

## BOOK REVIEW

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### Review of: *Investigation and Interpretation of Black Box Data in Automobiles*

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**ABSTRACT:** Rosenbluth W. Investigation and interpretation of black box data in automobiles. ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA, 2001, 162 pp.

A good foundation technical reference with emphasis on vehicle electronic systems and data. Vehicle electronic systems frequently retain historical data which may be relevant in collision analysis. This book provides a foundation for investigators who need to retrieve and analyze post impact vehicle information.

Foundation physics provide a basis to permit evaluation of how vehicles behave on highways and how vehicles behave during impact. Contemporary electronic data systems on board the vehicle include Supplemental Restraint Systems (SRS), engine operation computers, powertrain operation computers, stability control computers, and Antilock Brake System (ABS) devices. The book addresses basic to advanced mainstream automotive electronic tech-

nology. Investigators will find the book a good reference to assess potential information which may be in a vehicle and methods by which data can be retrieved from a vehicle. This book specifically identifies information which is known to exist in certain automotive systems and extraction methods required to retrieve the data.

Selected examples provide a basis illustrating how data can be extracted and how data interpretation can help to provide or support collision analysis and post event investigation.

This book is not the easiest document to read and comprehend. A great deal of information has been integrated into the document. At a minimum it represents a worthy reference. However, if the reader truly understands and can implement what is covered in the document, they will be sought after to provide technical expertise regarding the many aspects of contemporary vehicle technology and collision analysis.

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