



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Thursday, August 16 has a comment by a Department official on auto gas tank safety.

The Department of Transportation took action today to reduce deaths and injuries due to fuel spillage resulting from auto crashes. Newly appointed head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Dr. James Gregory commented on the new safety standard:

"Fires in traffic accidents account for between 2,000 and 3,500 fatalities each year. We must reduce this alarming figure by requiring safer motor vehicle fuel systems. Passenger cars built after September, 1975, must only lose one ounce of fuel per minute in a static roll-over test following a 30 mile per hour frontal crash into a barrier. Heavier multi-purpose vehicles, trucks and buses must meet the requirement by September, 1976. We have also proposed that vehicles pass more stringent tests by 1977."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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