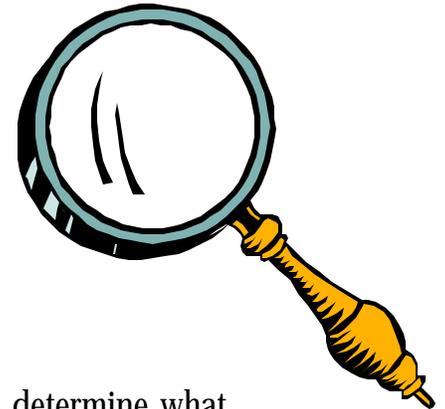


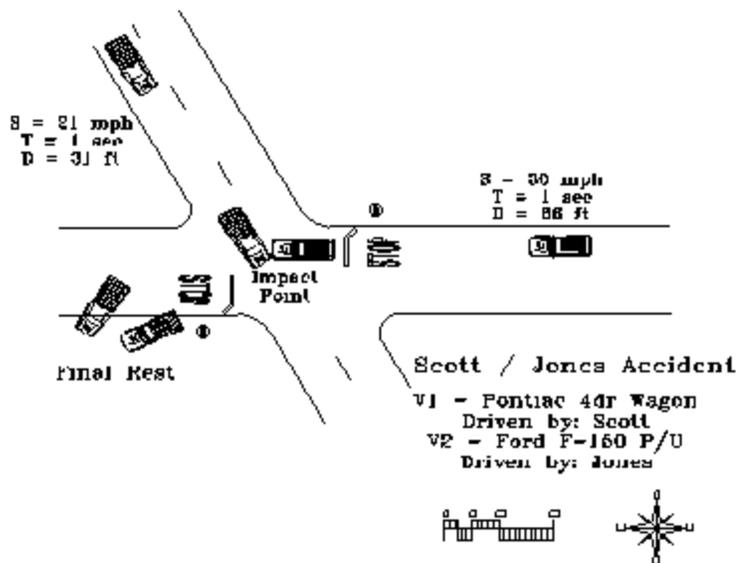
Speed/Time/Distance --- Diagrams Tell the Story



When the involved parties of an accident disagree on what happened or when there is a serious injury or death involved, it may be necessary to have an accident reconstruction performed.

assist in helping to determine what factors were involved in causing the accident.

The accident reconstruction needs to be done by someone who has specific training and expertise in investigating and reconstructing traffic accidents. This reconstructionist also needs to have experience in testifying as an expert witness in court.



This diagram can also be used in court if the need should arise.

As seen on the diagram, a Speed/Time/Distance scale diagram can be a very powerful tool as a courtroom exhibit. This exhibit will not only be used to effectively

communicate the accident reconstructionist's opinion as to what occurred, but will also be taken back into the juror's room during deliberation as a constant reminder of what happened to cause the accident.

by Todd Hutchison

The accident reconstruction will typically include calculating the speeds of the vehicles and determining their positions at various points, before, during and after the collision. A scale diagram will be made which will

Your Property Damage Claims

Requirements of the 1997 Standard Building Code, the 1994 National Fire Code and the North Carolina Handicapped Code, which have been adopted by the State of Tennessee can be very significant when evaluating property damage claims and VCE, Inc. investigators routinely interrupt and apply these to fire, electrical, personal injury claims at facilities, plumbing, and mechanical problems.

Call us at VCE and we will be happy to discuss your specific problem and see if there are ways we can help.

In addition, VCE, Inc. "Roofing Specialist" Carl Hudson applies the latest code requirements including the latest Tennessee Code Annotated, Section (62) which deals with plans and specifications for many building or construction preparation requirements. Many of the roofs which he

examines annually are not in compliance with applicable codes and have not been adequately scrutinized in this regard. In many such cases, insurance companies are called upon to pay for damages which would not have occurred if code compliance existed.

One example includes an owner filing a claim for a complete new roof when wind



blew off some of the roofing of 30,000 square foot building. The investigation revealed the following violations:

1. The roofing blown off was a third roof. Only two roofs are allowed.
2. The roofing contract was not with a licensed general contractor, although it was in excess of \$25,000.
3. No building permit was obtained.
4. There were no plans and specifications by a registered architect or engineer as required.
5. Roofing was not installed in accordance with the Building Code.

by Carl Hudson



Did You Know???

VCE, Inc. has an automated filing system of all past claims and cases. This information is often useful in stopping illegitimate claims.

Earl Hutchison was recently contacted regarding an investigation of a property he inspected 17 years earlier because the homeowner was making a claim of damages from an allegedly different cause (ground water vs. blasting). Photographs and the report from this investigation 17 years earlier, allowed our client to successfully dispose of the current claim.

VCE, Inc. does Unusual Investigations

VCE, Inc.
expertise is
available for both
casualty and
property claim
evaluations.

Do you have an
unusual claim
such as some we
have previously
successfully
handled for
clients?

*Chiropractor's Inversion Table
Personal Injury*

Give us a call at
615/781-3844 or 1-800-747-3844
and let us assist you with your next claim

Quote of the Month

"In the midst of problems, stop and
listen for God's voice."

VCE, Inc. Areas of Forensic Expertise



Earl C. Hutchison, P.E. - Forensic Engineer

William I. Price, P.E. - Blasting Damage

Dr. Dale A. Wilson, Ph.D., P.E. - Metallurgy

**Todd O. Hutchison - ACTAR Accredited
Traffic Accident Reconstructionist**

Joe Gallagher - Truck Specialist

William H. Greene, P.E. - Sign Specialist

William E. DeWitt, P.E. - Electrical Engineer

James B. Carson, P.E. - Electrical Engineer

**Dewey Griffin - Electrical Engineer
"Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator"**

Carl Hudson - Roof Specialist

Herb Stewart - Product Specialist

Clarence E. Bennett, P.E. - Civil Engineer

Test Your Accident Reconstruction Skills

What factor is used to convert MPH to FPS
(feet per second)?

Where does this factor come from?

(call us for the answer if you can't wait until the next newsletter)



Established Professional Innovative Flexible

VCE, Inc. began operations in 1975, and our key employees now have 200 plus years of experience. All of our technical services are enhanced by this collection of experience.

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