

# University Transportation Centers.....

## WHERE TRANSPORTATION IS MADE SAFER

At University Transportation Center's around the nation, the technology of tomorrow is making transportation safer today. The US Department of Transportation's University Transportation Center program helps fund projects that make transportation safer. In partnership with the private sector, US DOT, and municipal agencies, University Transportation Centers are developing technology, business models, and expertise in making vehicles, roads, and our transit system safer for all users. Here are some examples:

### University Transportation Center Focus Safety

#### Implications of Truck Platoons for Roadside and Vehicle Safety Hardware

#### Texas A&M Transportation Institute

**Summary:** Using automated and connected vehicle technology, truck platoons may operate in the future with spacing between vehicles as small as 50 feet. Researchers and students at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) are examining how roadside safety devices, such as bridge and guard rail, will react to an impact from a truck platoon. The research informs policy on truck platoon operating rules and roadside safety device standards to determine the risk associated not only to the occupants of the trucks but also to other motorists, pedestrians and/or work zone personnel.

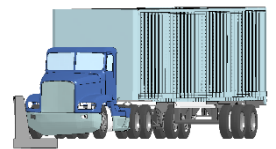
**UTC:** Safety Through Disruption Safe-D National Safety UTC

**UTC Partners:** Texas A&M Transportation Institute  
Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (Lead)  
San Diego State University

Private Partners: None

Budget: \$123,000

Resources: Conducted with match funds from the State of Texas



**About the University Transportation Center (UTC) Program:** University Transportation Centers is where innovation begins, it is where we are training a transportation workforce for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is where projects are designed better, constructed faster and where our transportation system is made safer. UTCs have used funding authorized by the FAST act to leverage funds from private, state, and local sources to conduct research, train the workforce of tomorrow and produce studies that make our transportation safer, more efficient, and more secure.

About RETRC -- RETRC is a legislative education corporation identified as a 501(c)(6). The purpose of RETRC is to educate, promote, and advocate for the University Transportation Centers. No Federal Funds have been used to support RETRC or its activities.

For more information about the RETRC or the UTC Program - Contact: Jason Pavluchuk – 202-285-6414 Jason@Jpavllc.com