CSX Transportation tests Virtual Driver simulation

Virtual Driver Interactive, Inc. (VDI) offers Virtual HD™, the industry’s first voice-controlled, interactive simulation-based driver safety program designed specifically for corporate driver training programs. Virtual HD is a self-paced series of experience developed to improve hazard recognition skills, lower accident rates, and reduce distracted driving in less than 90 minutes.

“Deployment of Virtual HD will off significant reductions in training related expenses like vehicle rental, employee productivity, and instructor time while increasing training effectiveness,” said Corey Davis, beta customer and manager of training simulation and technology at CSX Transportation. “This type of simulation-based training complements our current Smith System training by allowing drivers to actually put those principles into practice without putting them into harm’s way.”

Driver training on Virtual HD focuses on eliminating the primary cause for crashes: a failure to recognize and react to hazardous driving situations. A key element of the Virtual HD program is vehicle-specific training mimicking actual driving experiences on the job – whether it is in a package delivery truck, van or passenger car.

Company safety slogans are also displayed on billboards, storefronts, vehicles and other signage passed along the road during the simulation training for branding reinforcement. Virtual HD can not only lower crash incidents and associated costs, but also can dramatically lower the cost of training while increasing the rate at which drivers are trained.

Proof of course completion allows corporations to easily update training records or learning management systems (LMS). Customers of Virtual HD can choose to have their employees go through the program using the full-size VT Series Virtual Trainer, with the realistic feel of their car, at their training centers, or in the field by using the portable, DVT43 Desktop Virtual Trainer.

Both systems feature an expansive 43-inch, high definition, super-wide aspect ratio monitor.

Virtual HD provides training concerning:

- Deterring distracted driving
- Safe following distance
- Motorcycles and bicycles visibility
- Expert scanning techniques
- Rapid hazard anticipation and detection
- Parking lots safety strategies
- Covering the brake to reduce dangers
- City, highway, commercial and rural environments
- Day and night situations with inclement weather conditions.

For more information, please visit VDI’s website, www.driverinteractive.com.