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DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION

01 JAN -9 PM 1:03

Ex Parte Meeting

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Docket NHTSA-2000-8572 - 2

On January 3, 2001, NHTSA met with representatives of Johnson Controls, Inc (JCI) concerning the prospective rulemaking on tire pressure monitoring systems required by the recently-enacted Transportation Recall Enhancement Accountability and Documentation (TREAD) Act.

NHTSA was represented by Dion Casey, Joe Scott, George Soodoo, Nancy Bell, Jim Simons, Steve Pierce, Larry Blincoe, Jonathan Walker, Chris Lash, and Art Carter. JCI was represented by Ted Jankowski, Steve Furr, Bill Kohler, Susan Sunday, and Jeff Telman. In addition, JCI was represented by outside legal counselors Thomas M. Barba and David H. Coburn of the law firm Steptoe & Johnson, LLP.

JCI representatives gave a slide presentation on JCI radio frequency tire pressure monitoring systems, stressing the benefits of such systems. JCI representatives asked what NHTSA was thinking of requiring in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

NHTSA representatives stated that the agency is considering requiring a performance-based standard that would, at a minimum, alert the driver, via a dashboard lamp, when any one tire's pressure fell below the manufacturer's recommended tire pressure by 10 to 25 percent. NHTSA representatives also stated that, at this time, the agency is considering only issues associated with underinflation, not issues associated with overinflation.