

New Type Steering Column Reduces Fatal Accidents

ANN ARBOR — A 55-year-old man driving a 1967 car recently struck and crushed a 1967 car in a head-on crash at about 50 miles per hour. The man survived the crash with relatively minor injuries — bruised legs, bruised stomach and broken nose.

If he had been driving a model built before 1967, chances are that he would have been killed.

The difference, the energy-absorbing steering column which is part of cars built in and after 1967.

Effectiveness of these steering columns is demonstrated in a report just published by the University of Michigan Highway Safety Research Institute.

Pathologist Paul W. Gikas, Hsueh noted that striking the steering column (of older cars) was second only to ejection as a leading cause of death.

The study, by Hsueh and associates, William A. Chawing was the one developed by General Motors Corp.'s Saginaw Steering Gear Division and installed on 1967 and later models of GM, Chrysler, and American Motors products.

STEERING COLUMN EMPLOYERS A wire mesh segment in place of a section of the rigid metal column in a crash, the impact of the driver's torso on the steering wheel compresses the column at a given rate.

The crash energies which, converted to loads and stresses on internal organs, formerly produced severe injury to the driver are now absorbed in the compression of the mesh.

WWII Footnote

Low tide uncovered a plane in Cilaos, France, presumably of World War II, with the pilot still at the controls. Its origin could not be determined.

Shaped Shirts

New shaped shirts for men combine curving body seams, fly fronts, squared off bottoms, wide vents and single layer French cuffs.

IN THE FIRST published report on boy well the new device perform, U.M. study and Safety Researcher, Donald F. Hsueh points out that "at the present time only two driver fatalities have been reported from impact to the energy-absorbing steering column in this study."

"In both cases, the crashes were high-speed collisions," Hsueh said.

In a previous study on fatal crashes carried out with U.M.

Continues To Improve Truck Safety Record

Trucks account for 16.1 per cent of registered vehicles in the U.S., but only 10.5 per cent are involved in accidents, according to the National Safety Council.

Automobiles, on the other hand, make up 83.5 per cent of registered vehicles and account for 85.5 per cent of vehicles involved in accidents.

As the result of industry training programs, the professional truck driver today is a "defensive" driver in the alert for other drivers' mistakes and highly skilled in piloting his own vehicle.

Negroes Get Pre-College Education

An \$80,000 contribution will help 30 Detroit Negroes enter a pre-college program this summer, and enroll in regular University of Detroit courses next fall.

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Scientific selection and training of drivers, higher driver standards, and improved mechanical devices to insure safer equipment are continuing examples of the urgency with which the industry views the vital subject of highway safety.

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Churchill Accused

MOSCOW — In World War II Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Britain ordered captured German arms stored for possible use against the Russians, Marshal Ivan Konev, a wartime Soviet hero, has said. Konev contended in his published memoirs German weapons were stored in such a way they could be distributed again to German soldiers.

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