



Florida Department of Transportation Research

FDOT Safety Examiner Workforce Certification Test

BD550-10

Federal and state motor carrier safety inspectors must conduct 32 roadside inspections each year to be recertified. Despite this requirement, there has been no systematic approach for ensuring that inspectors receive the quality of training that would ensure consistency of inspector knowledge and practice across the profession. Inspectors need to be able to perform inspections in accordance with the most recent federal motor carrier regulations.

The FDOT Florida Motor Carrier Compliance Office worked with the Institute for Simulation and Training at the University of Central Florida to create a computer-based certification test to help inspectors maintain the necessary current knowledge needed to perform inspections. The Safety Inspector Workforce Certification Program is a knowledge- and skills-based test that mimics a roadside inspection and provides feedback on the inspector's knowledge of federally mandated course content, identifying strengths and weaknesses.

88 It is night and the visibility is poor. During an inspection you notice that a windshield has a hole and cracks that cover 8 inches. This damage does not affect the windshield wipers from functioning. 79



a. No violation
b. Non-critical violation
c. Critical violation
d. Out-of-service violation

89 Visibility is low and the vehicle has an inoperative wiper on the passenger's side. 81



a. No violation
b. Non-critical violation
c. Critical violation
d. Out-of-service violation

90 While inspecting the right saddle tank area on a large tanker truck, you notice that the edge of the fuel tank is about 2 inches beyond the widest part of the vehicle. What type of enforcement action should you take? 218

a. No violation

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The researchers conducted pilot tests of the program, working with state and federal inspectors in Florida, Colorado, Michigan, and Ohio. The response from these jurisdictions has been positive. Indeed, in Florida, the use of this training has resulted, for the first time, in a 100% pass rate on the certification exam.

If adopted for use nationally, this program could result in more consistent enforcement of regulations among local, state, and federal jurisdictions. Improving enforcement could help reduce accidents and accident-related costs to government and the motor carrier industry, and create safer roadways.

Sample page of the test

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For more information, visit <http://dot.state.fl.us/research-center>.