

ADVANTAGE FORENSICS NEWS

We are growing again as we enter our 6th year of outstanding client service and welcome Alberto Martinez and Dr. Shrawan Kumar to the AF team.

Alberto joins us with a Masters in Mechanical Engineering from McMaster, specializing in human fracture tolerance during auto collisions.

Dr. Kumar is one of the top worldwide experts in Biomechanics and has been the Keynote speaker at over 59 conferences. Dr. Kumar has a Ph.D. and a Doctorate of Science in Human Biology, and has been qualified as an expert in Biomechanics on over 40 occasions across Canada.

Our materials expert, Kyle Serkies (Masters in Biomedical Engineering) will be a featured expert again at this year's Advocates Society 'Examining Experts' course.

The successful testimony of our President, Jason Young, was the central feature of two landmark Canadian rulings in 2016 on road design/signage and waterslide standards.

INDUSTRY NEWS

- 'Distracted pedestrian' texting and 'driver marijuana impairment' from anticipated legalization continue to feature prominently as key 2017 issues for auto collision claims.
- Ontario adjusters have exclusive membership access to the 'Claims Adjusting Network', a dedicated LinkedIn Group resource for claims adjusters and risk managers only.

To submit your news or ad for publication in The Advantage, send your news blurb or ad request to Editor at info@aforensics.ca. Our readership is over 3000 insurance & legal professionals.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS

"I highly recommend Advantage Forensics as engineering and human factors experts. They are very knowledgeable, skilled, and do superb and thorough investigation work and reporting." Feeda Musitief, Fine and Staud LLP, Philadelphia



Teaching the fundamentals of vehicle inspections to collision recon Police and engineers at the 2016 WREX world expo in Orlando, Florida (at left: Jason Young).

CASE STUDY CORNER*

An adult cyclist suffered a severe head injury after being struck by a vehicle. The cyclist was not wearing a helmet. Advantage Forensics was asked to determine if use of a helmet would have changed the extent of injury in this case.

Impact testing has demonstrated that bicycle helmets are highly effective in reducing linear acceleration from impacts but are not effective in reducing brain tissue damage from rotational acceleration.

Analysis of the cyclist's medical records indicated that the head injuries were the result of linear acceleration, not rotational acceleration.

We performed computer simulation of the collision and utilized biomechanical research to estimate the linear acceleration of the cyclist's unprotected head in this collision. We then determined the linear acceleration that would be expected in the same case if a helmet had been worn. The results indicated that a helmet would have reduced the cyclist's risk of head injury in this case by 30%.

With that quantum of risk difference in hand, our client was able to easily settle the case for a correspondingly reduced amount on damages.

**All names, dates and identifying details in Case Study Corner have been removed for privacy purposes. All published cases have settled or been decided at trial.*