

ROPS Attribute Identification by Channel Intermediary

Supporting Statement Part B

Request for Office of Management and Budget Review and Approval
for Federally Sponsored Data Collection

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Section B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

1. Respondent Universe and Data Collection Methods

The respondent universe consists of approximately 520 tractor-parts-dealerships in four States- (New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Pennsylvania) that have elected membership in the Northeast Equipment Dealers' Association (NEDA), a trade group serving the tractor-parts industry. This is a census of all tractor parts dealers within four named States. No stratification, sampling, estimation, or power calculations, will be done.

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Data collection will occur by means of a survey (Appendix C, C1) that is sent to all member organizations of NEDA in these four States. Survey methodology uses the maximum-difference scaling procedure to sequentially rank responses, using a forced-choice procedure.

Respondents will be solicited by letter with the assistance of NYCAMH contractors who have successfully performed similar tasks for NIOSH in the past. In general, NEDA will provide a mailing list to NYCAMH and NIOSH of contact representatives for NEDA establishments in New York State, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and Vermont. The survey will be administered electronically to participants in English. Upon login to a password-controlled website, the respondents will be presented with an electronic survey. Respondents will read the individual screens and record their answers. Upon completion, the completed survey will be automatically forwarded to the CDC-approved server.

All copies of the responses to the data collection instruments will be kept by the NIOSH research team on a secured, password-protected computer. Only the investigators will have access to the data.

The data will be in the form of responses to questions in three general areas. First, the survey will ask general questions about role, prior beliefs, knowledge and attitudes towards

ROPS. Second, the survey will collect demographic information on the tractor parts dealer's customer base. Finally, the survey will ask the tractor parts dealers' preferences for items reflecting attributes and levels of attributes of ROPS or the ROPS provisioning experience.

3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal with Nonresponse

Given the unique characteristics of the target audience, the general credibility of the sponsoring organizations (NYCAMH and NIOSH) and the focused nature of the survey, it is anticipated that a high response rate of over 80% will be achieved. In addition to the survey length being tailored to maximize response rates, initial contact and solicitation letters (Appendix D1, E) and follow-up letters will be used in order to increase the response rate (Appendix F).

NYCAMH will also follow procedures designed to maximize response (Dillman Method), and has experience in this methodology. Based on previous experience of the research team it is anticipated approximately 85-90% of the target respondents will agree to participate in this study, and of those that agree to participate, virtually all will complete the entire interview. No follow up is required to this data collection, so no special efforts are needed to insure tracking and future participation of participants.

4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

The questionnaire was piloted with a small representative sample (n=9) of the proposed target audience in a face-to-face manner at venues designated by NYCAMH, which are understood to represent State fairs attended by NEDA representatives. This review was to insure that the items were understood as intended by the researchers, that common usage was followed, that no unnecessarily redundant items were retained, and that the interview could be administered within a reasonable period that represents the optimal time period for survey completion (5 minutes). NEDA representatives were also considered to have expert knowledge,

such that comments were to be considered as substantive, requiring further consideration by persons with expert knowledge of ROPS issues. While the phrasing of the questions was determined by the PI, the items to be ranked were derived from insights provided by focus-group and similar qualitative research, from subject matter experts and from review of the literature and web-based forums addressing issues of importance for end users.

5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and Individuals Collecting and/or Analyzing Data

The following individuals have been consulted regarding statistical aspects, data collection, and/or data analysis:

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