

2008 Toward Zero Death Conference

**Engineers and Law Enforcement
Working Together**

October 8, 2008 - Rochester, MN

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Background of Otter Tail County SCC

- **Formed in October, 2005**
- **Grant applicant is the OTC Public Health Department**

Fatal Summary

- **Discussion: Alcohol, Motorcycles, Curves in Highways**

Summary of Findings

Item	Specific Area Reported	# involved	Percentage
1	Total number of accidents reviewed & motorists killed	10	n/a
2	Timeline of fatal crashes	6/30/07 to 8/8/08	n/a
3	Total persons (passengers & drivers) involved in fatal crashes	20	n/a
4	Total vehicles involved in fatal crashes (8-single vehicle & 2-two vehicle crashes)	12	n/a
5	Passengers involved in fatal crashes	8	40%
6	Total drivers killed (of 10 total deceased)	7	70%
7	Total passengers killed (of 10 total deceased)	3	30%
8	Total fatal crashes involving motorcycles/ATV	5	50%
9	Fatal victims ejected from car/truck indicating no seatbelt use (5 victims were riding motorcycle/ATVs so belts were not an option; it could not be determined whether or not 1 additional victim was wearing a belt or not)	2	40% (of car/truck crashes)
10	Total crashes w/alcohol detected in driver	5	50%
11	Total crashes occurring on curves	6	60%
12	Total motorcycle/ATV fatalities w/no helmet use	5	100%

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Age of All Drivers	Number	Percentage
Age 21 – 35	3	25%
Age 35 – 51	7	58%
Age 80 +	2	17%

Age range of motorcycle/ATV drivers	37 - 51
Age range of drivers with alcohol/chemical use detected	21 - 44

Relationships with Engineering and Law Enforcement

- **Relationships between Engineering and Law Enforcement have been greatly strengthened as a result of our SCC and Fatal Review Committee.**
- **Relationships have caused current and consistent data to be available for engineering and law enforcement when addressing and reviewing safety issues.**
- **Getting to know the partners.**
- **Being able to see and understand highway safety issues from the other partners' perspective.**
- **As a whole process we have learned that the education E is key as we move forward with research based strategies.**
- **With the four E's represented at the same table, we are able to help make long term systematic changes and ultimately save lives.**