



**MSF**  
MOTORCYCLE  
SAFETY FOUNDATION®



# MSF RETS: A System Designed to Succeed

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President & CEO

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***A Better Way Forward***

# The MSF Rider Education and Training System (RETS)

## *//// MSF RETS: A System Designed to Succeed*

- How does the MSF define success?
- How MSF RETS is designed to succeed
- Research – to Prove or Improve?

# How Does the *MSF* *Define Success?*

## *Learning to ride*

- Last year, MSF curricula were used to train over 500,000 riders to ride a motorcycle!
- 60% of BRC participants rate their improvement upon completion as 10 on a 10-point, 10 high scale
- **More than 50,000 decided not to continue their pursuit of riding**

## *Learning to ride*

- 5.5 million riders trained to date since 1974
- Yet, less than 50% of on-highway motorcyclists in the U.S. have taken a formal rider training course!
- And, excess capacity has existed in many states for the past 18 months.

## *Learning to identify and manage risk*

- Identifying and managing risk
- Taking personal responsibility
- Being motivated to adopt positive safety attitudes, behaviors and practices

*//// Learning to identify and manage risk*

**Eyes & Mind**

**vs.**

**Hands & Feet**

## *Learning to identify and manage risk*

**Better to have ...**

*adequate skills with excellent judgment*

**Than ...**

*excellent skills and questionable judgment*

**Best...**

*to have excellent judgment and  
excellent skills*

## ***“Safety Renewal”***

Because safe motorcycle riding is dependent on realistic attitudes toward risk-taking and mental alertness, frequent reinforcement of safety-oriented attitudes is essential.

**Better to have ...**

multiple learning experiences

**Than ...**

a single safety training course

***And it makes riding even more fun!***

# *How MSF RETS is* **Built to Succeed**



## Learning to Ride

Basic *RiderCourse* 1  
Standard  
Expanded  
Small Group  
Tutoring  
Skills Practice  
Formal Remedial Training

Basic *RiderCourse* 2  
License Waiver  
Skills Practice

Street *RiderCourse* 1

Basic Bike-Bonding *RiderCourse*

Returning Rider BRC

3-Wheel BRC

Scooter BRC

## Improving the Ride

Street *RiderCourse* 2

Advanced *RiderCourse*  
-- *SportBike* Techniques

Safe Motorcyclist  
Awareness and  
Recognition Trainer  
(SMART)

Ultimate Bike-Bonding  
*RiderCourse*

MSF Kevin Schwantz  
*RiderCourse*

Street *RiderCourse* 3

## Specialized Programs

*Introductory Motorcycle  
Experience*

*ScooterSchool* 1: Introduction  
To Scooters *RiderCourse*

Military Motorcycle  
*RiderCourse*

Military *SportBike*  
*RiderCourse*

*DirtBike* School: *DirtBike* BRC

Trail Riding *RiderCourse*

State Education Programs

Online Programs

## Host-An-Event

Intersection –  
*Motorist Awareness*

Share the Adventure –  
*Group Riding*

StreetSmart –  
*Rider Perception*

Riding Straight –  
*Alcohol Awareness*

SeasonedRider –  
*Aging Awareness*

Introduction to  
Motorcycling –  
*Helping Others*

**MSF Rider Education and Training System:  
A System Designed to Succeed**

## **////// Modular-type courses provide:**

- More breadth and depth
- Multiple points of entry and renewal
- Individualized coaching
- Segmented learning opportunities
- Distributed practice



# Rider Education Training System (RETS)



**Stakeholder Focus**

**Human Factor Based**

**Contemporary Theory &  
Research**

**Foundational Learning  
Theories**

**Constant Improvement**

**Service Leadership**

***RETS Underpinnings***

**Research  
&  
Experience**

**Safety & Risk  
Management  
Principles**

**Adult  
Learning  
&  
Development**

**Motor  
Skills  
Development**

## **Research & Experience**

- Haddon Matrix of loss reduction
- Curriculum specifications for prior as well current MSF curricula
- Research including Task Analysis, Photographic Analysis, the Hurt Study, and the Colorado Feasibility Study
- Findings of the 1996 Curriculum Development Team
- Joint SMSA/MSF MRC/RSS Enrollment Questionnaire (1998)
- SMSA Curriculum Advisory Committee (1998)
- MSF / ASU Study (1998)
- MSF Stakeholder Focus Group Research (1998)
- MSF Student Focus Group Research (1998)

## ***//// Safety & Risk Management Principles/Human Factors***

- Rider responsibility & personality factors
- Risk-taking forces – decision-making overall and in moment-to-moment tasks
- Visual perception, cognitive functions, & motor skills aspects

## **//// Adult Learning & Development**

Including theories and practices of...

- Brain-based learning
- Accelerated learning principles
- Learner-centered instructional techniques

## ***Motor Skills Principles***

### Key Applications

- Accuracy of skill is of greater importance than speed during initial learning
- Gross motor skills must be attended to first, followed by finer motor skills
- Over verbalization (on the part of the instructor) gets in the way of student learning

## **////// “What” vs. “How”**

### **What ...**

The motorcycle has not changed significantly in 100 years

### **vs. How ...**

The method of delivery now reflects the most contemporary research available on adult education and learning

## **Want**

**vs.**

## **Need**

Administrators want:

- Easily administered
- Resource efficient
- Standardized delivery
- Focus on skills and tests

Many riders want:

- An inoculation
- A license; avoid DMV
- To have fun

## **Want**

Administrators want:

- Easily administered
- Resource efficient
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Many riders want:

- An inoculation
- A license; avoid DMV
- To have fun

**vs.**

## **Need**

Riders actually need:

- Knowledge, skills, attitude, habits, values
- Quality education and training
- Risk management skills
- Self awareness
- Self assessment
- Responsible licensing

# Training Wants vs. Needs



***Constantly Evolving***

# The New *MSF CORE*

# The New MSF CORE



BRC	BBBRC	SRC1	SS-RP	ARC-ST	SRC2	UBBRC	KS-RC
Essential							
Expanded							
Recommended							

## **Essential**

- Basic *RiderCourse*
- Basic Bike-Bonding *RiderCourse*
- Street *RiderCourse* 1

## **Expanded**

- All Essential, plus:
- StreetSmart - *Rider Perception*
  - Advanced *RiderCourse*
  - Street *RiderCourse* 2

## **Recommended**

- All Essential and Expanded, plus:
- Ultimate Bike-Bonding *RiderCourse*
  - KS-*RiderCourse*

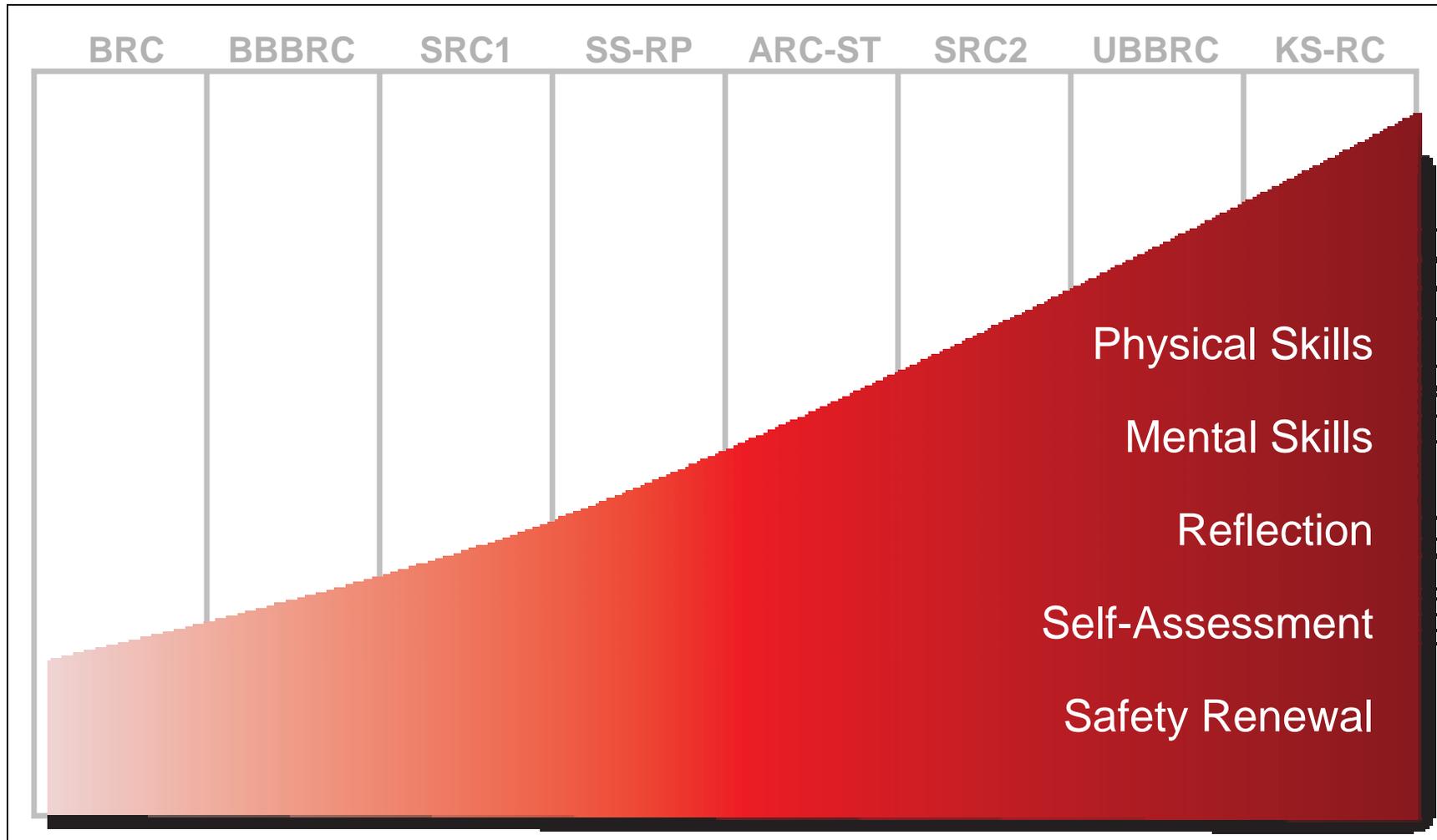
# The New MSF CORE



BRC	BBBRC	SRC1	SS-RP	ARC-ST	SRC2	UBBRC	KS-RC
Essential							
Expanded							
Recommended							

***Flexibility for Jurisdictions and Opportunities for Riders***

# The New MSF CORE



***Continuum of Learning***



## Learning to Ride

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*Aging Awareness*

Introduction to  
Motorcycling –  
*Helping Others*

### Essential Core

**BRC1  
SRC1  
BBRC**

### Expanded Core

**Essential Core +  
SSRP  
ARC-ST  
SRC 2**

### Recommended Core

**Expanded Core +  
UBBRC  
KSRC**



Recently released or near release:

***Rider Perception***

***SMARTrainer***

***Basic Bike-Bonding RiderCourse***

***Street RiderCourse***

***3-Wheel Basic RiderCourse***

***Scooter Basic RiderCourse***

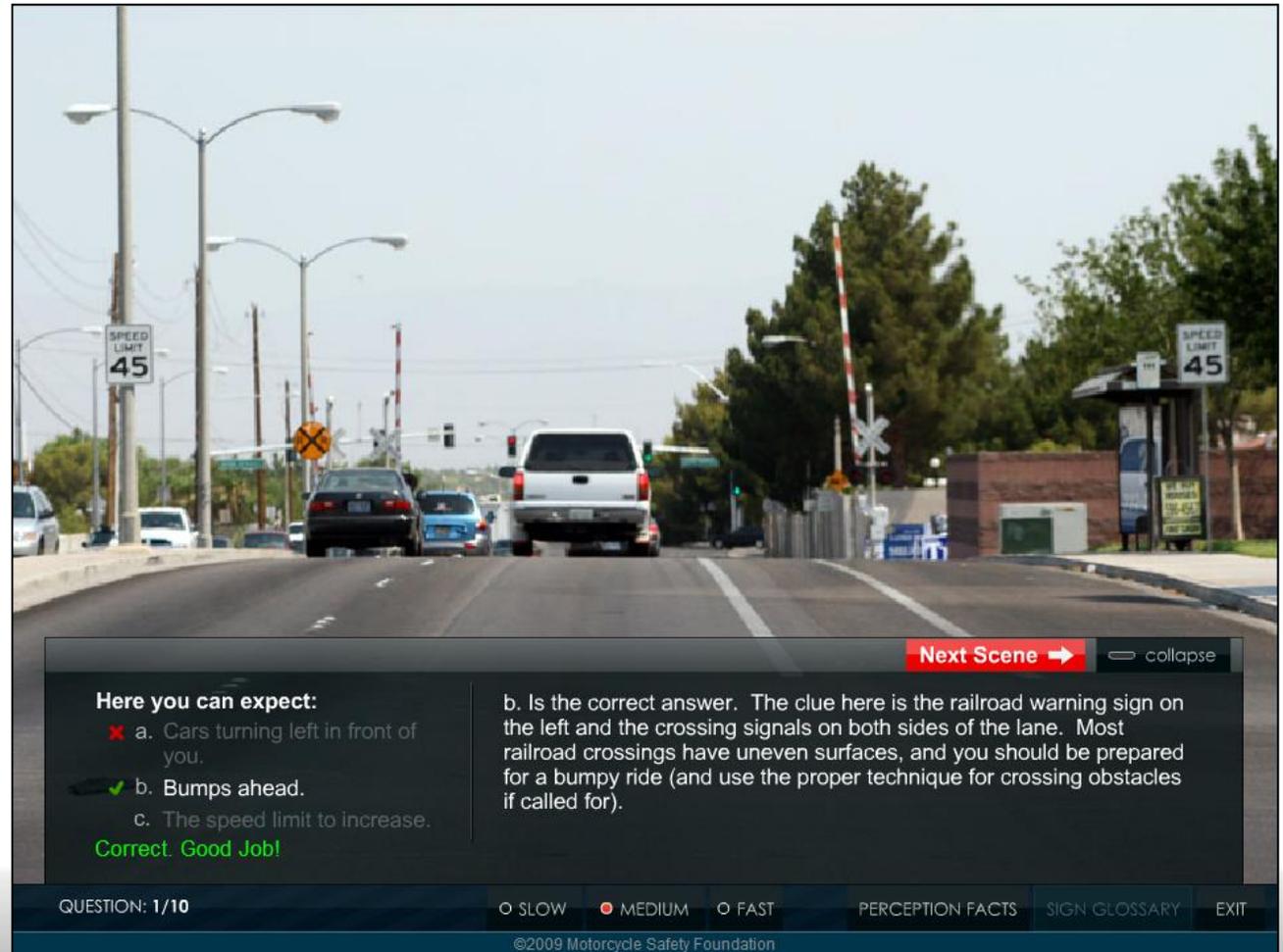
***Ultimate Bike-Bonding RiderCourse***

***Military Sportbike RiderCourse***

## *Rider Perception*

Modern visual  
technology

Improves rider's  
perceptual skills



Next Scene → collapse

**Here you can expect:**

- a. Cars turning left in front of you.
- b. Bumps ahead.
- c. The speed limit to increase.

Correct. Good Job!

b. Is the correct answer. The clue here is the railroad warning sign on the left and the crossing signals on both sides of the lane. Most railroad crossings have uneven surfaces, and you should be prepared for a bumpy ride (and use the proper technique for crossing obstacles if called for).

QUESTION: 1/10       SLOW     MEDIUM     FAST      PERCEPTION FACTS    SIGN GLOSSARY    EXIT

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## *SMARTrainer*



Control  
familiarity

Hazard  
perception

Risk  
management

## *Basic Bike-Bonding RiderCourse*

Drills on skills

Slow speed  
focus

Fine motor  
skills



## *Street RiderCourse (SRC 1)*



Light residential riding

Light suburban traffic

Complex traffic situations

## **//// 3-Wheel Basic RiderCourse**

Same  
concepts as  
Basic  
*RiderCourse*,  
now applied  
to 3-wheel  
motorcycles



## ////// *Scooter Basic RiderCourse*



Same  
concepts as  
Basic  
*RiderCourse*,  
now applied  
to scooters

## ***Ultimate Bike-Bonding RiderCourse***

Patterned after  
police training  
courses

Advanced version  
of the Basic Bike-  
Bonding  
*RiderCourse*



## *//// Military SportBike RiderCourse*

U.S. Navy  
helped pilot

60% enrolled

61% reduction  
in Navy  
motorcycle-  
related fatalities



**Intersection** – All Roadway Users

**Share the  
Adventure** – Group Riding

**StreetSmart** – Rider Perception

**Riding Straight** – Alcohol Awareness

**Seasoned Rider** – Aging Awareness



# ***MSF Support Tools and Infrastructure***

## ***Support tools that fully support all MSF curricular programs***

- Rider Support and Public Information ([www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org))
- Leadership Programs & Partnerships
- Technical Assistance for Training & Licensing
- Government Relations
- Certification Standards
- Professional Development
- Research & Quality Assurance

## **////// Thanks to a great network of training providers...**

- 9,499 certified *RiderCoaches*
- 238 certified *RiderCoach* Trainers
- Over 10,000 certifications
- 1,070 RERP Sponsors managing 2,505 sites
- State, Military, Other Administrators

## ***//// Safety Renewal Applies to RiderCoaches and RiderCoach Trainers, too***

- Rigorous initial certification process
- Professional code of conduct
- Minimum activity standards
- Held to high standards
- Serve as role models within the system

## **////// Continuing Professional Development**

- Promotes student safety on the range
- Maintains integrity of the curricular programs & quality of the delivery structure
- Communications include RETSORG, *MSF eNews*, Learning Centers, RiderCoach Trainer Clinics, and staff presentations at state updates and conferences

## ***////// Quality Assurance Module (QAM)***

- Research-based, easy-to-use online evaluation system for training sites
- Provides Continuous Loop Improvement
- Offered at the site level regardless of sponsoring agency

## /// QAM Overview

Electronic, web-based  
Hosted on RETSORG  
Secure Server

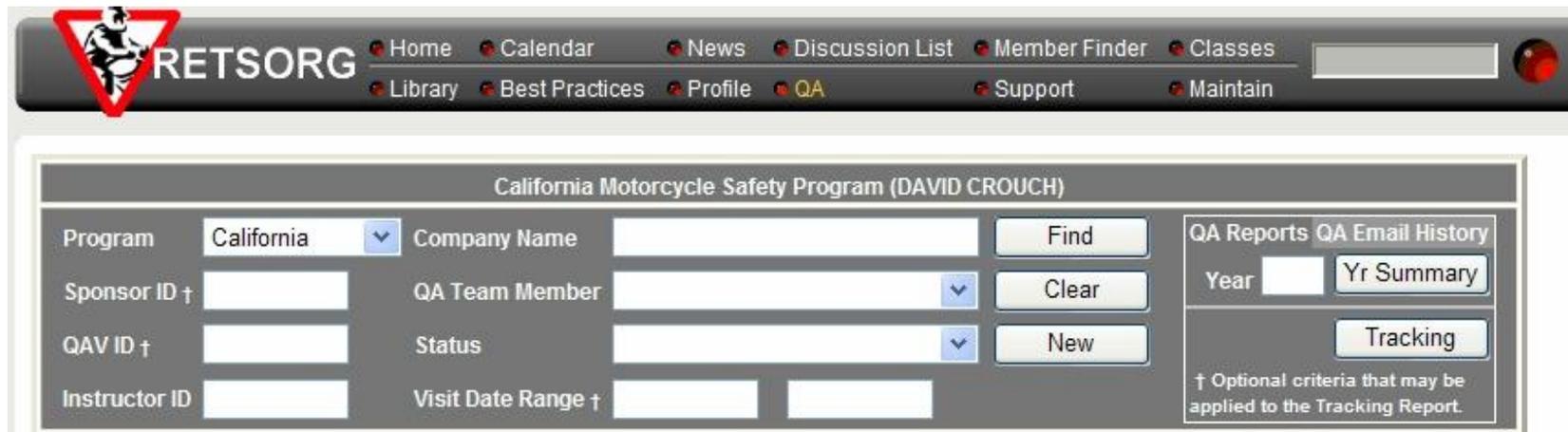
Linked “real time” to main MSF database

Complete assessment of administrative,  
classroom, range, & learning environment

Password-protected access based on individual’s  
role as determined by group coordinator



## ////// QAM Overview



The screenshot displays the RETSORG web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the RETSORG logo and a menu of links: Home, Calendar, News, Discussion List, Member Finder, Classes, Library, Best Practices, Profile, QA (highlighted), Support, and Maintain. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is titled "California Motorcycle Safety Program (DAVID CROUCH)". It features a search form with the following fields and controls:

- Program: California (dropdown menu)
- Company Name: [Text input field]
- Sponsor ID †: [Text input field]
- QA Team Member: [Dropdown menu]
- QAV ID †: [Text input field]
- Status: [Dropdown menu]
- Instructor ID: [Text input field]
- Visit Date Range †: [Two text input fields]

Buttons for "Find", "Clear", and "New" are located to the right of the search fields. On the far right, there are links for "QA Reports" and "QA Email History", a "Year" dropdown menu, a "Yr Summary" button, and a "Tracking" button. A note at the bottom right states: "† Optional criteria that may be applied to the Tracking Report."

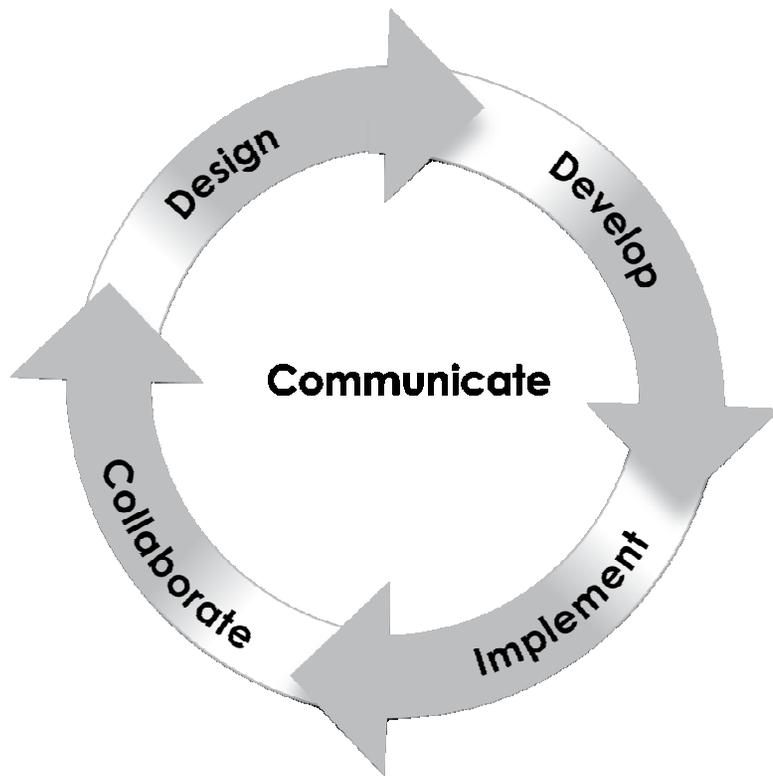
- Yearly progress tracking/compliance issue tracking by site
- Copies e-mailed & saved via PDF – encourages feedback
- Data exported via Excel and text file

## **////// Quality Assurance Module (QAM)**

- MSF provides formal training to assist teams with QAM processes
- To date, 22 U.S. entities have adopted the MSF QAM

Research:  
... to Prove  
...or *Improve?*

## *////// Ongoing research offers MSF opportunities for “continuous loop improvement”*



- License Test Validation w/ Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE)
- Cornering Study w/ Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI)

***////// In 2009 alone, MSF conducted over 35 formal field tests to develop and revise five new curricular programs.***

Recent:

- Capacity Survey w/ Irwin Broh
- University of North Carolina – HSRC
- The Discovery Project w/ NHTSA
- Awareness campaign w/ Purdue University
- Cal State University, Fullerton  
College of Health & Human Development,  
Dept. of Kinesiology

*The MSF*  
**Naturalistic Study  
of Motorcyclists**

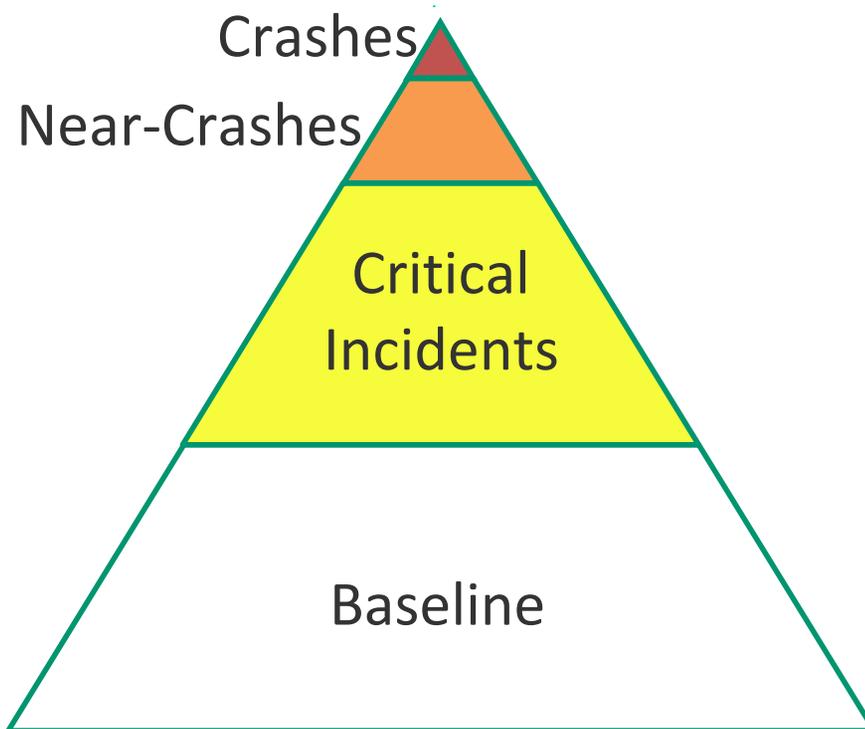
***////// MSF, its members, and VTTI will be conducting the first ever, Naturalistic Motorcycle Riding Study.***

- 100+ motorcyclists
- Two or three markets
- Newest technology as of Q3 2010
- Data collection 2011 and 2012
- Preliminary observations in one year
- MSF will collaborate worldwide to allow use

## **////// Method and Need**

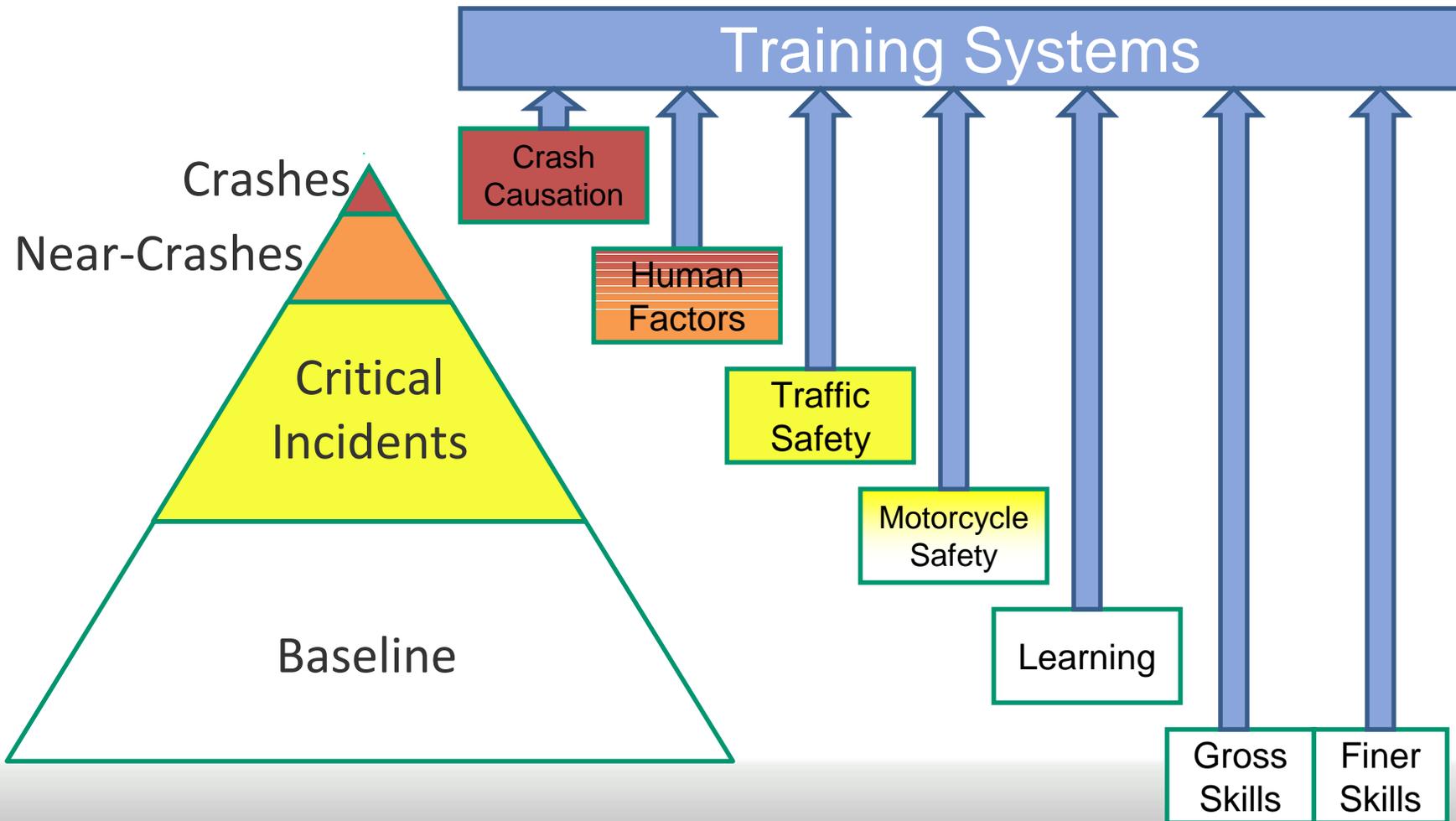
- ❖ The power of the naturalistic method is being utilized for light vehicles and heavy vehicles across various driver populations.
- ❖ The feasibility of these methods has been proven, but not implemented, on motorcycles.
- ❖ There is a research gap that will be addressed by obtaining this highly capable data on motorcycle riding such as:
  - Interaction of rider attributes, behaviors, roadway, adjacent vehicles, and environment as well as their relationship to crash prevalence and severity
  - Sequence of events and factors in the instants prior to the crash as well as in the minutes, days, weeks, and months prior to the crash
  - Differences between successful and unsuccessful evasive maneuvers
  - Attributes and habits of safe riders
  - Detailed exposure data across numerous factors

## ////// **Naturalistic Method**



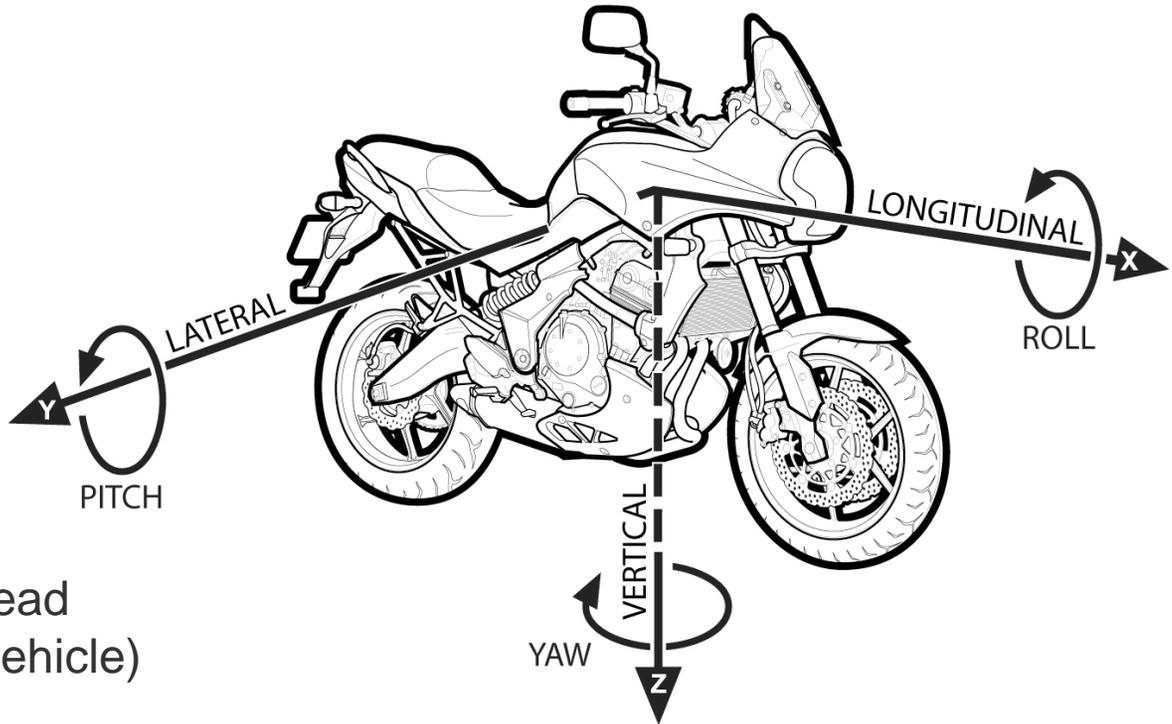
- Identifies factors in crashes using time-series video and numeric data.
- Reveals factors not detectable through crash investigation.
- Compares crash-involved rider to himself / herself at all other times.
- Provides pre-event data.
- Permits study of how crashes are successfully avoided.
- Permits quantification of rider performance and behavior in non-critical and critical riding.
- Provides flexible and accurate analysis of risk exposure.
- Permits systems development and testing with real-world data.
- Can be used to answer research questions that arise in the future.

## Training Systems Development



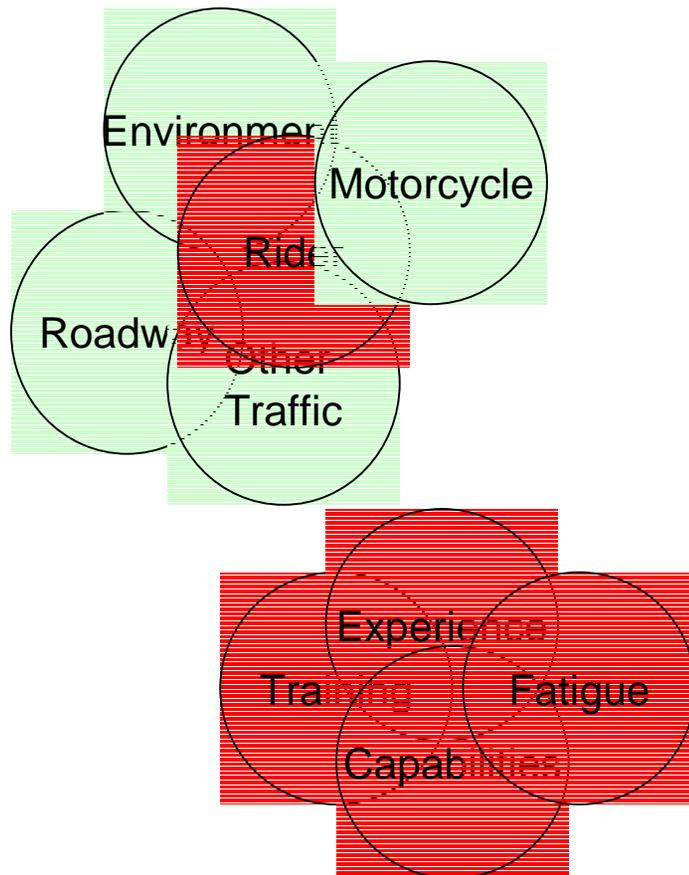
## ////// Example of possible instrumentation

- Video cameras
- Lane tracking
- Helmet / Gaze tracking
- Front and rear brake
- Accelerometers (3 axes)
- Gyro (3 axes)
- Speed
- Turn signals
- GPS
- Forward radar (speed to lead vehicle; distance to lead vehicle)
- Continuous collection
- 8-12 month capacity
- Expandable measures



## **////// The Value of Video**

- Provides “perfect witness.”
- Documents rider, vehicle, roadway, and environmental variables sufficiently to support a wide range of investigations.
- Numerous variables can be identified post-collection based on new research questions or observation.
- Accurately records the sequence of many rapidly occurring actions.
- Captures factors that do not leave a physical record or may not be accessible in witness recall.



## ////// **New Capabilities**

- Naturalistic data provide pre-crash data not available in current approaches.
- Human factors, vehicle factors, and environmental factors are captured during events and throughout everyday riding.
- Continuous data with greater detail will enable countermeasure development in all cells of the Haddon matrix.

## ////// Haddon Matrix Adapted to Motorcycles

Naturalistic Collections Provide Data for ALL Elements of the Matrix		Human Factors	Vehicle Role	Environmental Conditions
Crash Prevention (pre-event)	Baseline	Skills, Learning, Traffic Safety, Strategy, Perception, Judgement, Experience, Fatigue, Capabilities	Rider / Bike Interactions, Advanced System Development and Testing	Exposure to: road type, weather, traffic, lighting, intersections, curves, guardrails, etc.
	Near-Crashes	Rider Education, Licensing, Impaired Riding, Motorist Awareness, State Safety Programs	Brakes, Tires, Controls, Lighting, Visibility, Compliance Testing and Investigations	Roadway design, Construction, Operations and Preservation, Maintenance
Injury Mitigation (crash)		Loss of control sequence, precise injury mechanisms	Rider support systems, collision warning systems, etc	Interaction with roadside elements
	Crashes	Use of protective gear	Occupant Protection	Roadside Design, Construction and Preservation
Emergency Response (post-event)			Automatic crash notification	Education, Bystander Car, Training for Law Enforcement, Data collection & Analysis

*The MSF*  
**Naturalistic Study  
of Motorcyclists**

Rider training is most valuable  
when riders develop sound skills  
and maintain an attitude that leads  
to wise choices.

*The MSF*  
**Rider Education  
and Training  
System**

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