SAFETY COMPLIANCE TESTING FOR FMVSS No. 218 MOTORCYCLE HELMETS

Bell Helmets, Model – Zephyr Size – M

Prepared By

Southwest Research Institute®

6220 Culebra Road San Antonio, Texas 78238-5166 SwRI Report No 18.10499.FTR.06-018



September 8, 2006 Final Report 218-SRI-06-018

Prepared For

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance
400 7th Street S.W.
Room 6111 (NVS-220)
Washington, DC 20590



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Final Report Acceptance by OVSC:
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Acceptance Date: 9/27/00

TECHNICAL REPORT STANDARD TITLE PAGE

Report Number	Government Accession No.	Recipient's Catalog N	0.		
218-SRI-06-018					
4. Title and Subtitle		5. Report Date			
FINAL REPORT OF FM	September 8, 2	006			
	ODEL - ZEPHYR, SIZE - M	Coptombor 6, 2	000		
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		SKI			
7. Author(s)	No. 100 - 10	8. Performing Organizati			
Daniel J. Pomerening, F	rogram Manager	18.10499.FTR.0	06-018		
Performing Organization Name and	1 Address	10. Work Unit No.			
Southwest Research Ins	stitute				
6220 Culebra Road		11. Contract or Grant No)		
San Antonio, TX 78238	-5166	DTHN22-04-C-			
		D11111122 01 0	11002		
		13. Type of Report and I	2.1.10		
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Ad	dross	-			
U.S. Department of Trar		Final Test Repo	ort		
National Highway Traffic	•				
		14. Sponsoring Agency Code			
Office of Vehicle Safety	Compliance	NVS-220			
400 Seventh St. S.W.,		1110 ==0			
Room 6111 (NVS-220)					
Washington, D.C. 2059	0				
16. Abstract	and declaration that Dall Halmata Madal Zar	- l	almost the		
	conducted on the Bell Helmets Model Zep				
-	ecifications of the Office of Vehicle Safety	Compliance Test	Procedure No.		
TP-218-05.					
Test failures identified w	vere as follows:				
None					
. 10110					
17. Key Words	18. Distribution Statement				
Compliance Testing	Copies of this report are available	from: National H	ighway Traffic		
	·		•		
Safety Engineering	Safety Administration Technical II 400 Seventh St. S.W. Room 2336		63 (INF O-403)		
FMVSS No. 218	0				
Washington, D.C. 20590					
	tis@nhtsa.dot.gov				
	FAX 202-493-2833				
19. Security Classification (of this repo	ort) 20. Security Classification (of this page)	21. No. of Pages	22. Price		
Unclassified	38				

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SEC	TION 1	PURPOSE OF COMPLIANCE TEST	1
1	PURPOSE	OF COMPLIANCE TEST	2
2	TEST PRO	OCEDURE	2
SEC	TION 2	COMPLIANCE TEST DATA SUMMARY	3
1	HELMET [DATA	4
2	SUMMAR	Y OF TEST RESULTS	5
3	SELECTIO	ON OF APPROPRIATE HEADFORM (S6.1)	5
4	CONDITIO	NING FOR TESTING (S6.4)	6
5	IMPACT T	ESTING (S5.1 & S7.1)	7
6	PENETRA	TION (S5.2 & S7.2)	8
7	RETENTIO	ON SYSTEM TESTING (S5.3 & S7.3)	9
8	PERIPHER	RAL VISION AND BROW OPENING (S5.4)	10
9	CONFIGU	RATION (S5.4)	10
10	PROJECT	IONS (S5.5)	10
11	LABELING	G (S5.6)	11
SEC	TION 3	TEST DATA	12
1	CONDITIO	NING ENVIRONMENTS	13
2	IMPACT T	IME HISTORIES	14
3	RETENTIO	ON TIME HISTORIES	23
SEC	TION 4	TEST FAILURE DETAILS	25
APP	ENDIX A	INTERPRETATIONS OR DEVIATIONS FROM FMVSS NO. 218	26
APP	ENDIX B	EQUIPMENT LIST AND CALIBRATION INFORMATION	27
APP	ENDIX C	PHOTOGRAPHS	29

SECTION 1 PURPOSE OF COMPLIANCE TEST

1 PURPOSE OF COMPLIANCE TEST

This testing was conducted as part of the Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 218, "Motorcycle Helmets" Compliance Program. The purpose of the test was to determine if the production helmets supplied by the Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance satisfy the requirements of TP-218-05², as governed by the contract.

2 TEST PROCEDURE

The Southwest Research Institute Test Procedure for FMVSS No. 218³ submitted to the Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, contains the specific procedures used to conduct this test. The Southwest Research Institute Test Procedure for FMVSS No. 218 as modified by project specific process travelers is in accordance with TP-218-05.

The test procedure shall not be in conflict with any portion of FMVSS No. 218 nor amendments in effect as noted in the applicable contract.

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¹ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 218, "Motorcycle Helmets", 49 CFR Chapter V Section 571.218, August 20, 1973 as last amended FR 12529 on April 15, 1988.

² National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, TP-218-05, Laboratory Test Procedure for FMVSS 218 Motorcycle Helmets, February 28, 2006.

³ Southwest Research Institute, SwRI Test Procedure for Compliance Testing in Accordance with FMVSS No. 218 for Motorcycle Helmets, May 2006.

SECTION 2 COMPLIANCE TEST DATA SUMMARY

1 HELMET DATA

Helmet Brand Name:

 Helmet Model Designation:
 Zephyr

 Helmet Manufacturer:
 Bell Helmets

Bell Helmets

Helmet Size Designation:

M 55-57 cm

Helmet Coverage: Complete

Helmet Position Index (HPI) (cm): 5.10

Shell Material: Injection Molded Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene and

Polycarbonate Blending Thermoplastic

Liner Material: Expanded Polystyrene

Buckle Description D-Ring

Helmet	A B Ambient Low Ten		C High Temp	Water	
Shell Color/Pattern	Black	Black	Black	Black	Black
Weight (grams)	(eight (grams) 1556 1547		1551	1547	1565
Month & Year of Manufacture	01/2006	01/2006	10/2006	01/2006	01/2006

Comments:

The HPI and discrete helmet size were supplied by NHTSA based on information obtained from the manufacturer.

The weight was with all auxiliary equipment removed ready for testing.

Photographs of the helmets are given in Appendix C (Photographs of Equipment).

The helmet data given was based on information provided with the helmets, information provided by NHTSA, and measured data.

2 SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS

HELMET	A Ambient	B Low Temp	C High Temp	D Water Immersed
IMPACT (S5.1, S7.1)	PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS
PENETRATION (S5.2, S7.2)	PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS
RETENTION (S5.3, S7.3)	PASS	PASS	PASS	PASS

CONFIGURATION (S5.4)	PASS
PERIPHERAL VISION/BROW OPENING (S5.4)	PASS
LABELING (S5.6)	PASS

Comments: None

3 SELECTION OF APPROPRIATE HEADFORM (S6.1)

Selection of the headform used during testing is based on the helmet size designation, marked on the helmet, as identified in the following table. If the size range is not specified on the helmet, consult with the COTR before beginning the test. As identified in FMVSS No. 218, if the helmet size designation falls into more than one of the size ranges, it shall be tested on each appropriate headform. Consult with the COTR before beginning the test.

HELMET SIZE DESIGNATION	HEADFORM SIZE	WEIGHT
≤ 6 3/4 ≤ European size 54	Small	3.5, +0.00, -0.063 kg 7.8, +0.00, -0.14 lbs
>6 3/4 but ≤ 7 1/2 >European Size 54 but ≤ European Size 60	Medium	5.0, +0.00, -0.090 kg 11.0, +0.00, -0.20 lbs
> 7 1/2 > European size 60	Large	6.1, +0.00, -0.108 kg 13.4, +0.00, -0.24 lbs

Comments: A medium headform was used based on the discrete helmet size, M. The total weight of the drop assembly was 4.98 kg.

4 CONDITIONING FOR TESTING (S6.4)

The helmets shall be conditioned for not less than 12 hours in the specified environmental condition shown below, prior to testing.

IDENTIFICATION	CONDITIONS	HELMET
Ambient Conditions	21°C \pm 6°C, 40% to 60% RH, Site Pressure 59°F to 81°F	А
Low Temperature	-10°C +8°C, -0°C 14°F to 28°F	В
High Temperature	50°C +0°C, -4°C 115°F to 122°F	С
Water Immersion	25°C ± 6°C 66°F to 88°F	D

The maximum time during which the helmet may be out of the conditioning environment shall not exceed 4 minutes. It must then be returned to the conditioning environment for a minimum of 3 minutes for each minute or portion of a minute in excess of 4 minutes out of the conditioning environment or 12 hours, whichever is less, prior to resumption of testing.

The first test shall be performed at a time greater than 2 minutes after removal from conditioning. The second test in a sequence shall be performed before the 4-minute limit.

The helmets were conditioned prior to testing. Records of the conditioning are given in Section 3.1 (Conditioning Environments).

Comments: None.

5 IMPACT TESTING (S5.1 & S7.1)

The helmets were subjected to the impact attenuation testing in accordance with the requirements of S5.1 and S7.1 of FMVSS No. 218.

Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M Impact Testing

Anvil	Impact Velocity
Hemispherical	4.8 to 5.2 m/sec
Flat	5.6 to 6.0 m/sec

	Relative
Temperature C	Humidity %
20	55

Headform Size = Medium Impact Position on Crown Drop Assembly Weight =

4.98 kg

		Drop Height	Drop Height	Peak	Dwell Time (msec)		
System Check	Drop No			Acceleration (g)	at 150 g's	at 200 g's	
	1A	124	4.89	400	2.12	1.82	
Pre Test	2A	124	4.82	396	2.12	1.84	
	3A	124	4.89	398	2.12	1.82	
Pre Test Av	erage			398			
	1B	124	4.89	399	2.12	1.82	
Post Test	2B	124	4.82	398	2.12	1.84	
	3B	124	4.96	399	2.10	1.84	
Post Test Av	Post Test Average			399			
Difference Between Pre Test and Post Test Averages			1	Difference Not t	to Exceed 40 g's		

Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M Impact Testing

		Helmet Type			Impact I	ocation	(+/- 45	degrees)		
Helmet	Helmet	Partial/Full	Fore	head	Left	Side	Right	Side	Re	ear
Designation	Condition	Complete	Left Front		Right Rear		Right Front		Left Rear	
		Impact No.	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
		Anvil	He	emi	He	emi	F	at	F	at
		Test Record No.	3	4	11	12	19	20	27	28
Α	Ambient	Peak g	88	105	112	129	158	166	177	198
A	Ambient	ms @ 150 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.56	1.84	2.54	2.74
		ms @ 200 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Velocity m/sec	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.19	6.04	5.92	5.93	5.94
		Anvil	He	emi	He	emi	F	at	F	at
		Test Record No.	5	6	13	14	21	22	29	30
В	Low Temperature	Peak g	96	109	114	140	163	171	182	197
B		ms @ 150 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.10	2.14	2.50	2.74
		ms @ 200 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Velocity m/sec	5.27	5.19	5.19	5.20	5.94	5.94	6.04	5.93
		Anvil		emi	He	emi	F	at	F	at
		Test Record No.	7	8	15	16	23	24	31	32
С	High	Peak g	82	98	98	114	147	159	170	198
	Temperature	ms @ 150 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.30	2.22	2.80
		ms @ 200 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Velocity m/sec	5.20	5.21	5.20	5.19	5.92	6.04	5.93	6.03
		Anvil		mi		emi		at		at
		Test Record No.	9	10	17	18	25	26	33	34
D	Water	Peak g	85	93	104	134	139	173	185	193
	Immersed	ms @ 150 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.14	2.56	2.66
		ms @ 200 g	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Velocity m/sec	5.21	5.19	5.11	5.11	5.93	5.92	6.02	5.93

Comments: The helmet passed the impact testing.

6 PENETRATION (\$5.2 & \$7.2)

The helmets were subjected to the penetration test in accordance with the requirements of S5.2 and S7.2 of FMVSS No. 218.

Weight of Striker: 3, +0.000, -0.029 kg

6.625, +0.000, -0.065 lbs

Included angle of 60°, +1.0°, -0.0°

Point of Striker: Cone height of 3.8, +0.25, -0.00 cm (1.5, +0.1, -0.0 inches)

Radius of 0.5, +0.08, -0.0 mm (0.19, +0.003, -0.000 inches)

Minimum hardness of 60 Rockwell (Scale C)

The height of the free fall drop was 300, +0.00, -3.05 cm (118.1, +0.0, -1.2 inches) as measured from the striker point to the impact point on the outer surface of the test helmet. Two penetration blows are applied to each helmet at least 7.6 cm (3 inches) apart and at least 7.6 cm (3 inches) from the centers of any impacts applied during the impact attenuation test.

When tested, the test helmet shall be failed if the striker has made an indentation in the headform.

AMBIENT TEMPERATURE °C	AMBIENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY %
20	54

TEST	HELMET	CONDITION	PASS	FAIL
1	А	Ambient	PASS	
2	А	Ambient	PASS	
3	В	Low Temperature	PASS	
4	В	Low Temperature	PASS	
5	С	High Temperature	PASS	
6	С	High Temperature	PASS	
7	D	Water Immersed	PASS	
8	D	Water Immersed	PASS	

Comments: This helmet passed the penetration testing. The free fall drop was 298.5 cm.

7 RETENTION SYSTEM TESTING (S5.3 & S7.3)

The helmets were subjected to the retention system testing in accordance with the requirements of S5.3 and S7.3 of FMVSS No. 218.

READING	APPLIED LOAD
INITIAL	22.7, +4.54, -0.0 kg 50, +10, -0 lbs.
FINAL	136, +0.0, -4.5 kg 300, +0.0, -10.0 lbs

AMBIENT TEMPERATURE °C	AMBIENT RELATIVE HUMIDITY %		
20	54		

The acceptance criteria shall be that the retention system remained intact without elongating more than 2.54 cm (1 inch).

HELMET	CONDITIONS	INITIAL READING (cm)	FINAL READING (cm)	ELONGATION (cm)
А	Ambient	0.00	1.90	1.90
В	Low Temperature	0.00	1.81	1.81
С	High Temperature	0.00	2.24	2.24
D	Water Immersed	0.00	2.01	2.01

Time histories for the retention system testing are given in Section 3.3 Retention Time Histories. Given on these plots are the conditioning environment, load, and elongation.

Comments: This helmet passed the retention testing.

Recorded by: Manny Gonzalez

8 PERIPHERAL VISION AND BROW OPENING (\$5.4)

The helmet shall provide a minimum peripheral vision of 105° to each side of the mid-sagittal plane through the basic plane. The brow opening shall be at least 2.54 cm (1 inch) above all points in the basic plane that are within the angles of peripheral vision.

	REQUIREMENTS	TEST RESULTS
PERIPHERAL VISION	> 105°	> 105 °
BROW OPENING	> 2.54 cm	> 2.54 cm

Comments: This helmet passed the peripheral vision and brow opening testing.

9 CONFIGURATION (S5.4)

The configuration of this helmet must be such that it has a protective surface of continuous contour at all points above the test line.

Comments: The helmet passed the configuration requirements.

10 PROJECTIONS (S5.5)

A helmet shall not have any internal rigid projections. External rigid projections shall be limited to those required for operation of essential accessories, and shall not protrude more than 5mm (0.20 inches).

PROJECTION	REQUIREMENT
INTERNAL RIGID	None
EXTERNAL RIGID	Operational, shall not protrude more than 5 mm (0.20 inches)

Test Results

PROJECTION	PRESENT	HEIGHT (mm)
INTERNAL	No	NA
EXTERNAL	Yes	5.0

Comments: External projections include plastic vent covers that are located above the test line.

11 LABELING (S5.6)

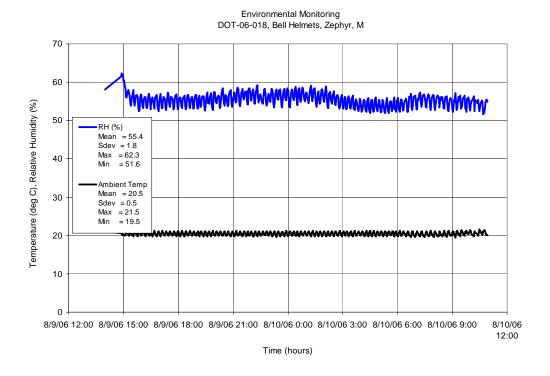
Each helmet shall be permanently and legibly labeled, in a manner such that the label(s) can be easily read without removing padding or any other permanent part. The following information shall be included:

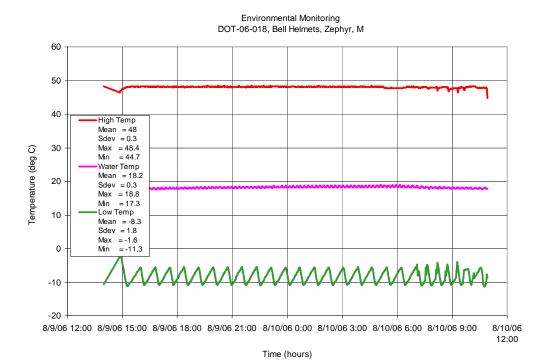
REQUIRED INFORMATION	PASS	FAIL
(1) Manufacturer's name or identification.	PASS	
(2) Precise model designation.	PASS	
(3) Size.	PASS	
(4) Month and year of manufacture.	PASS	
(5) The DOT symbol, constituting the manufacturer's certification that the helmet conforms to the applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. This symbol shall appear on the outer surface, in a color that contrasts with the background, in letters at least 1 cm (0.375 inch) high centered laterally with the horizontal centerline on the symbol located a minimum of 2.9 cm (1.125 inches) and a maximum of 3.5 cm (1.375 inches) from the bottom edge of the posterior portion of the helmet.	PASS	
(6) Instruction to the Purchaser as follows:		
Shell and liner constructed of (identify type(s) of materials)	PASS	
The helmet can be seriously damaged by some common substances without the damage being visible to the user.	PASS	
Apply only the following: (Recommended cleaning agents, paints, adhesives, etc. as appropriate).	PASS	
Make no modifications.	PASS	
Fasten helmet securely.	PASS	
If the helmet experiences a severe blow, return it to the manufacturer for inspection or destroy and replace it.	PASS	

Comments: None

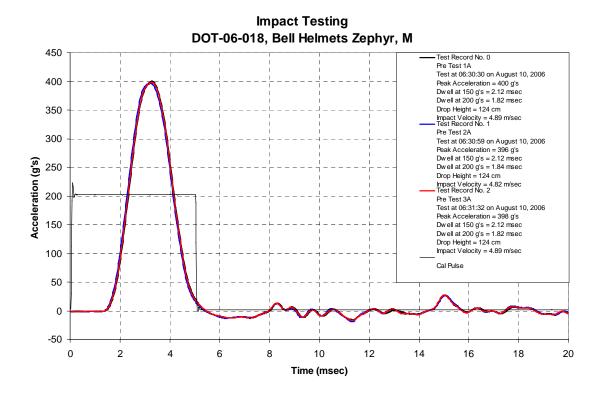
SECTION 3 TEST DATA

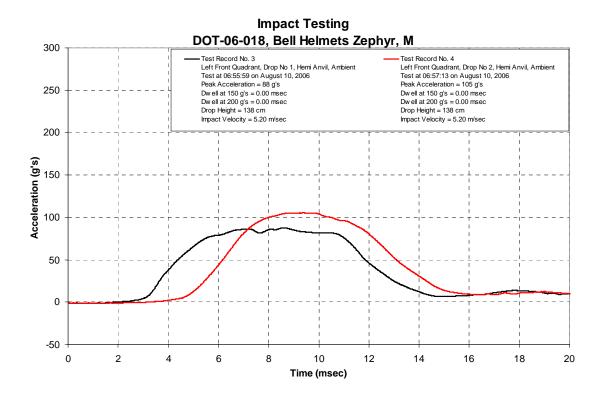
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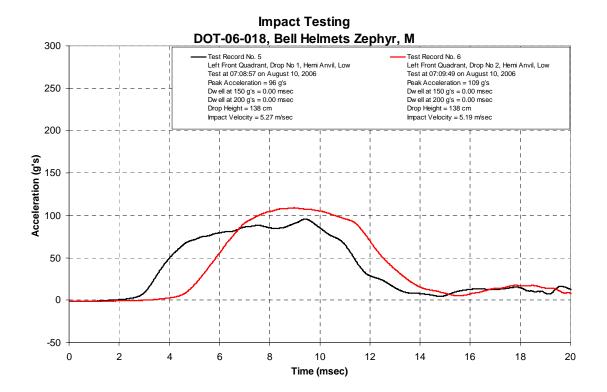


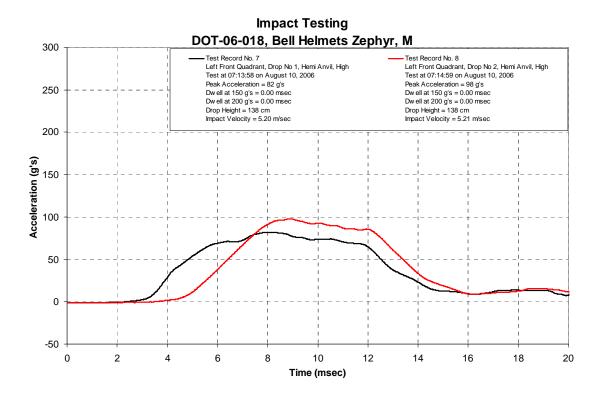


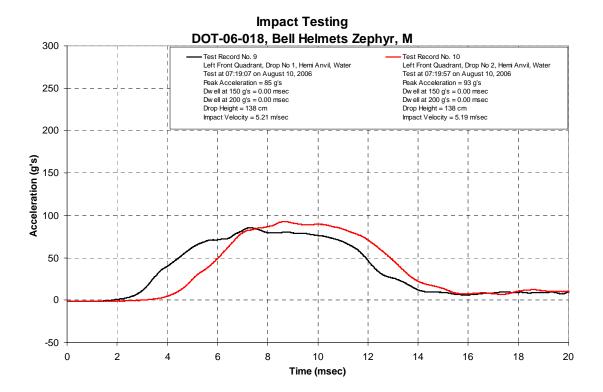
2 IMPACT TIME HISTORIES

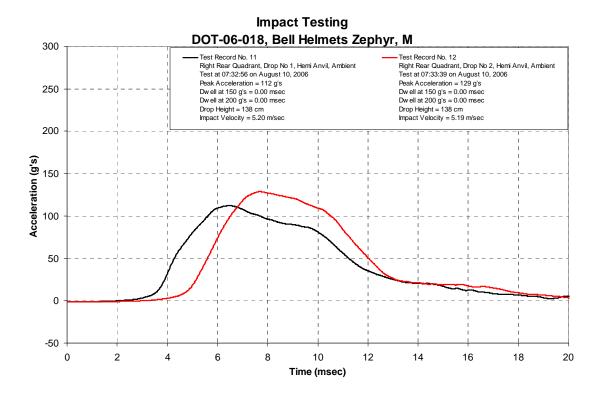


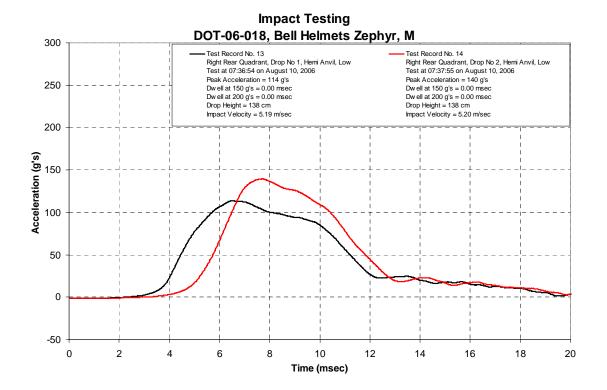


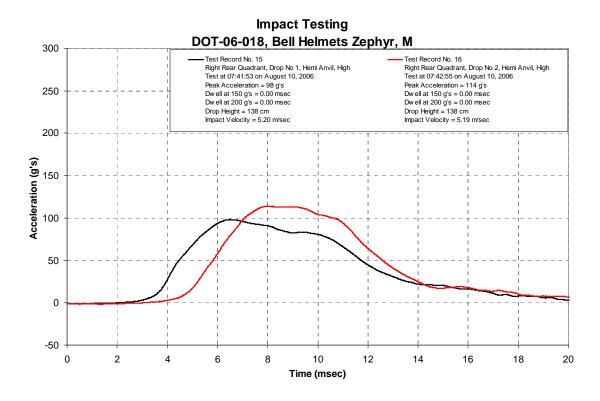


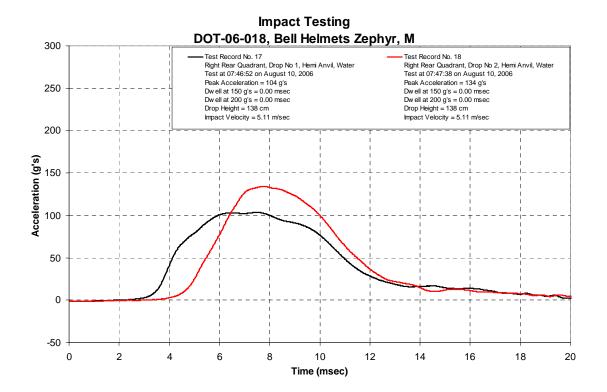


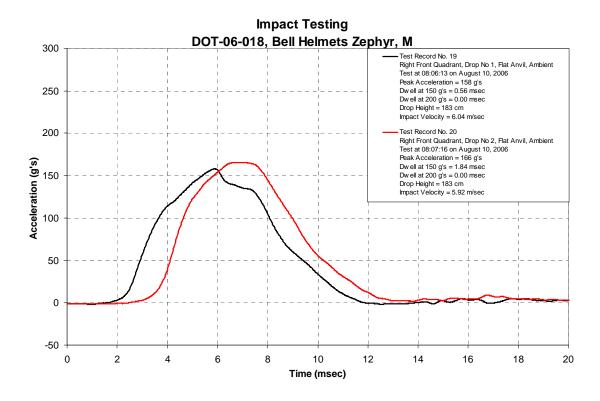


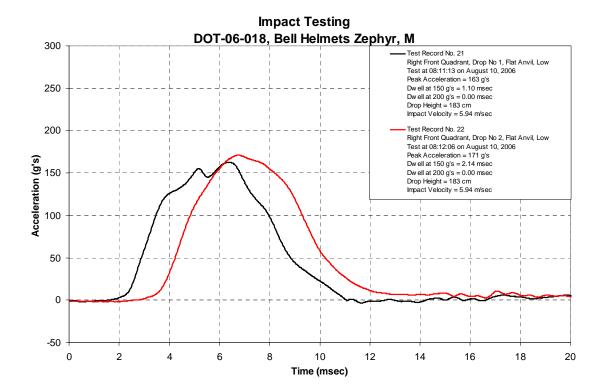


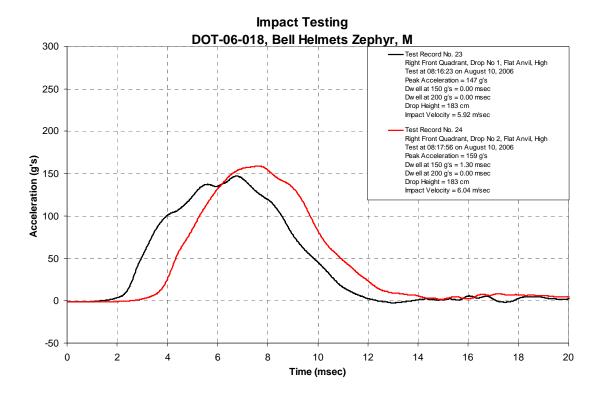


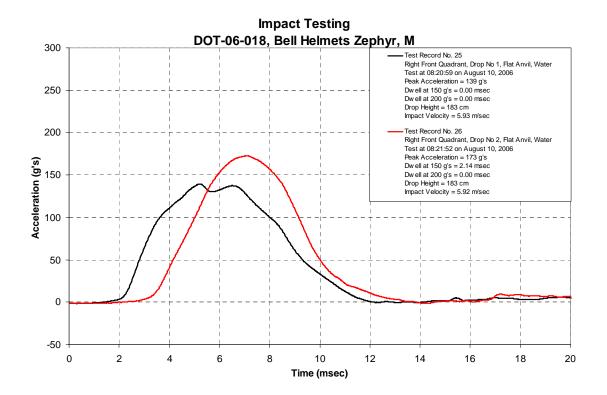


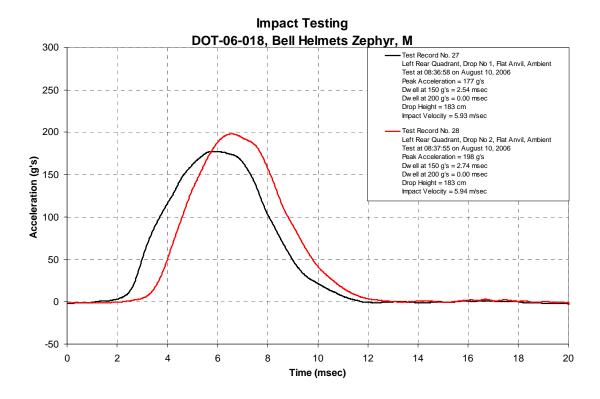


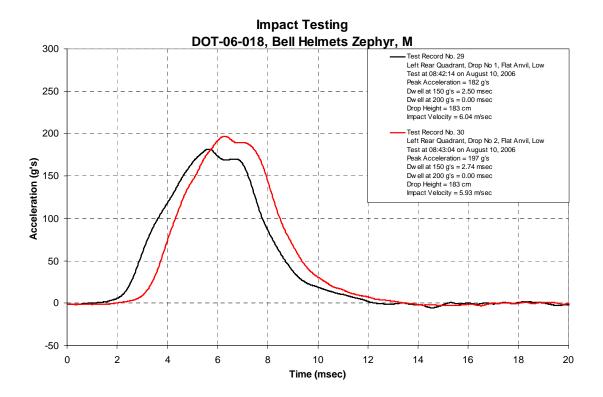


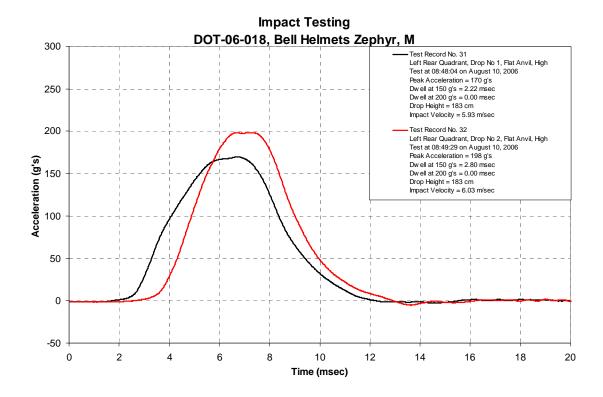


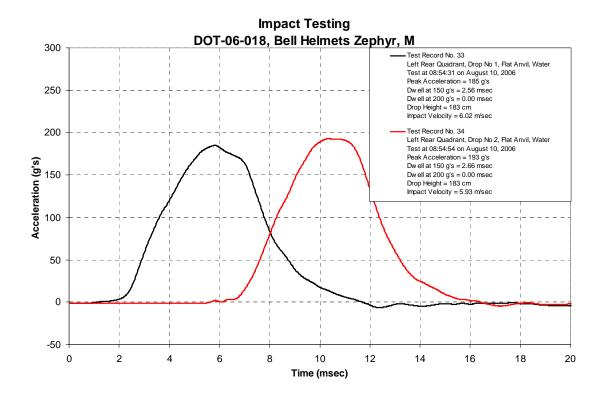


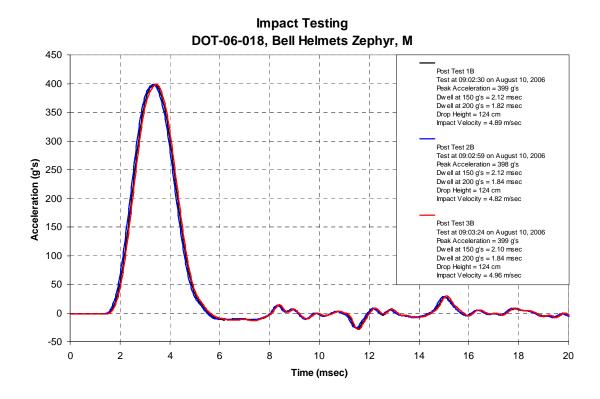




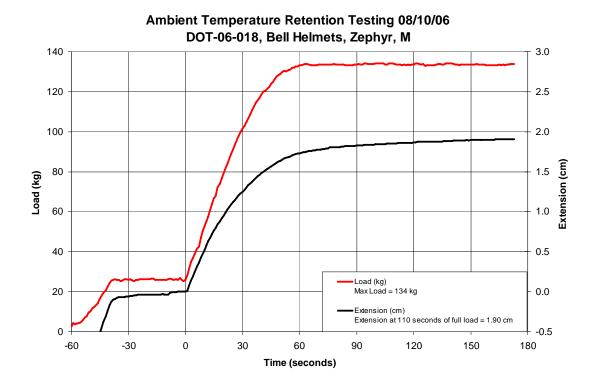


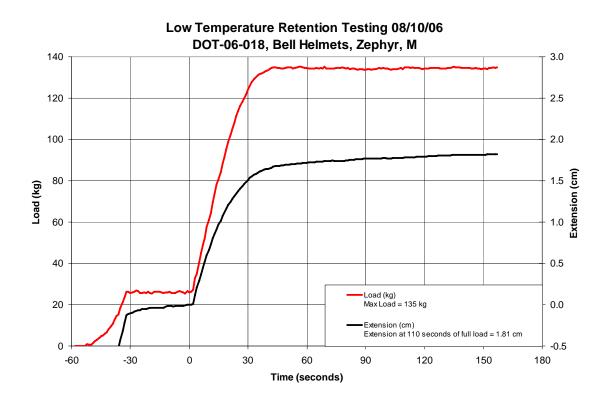


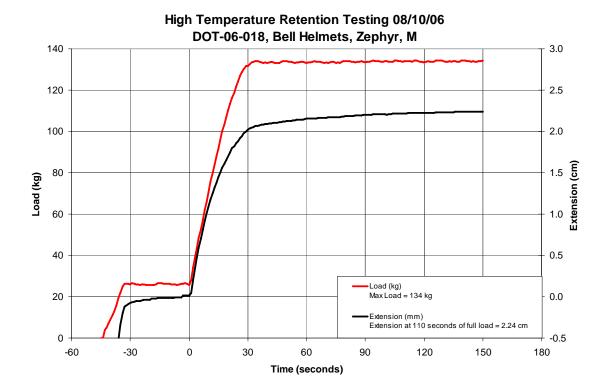


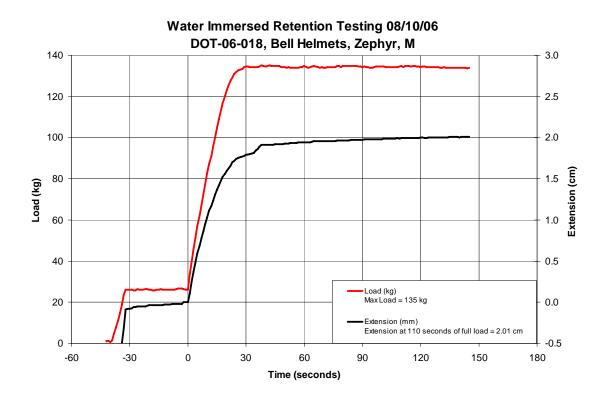


3 RETENTION TIME HISTORIES









SECTION 4 TEST FAILURE DETAILS

None

APPENDIX A INTERPRETATIONS OR DEVIATIONS FROM FMVSS NO. 218

All testing was performed in accordance with the requirements of FMVSS NO. 218.

APPENDIX B EQUIPMENT LIST AND CALIBRATION INFORMATION

Table 1 - Instrumentation List for SwRI Protective Headgear Testing

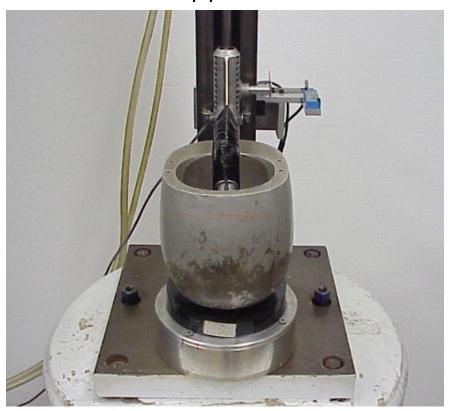
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	MANUFACTURER AND MODEL	SERIAL NO	ACCURACY	DATE OF LAST CALIB.	DATE OF NEXT CALIB.	
1	Humidity and Temperature Input Module	Omega / OM5-II-4-20	9213- 150149-08	System Software Validation Procedure	11/02/00	NA	
	Filter	Frequency Devices, Inc. / 5BAF- LPBU4 4 Pole Butterworth 1.75 KHz	None				
	Data Acquisition Card	National Instruments PCIMIO-16E-4	None				
	Data Acquisition Software	National Instruments / Labview for Windows	Ver 4.1				
	Data Acquisition Computer	Dell Computer Dim. XPS M166s	2170089				
2	Humidity and Temperature Transmitter	Omega / HX41	0599-6004	Manufacturer's Specification and	03/28/06	03/28/07	
	Isolated Voltage Output	ed Voltage Output Burr Brown / PCI-5B41-02 None System Softwar Validation Proced	System Software Validation Procedure				
3	Thermocouple Wire and Thermocouple Input Module	Omega / OM5-LTC-J2-C	21266 21261 21253	Thermocouple Cal Procedure	07/04/06	07/04/07	
4	Optical Velocity Transducer	SwRI / 1	1	Velocity Gate Cal Procedure	07/04/06	07/04/07	
5	Test Accelerometer	Endevco / 2262-1000	NL05	Accelerometer Cal	07/04/06	07/04/07	
	Strain Gage Conditioner	Measurement Group Inc. / 2120A	102130	Procedure			
	Strain Gage Power Supply	Measurements Group Inc. / 2110A	102034				
	Filter Frequency Devices, Inc. / 5BAF- Nor LPBU4 4 Pole Butterworth 1.75 KHz	None					
6	Load Cell	Western / 51	830-7X	Load Cell Cal	07/04/06	07/04/07	
	Strain Gage Conditioner	Measurement Group Inc. / 2120A	102130	Procedure			
	Strain Gage Power Supply	Measurements Group Inc. / 2110A	102034				
	Isolated Voltage Output	Burr Brown / PCI-5B41-02	None				
7	Potentiometer	Humphrey / RP14-0601-1		Potentiometer Cal	07/04/06	07/04/07	
	Isolated Voltage Output	Burr Brown / PCI-5B41-02	None	Procedure			
8	Scale	Ohaus Scale Corp / 20 Kg / 45 lb	SwRI 5485	Manufacturer's Specification	03/17/06	10/17/06	

Table 2 - Test Apparatus List for SwRI Protective Headgear Testing Requiring
One Time Dimensions Checks or No Calibration

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	MANUFACTURER	MODEL	SERIAL NO.	ACCURACY	DATE OF DIMENSIONAL CHECK
1	DOT Headforms	Controlled Casting	Small, Medium, and Large	None	+0.31 inches	6/89
2	Monorail Drop Test System	SwRI	1	1	TP-218-04	1/80
3	Drop Assembly	SwRI	Small, Medium, and Large	None	TP-218-04	6/89
4	Modular Elastomeric Programmer (MEP)	U.S Testing	None	None	N/A	N/A
5	Penetration Test System	SwRI	1	1	TP-218-04	1/80
6	Penetration Striker	SwRI	1	1	TP-218-04	1/80
7	Retention Test System	SwRI	1	1	TP-218-04	1/80
8	Chin Strap Fixture	SwRI	1	1	TP-218-04	1/80
9	Static Weights (Steel)	SwRI	1	1	<u>+</u> 0.1 lbs.	2/94
10	Hydraulic Cylinder	Enerpac	RD46	1	N/A	N/A
11	Hydraulic Pump	Delta Power Hydraulic Company	B2	NA	N/A	N/A
12	Environmental Conditioner	EDPAC	Mini Tech 90	None	N/A	N/A
13	Oven with Digitronic Control	Despatch Industries Inc.	LDB1-69	128710	N/A	N/A
14	Freezer with Omega Temperature Controller	Sears	9105010 CN100TC	S10204102 6 4011302	N/A	N/A
15	Peripheral Vision Template	SwRI	1	1	<u>+</u> 15 min	1/80
16	HPI Indicator	SwRI	Small, Medium, Large	None	NA	NA
17	Test Line Marking System	SwRI	1	1	TP-218-04	1/80

APPENDIX C PHOTOGRAPHS





SwRI Helmet Test Equipment Photo 1. Monorail Impact Tester with MEP Pad, DOT Headform, SwRI Drop Assembly, and Velocity Gate



SwRI Helmet Test Equipment Photo 2. Flat Anvil Impact Configuration



SwRI Helmet Test Equipment Photo 3. Hemispherical Anvil Impact Configuration



SwRI Helmet Test Equipment Photo 4.

Penetration Resistance Tester Configured for Crown Locations



SwRI Helmet Test Equipment Photo 5.

Penetration Resistance Tester Configured for Side, Front, and Rear Locations



SwRI Helmet Test Equipment Photo 6. Retention System Tester with Supported DOT Headform, Simulated Jaw, and Displacement Measuring System

Helmet Photographs



Helmet Photograph 1. Front View Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 2. Side View Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 3. Rear View Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 4. Top View Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 5. Interior View Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 6. Labeling Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 7. Labeling Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M



Helmet Photograph 8. Labeling Bell Helmets, Zephyr, M