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Mecanica Scientific Services Corp. Wins Feasibility Study for Event Data Recorders Contract with Canadian Government

Camarillo, CA, April 25, 2017 – Mecanica Scientific Services Corp. (Mecanica), a Camarillo, California based scientific and engineering consulting firm, was awarded a contract by Transport Canada to conduct a feasibility study of Event Data Recorders (EDR) for commercial buses. Transport Canada, based in Ontario, Canada, is the federal agency within the Canadian government which is responsible for developing regulations and policies pertaining to all modes of transportation in Canada. Transport Canada is similar to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the United States. Mecanica is to study whether Event Data Records (EDR) are feasible and necessary for commercial buses in Canada. The EDR, like a black box, is an electronic function that can be added to a vehicle’s pre-existing Electronic Control Units to leverage pre-existing sensors and data to record data related to vehicle crashes or accidents.

Transport Canada’s interest in EDRs was prompted by a multiple fatality accident in which a double decker commuter bus and train collided in South Ottawa on September 18, 2013. The Transportation Safety Board (TSB), Canada’s lead accident investigation agency, in its findings concluded “the lack of a dedicated EDR on the bus added months to the TSB’s investigation, as investigators sought other sources of information and performed additional detailed, complex analyses.”

“We believe EDRs can have a profound ability to answer questions during an investigation and analysis as to why these accidents happen; and to help identify ways to mitigate these accidents from happening. This technology can also be leveraged by helping governments, like Canada, to develop databases (without personal data) to better study roadway accidents and harness a powerful tool to identify highway related improvements to reduce highway fatalities”, said John Steiner, CEO/Principal Scientist at Mecanica. Mr. Steiner is leading this project study. John Grindey, Henry Ramirez, Christopher Armstrong, Jacobo Pardo, Bradley Higgins, and other key staff members at Mecanica are providing their expertise and assistance to this effort.

Mecanica Scientific Services Corp. is an engineering firm which specializes in providing engineering and scientific analysis services to local, state, federal and international government agencies dealing in the legal, automotive, commercial truck and bus manufacturing, transportation and transportation research industries.

Mecanica was started in 2014, as a small boutique firm, with a staff of three and has now grown to a team of seventeen members. The company, which started with a few public and private clients in California, now has a nationwide and international client base. Though the company is new, its principals have more than fifty years of cumulative, professional experience, having worked in the industry with major fleet and manufacturing companies with operations worldwide.

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