Pimp your Trolley serv



SSERC's physics activity on crash testing and crumple zones has attracted attention from the Times Educational Supplement [1], the Institute of Physics (IoP) and Road Safety Scotland. Now schools throughout the country can try trolley pimping for themselves. Brian Redman [2], IoP Teacher Network Coordinator for the South of Scotland has bought a kit to lend to schools in the Borders and Dumfries and Galloway. Kate Wheaton [3] of Road Safety Scotland has worked with SSERC to showcase Pimp My trolley to Road Safety Officers.

The Road Safety Officers felt that the experiments were a good way of engaging pupils in investigating and talking about safety on the roads. As a result, their organisation has bought a further two sets of apparatus to lend to Scottish Schools. The kits consist of a wireless accelerometer, Bluetooth dongle, adapter plate for mounting the accelerometer on a trolley, laptop running all necessary software and all work cards and teachers' guides. The work cards and teachers' guides are based on the CPD material devised by SSERC and are available at www.science3-18.org [4].

Though designed for a proposed CfE outcome, Pimp My Trolley is also relevant to the Standard Grade Physics Transport section and Intermediate 2 and Higher dynamics. Teachers who would like to borrow the equipment should contact Brian or Kate at the addresses below, or email Gregor Steele at SSERC [5] for more information.

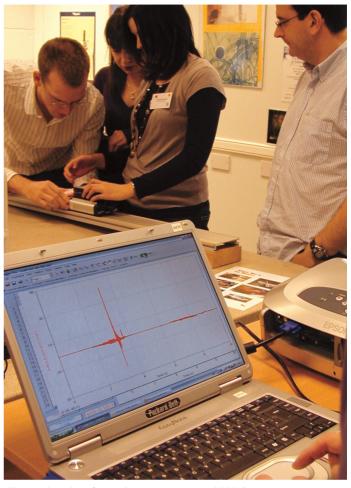


Figure 1 – Crash testing at a recent SSERC course

References

[1] http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storycode=6001956

[2] Email: bired10@aol.com

[3] Email: Kate.Wheaton@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, Telephone: 0131 472 9204

[4] http://www.science3-18.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=765: pimp-my-trolley&catid=325:physics&Itemid=554

[5] Email: gregor@sserc.org.uk, Telephone 01383 626070



Figure 2 – A regional slant on trolley pimping

