident cases. These devices are installed on the majority of vehicles produced today and in many vehicles dating back to around 1994. Most vehicle dealerships and repair centers do not have the computer software or the experience and training required to download all of this critical data and many do not even know that this data exists. Bloomberg Consulting has acquired and is trained and experienced in using all of the computer software that is commercially available to download this “Black Box” data from passenger vehicles (cars, pickups, SUV’s, etc), tractor-trailers, and heavy trucks.

**PASSENGER VEHICLES**

Critical information that may be downloaded includes **Vehicle Speed, Delta-V, Brake On/Off, Percent Throttle, Seatbelt Use, Engine Speed, etc.** Some of this information is available for five to eight seconds prior to impact. Vehicle makes currently covered by available software include the following, with more available in early 2009:

<b>Chevrolet</b>	<b>Buick</b>	<b>Cadillac</b>	<b>GMC</b>	<b>Hummer</b>	<b>Pontiac</b>
<b>Ford</b>	<b>Saturn</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Mercury</b>	<b>Isuzu</b>	<b>Saab</b>
<b>Chrysler</b>	<b>Dodge</b>	<b>Jeep</b>	<b>Oldsmobile</b>	<b>Mitsubishi</b>	<b>Suzuki</b>

Generally, the newer the vehicle, the more likely it is that useful information will be available for downloading.

**TRACTOR-TRAILERS/HEAVY TRUCKS**

Critical information that may be downloaded includes **Vehicle Speed, Brake On/Off, Percent Throttle, Engine Speed, Maximum/Governed Speed, Fault Codes (problems with the vehicle), etc.** Some of this information is available for up to two minutes prior to and 15 seconds after a hard braking or heavy deceleration event.

The data that is available from heavy trucks and tractor-trailers is dependent on the type and manufacturer of the engine, rather than the manufacturer of the truck itself. The engines that currently provide this “Black Box” data include the majority of engines that are on the road in the United States today, such as:

<b>Detroit Diesel</b>	<b>Mack</b>	<b>Volvo</b>	<b>Caterpillar</b>	<b>Cummins</b>
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For more information or to view samples of “black box” downloads from tractor-trailers and passenger vehicles please visit our website at:

<http://www.bloombergconsulting.com/Black Box Data Retrieval.htm>

Or contact Bloomberg Consulting at 850-932-7613 to find out what information should be available from the “black box” on a particular vehicle and/or to set up a vehicle inspection and download.