Annex:

Detailed discussion of the VDA position on the proposal for draft amendments to UN-ECE R94



Informal Group "List of Issues"

- 1. Accident analysis changing vehicle fleet
- 2. Accident analysis thorax injury in frontal impacts
- 3. Harmonisation of frontal impact procedures
- 4. Test severity required for a regulation test
- 5. Test severity of PDB test
- 6. Measurement of EES of PDB test
- 7. Assessment of occupant restraint system with the PDB test

Additional points:

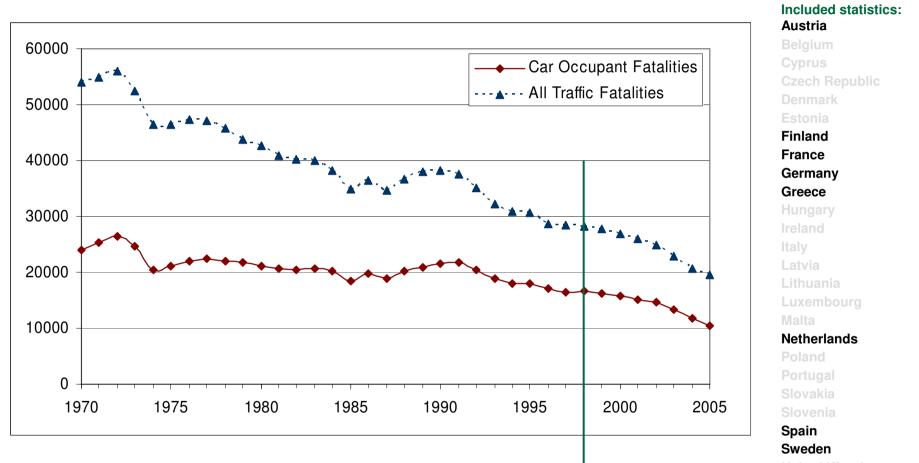
- 8. Testing with the current PDB design
- 9. Cost/Benefit
- **10. Design of future vehicles**



Issue 1:

"Is an accident analysis needed to update information on changing vehicle fleet?"

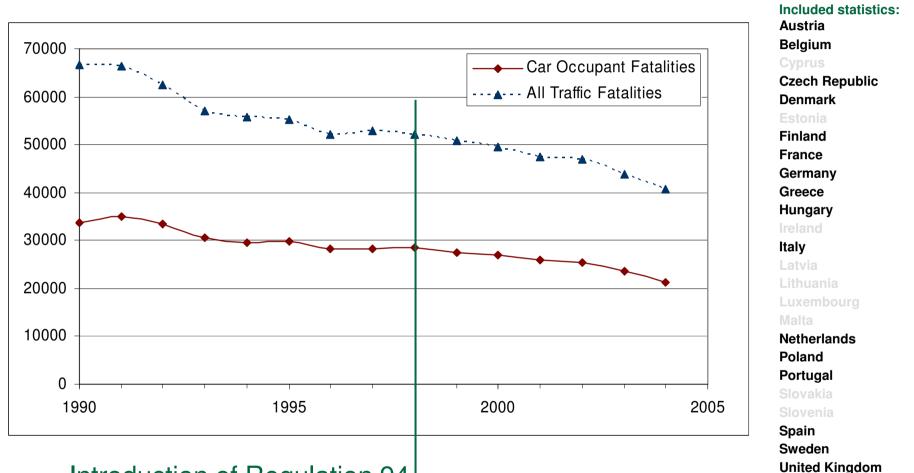




Introduction of Regulation 94

Combined European accident statistics show a clear decrease in car occupant fatalities correlating with the introduction of the current test procedure. There is no evidence that this trend will change. 52.5 % (of EU-25 Population) Verband der Automobilindustrie

VDA



Introduction of Regulation 94¹

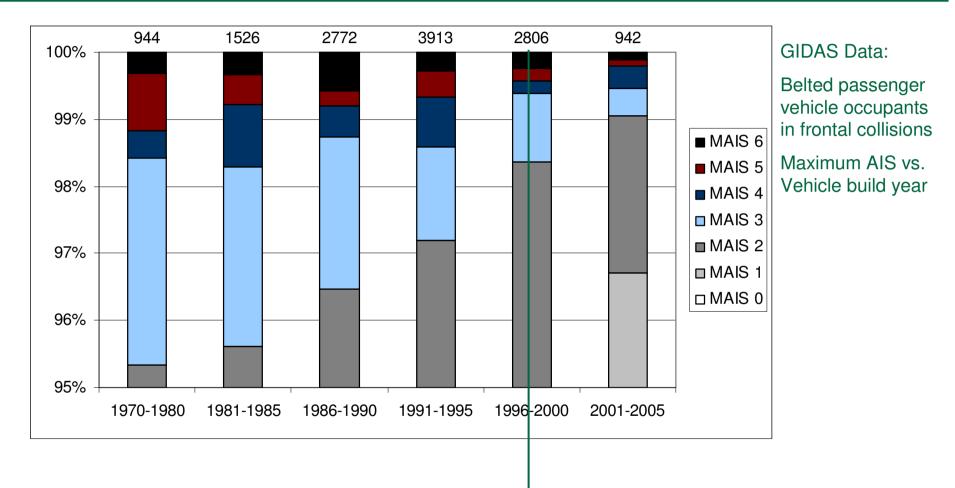
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VDA

Verband der Automobilindustrie

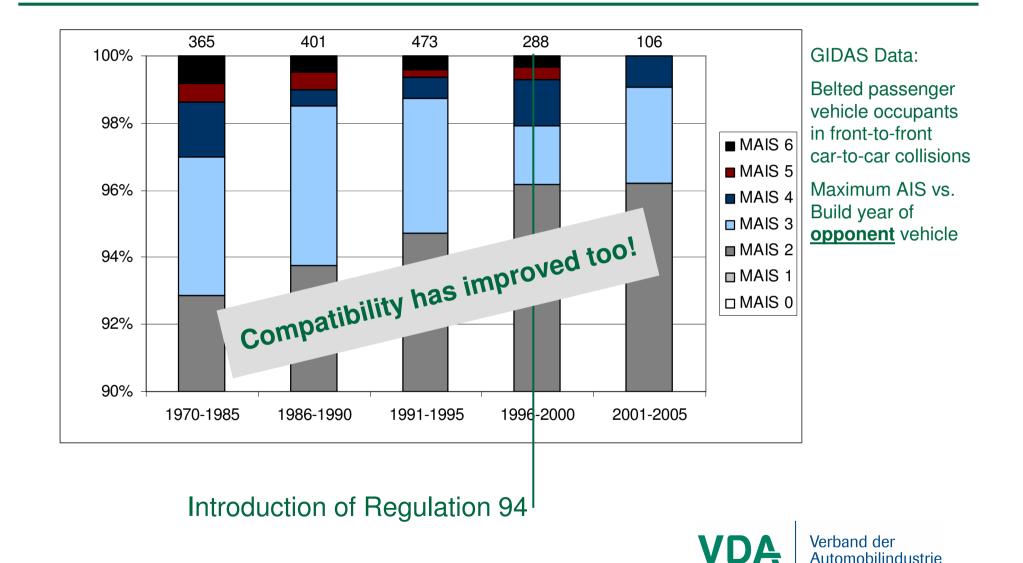
(of EU-25 Population)

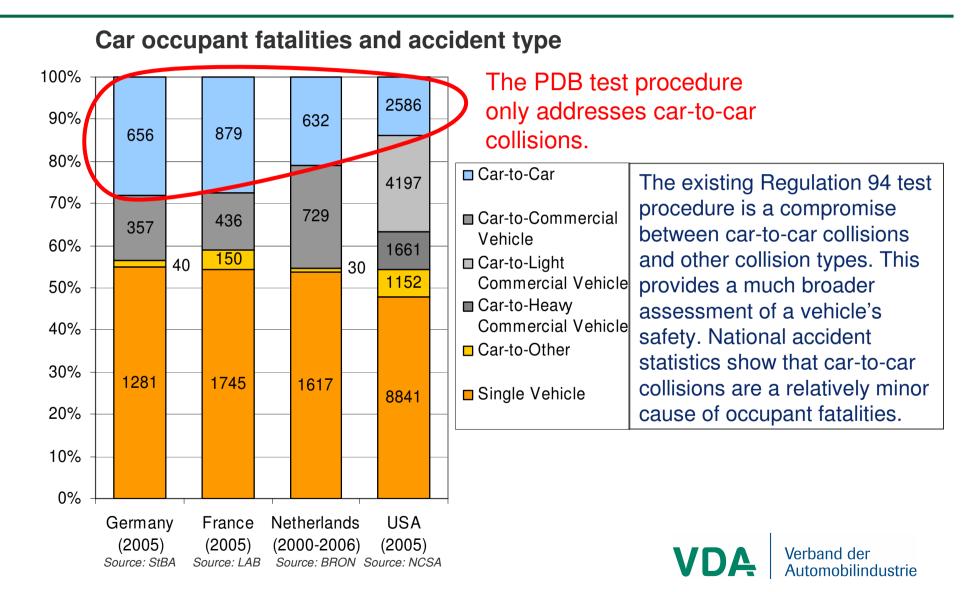
95.6 %



Introduction of Regulation 94¹

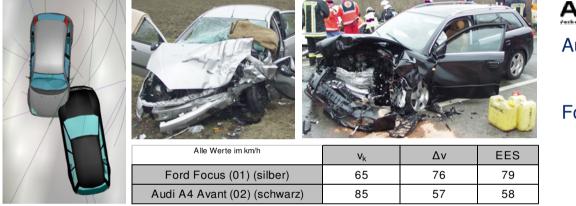






Crash testing with the ECE-R94 barrier has lead to a good balance between compartment stiffness and deceleration pulse in vehicle front end design

Real Accident





Audi: Driver MAIS 2, Rear seated child MAIS 1 Ford: Driver MAIS 3, Passenger MAIS 2

Crash test Car-Truck



Audi A3: 65 km/h vs. Scania



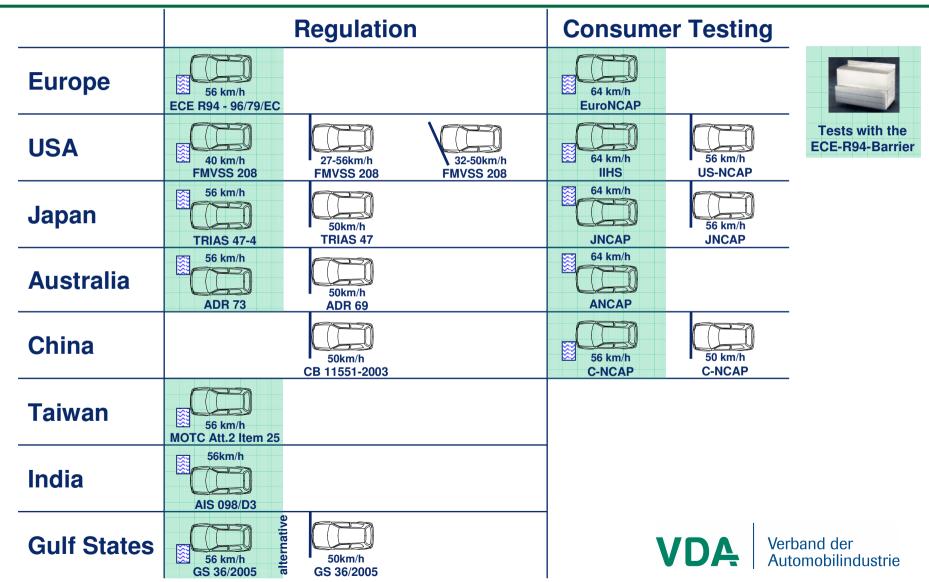
Audi A3: stable compartment, low occupant loading

VDA Verba

Issue 3: "Assess potential for harmonisation of frontal impact procedure"



Global harmonisation



Issue 5:

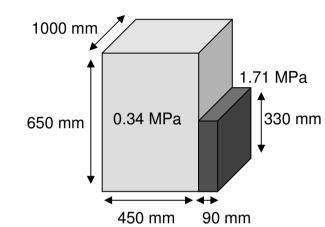
"Validate that the PDB test guarantees a minimum EES test severity for all vehicles"

Issue 7:

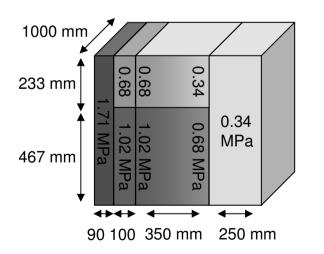
"Validate that the PDB provides the required test requirements for interior restraints"



Self-protection and energy absorption in the PDB



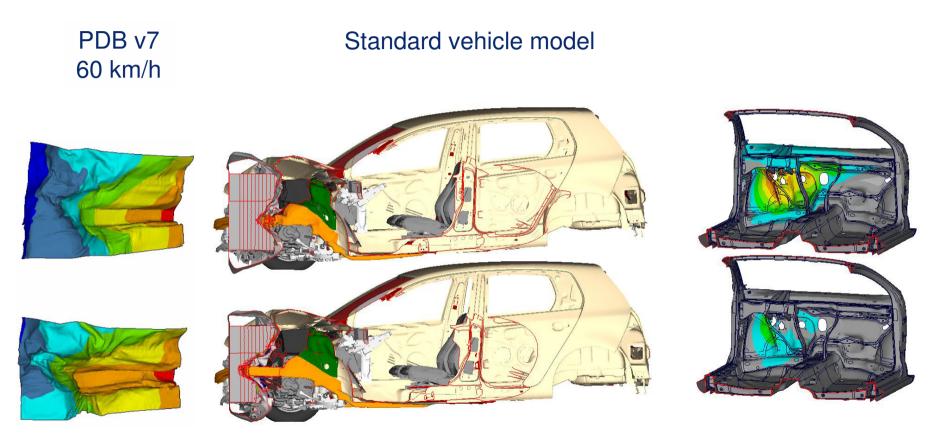
ECE-R94 Barrier:	
Total energy available:	150 kJ
Energy available with 560 mm overlap (excluding "bumper" element):	56 kJ
At 56 km/h test speed equal to kinetic energy of car with mass:	460 kg



PDB:

Total energy available:	411 kJ
Energy available with 700 mm overlap (excluding rear layer):	212 kJ
At 60 km/h test speed equal to kinetic energy of car with mass:	1530 kg

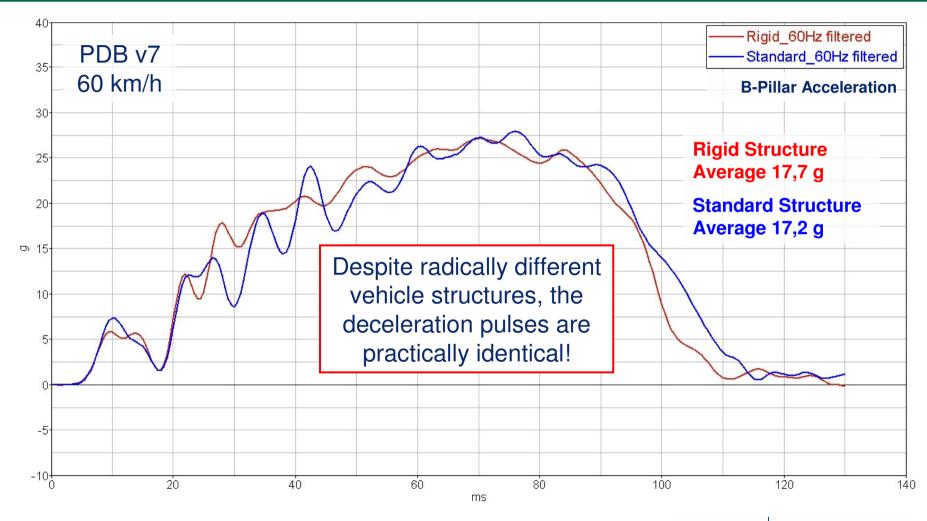




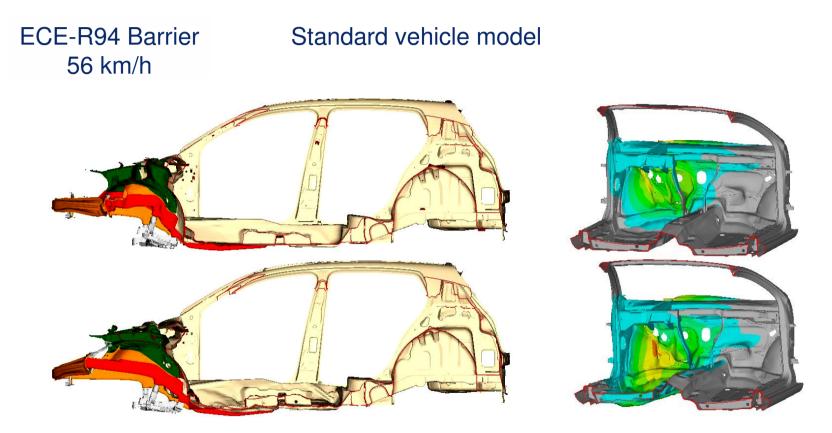
Time of max. intrusion

Rigid left longitudinal and shotgun





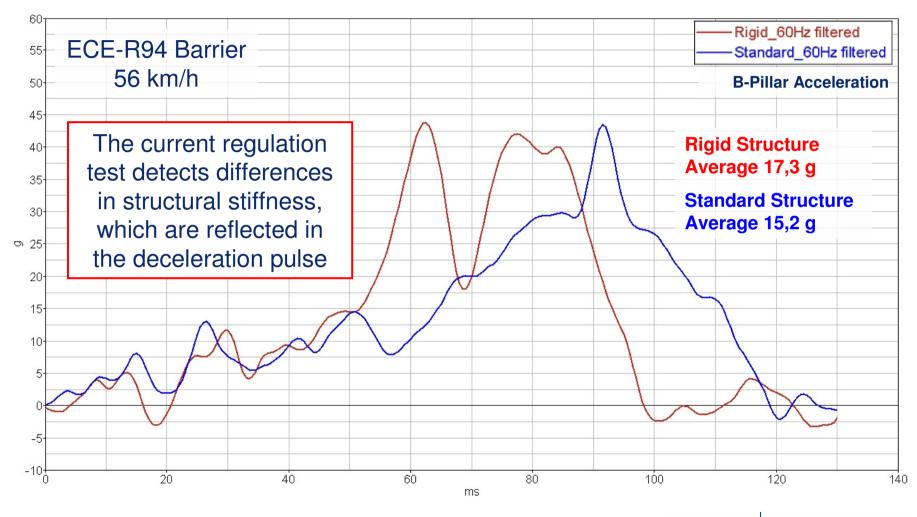




Time of max. intrusion

Rigid left longitudinal and shotgun





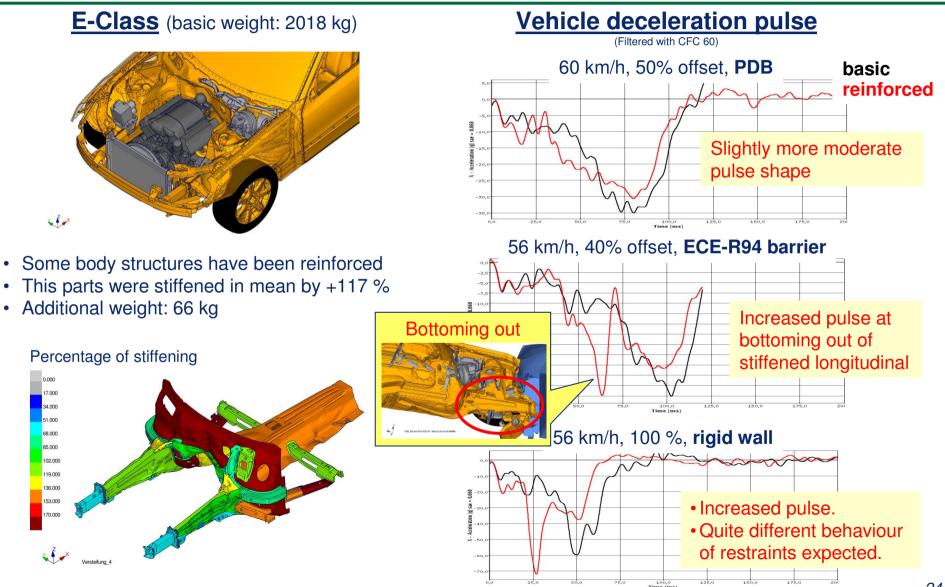


Conclusions:

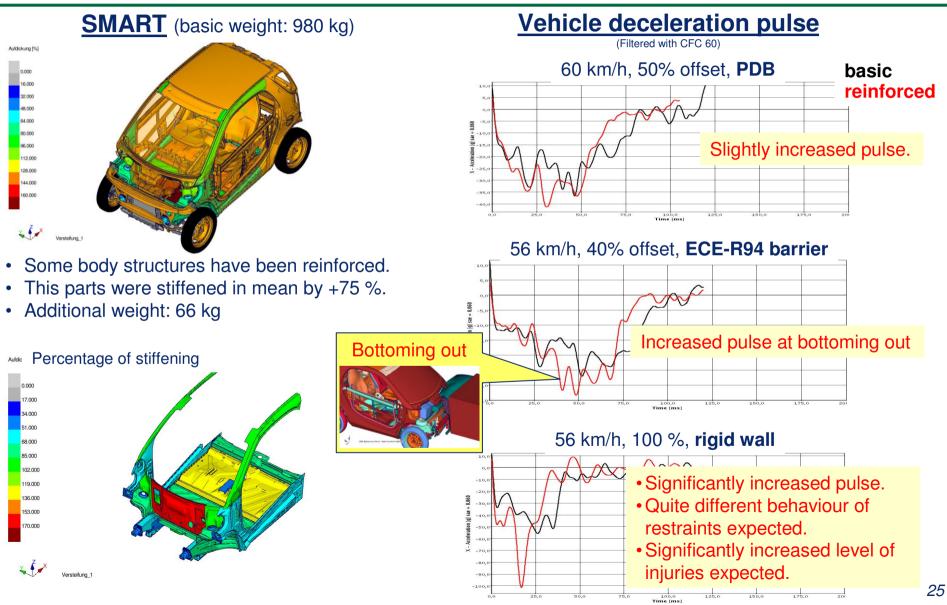
- The PDB test procedure does not punish aggressively stiff structures:
 - The barrier deforms to compensate for a lack of deformation travel in the vehicle front end
 - Compartment intrusions may be reduced
- The compartment accelerations that occur in a PDB test are based on the barrier stiffness, rather than the real stiffness of the vehicle front-end
- The ECE-R94 barrier punishes aggressively stiff structures because the barrier bottoms out and the vehicle must deform
- The compartment accelerations that occur with the ECE-R94 barrier reflect the design of the vehicle front-end and are more severe for the stiffened structure



Misuse of the PDB: Daimler simulations



Misuse of the PDB: Daimler simulations



Conclusions:

- The vehicle stiffness could be increased without significant change of crash severity assessed by the PDB test procedure.
- Even an opposite effect could be detected in the E-Class.
- The same reinforced vehicle exhibits an increased crash severity in the current ECE-R94 test and rigid wall test.
- Especially in the rigid wall test such a reinforced vehicle exhibits an insufficient safety level.



Misuse of the PDB – Audi simulations

Effects of front-end stiffness in vehicle to barrier tests:

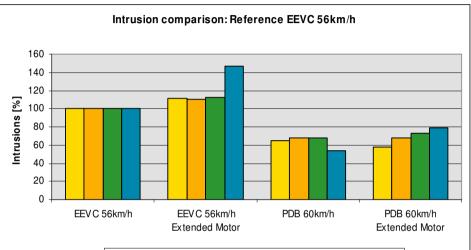
<u>Deformation in passenger compartment</u> In the current ECE-R94 barrier a stiffer front-end causes more deformation in the passenger compartment in comparison to the PDB-barrier

Crash Pulse

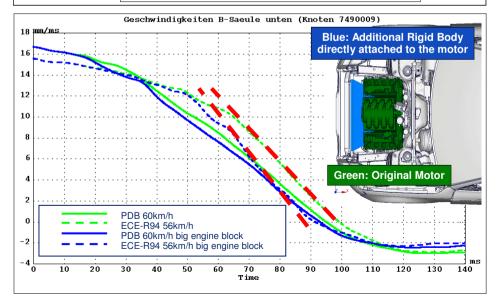
PDB: Engine block leads to small effect ECE-R94: Bigger engine block causes higher crash pulse

Summary and drawbacks of PDB test:

- Deceleration pulse und deformation are not influenced by the front-end package
 ⇒Opponent must absorb remaining energy
- PDB test procedure does not force vehicle front ends to be stiffer, but also fails to penalise designs where deformation length is removed from the crumple zone
- Designs optimised for the PDB test procedure will lead to lower safety in car-to-car and carto-rigid object collisions







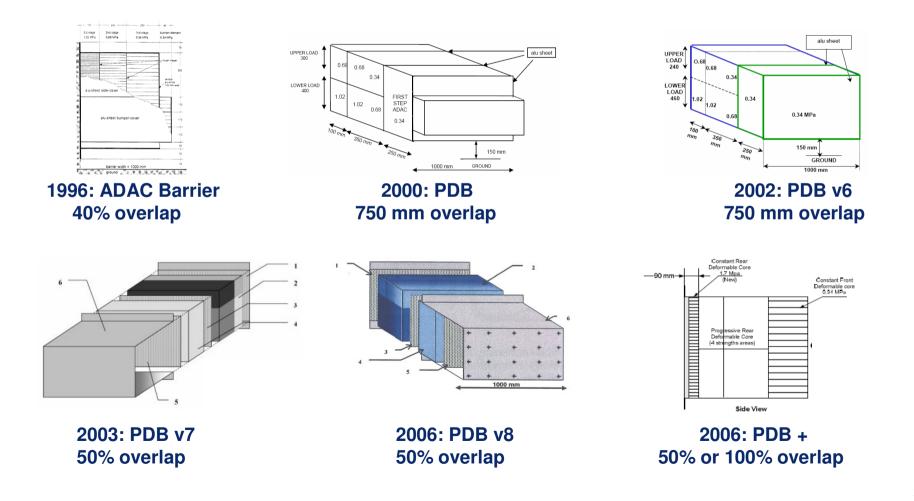
Issue 8:

Insufficient testing has been performed to validate the proposed barrier specification



What exactly is the Progressive Deformable Barrier?

The PDB is put forward as an accepted and well established barrier, but the new specifications described in the draft amendments are largely unknown and untested in Europe.



Why is the PDB the way it is?

The proposed amendments include several significant deviations from the existing test procedure:

•	Barrier stiffness profile	Current barrier 🗲 PDB
•	Test speed	56 km/h 🗲 60 km/h
•	Overlap	40% → 50%
•	Barrier ground clearance	200 mm 🗲 150 mm

The goals of the two procedures are, however, identical: to reproduce the behaviour of a particular real world collision:

- Car-to-Car
- 100 km/h closing speed
- 50% offset
- 0° impact angle

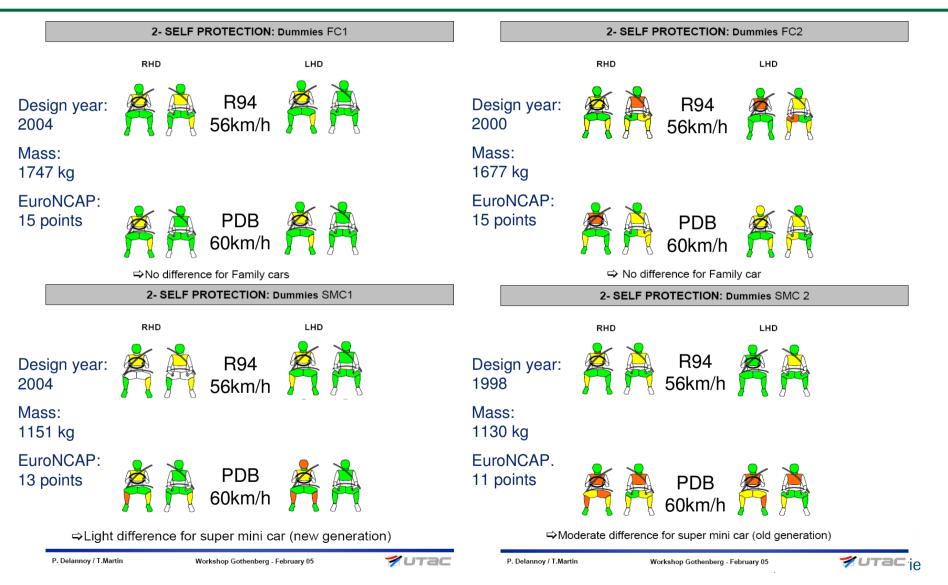
The current ECE-R94 barrier has been validated for these conditions but the PDB has not



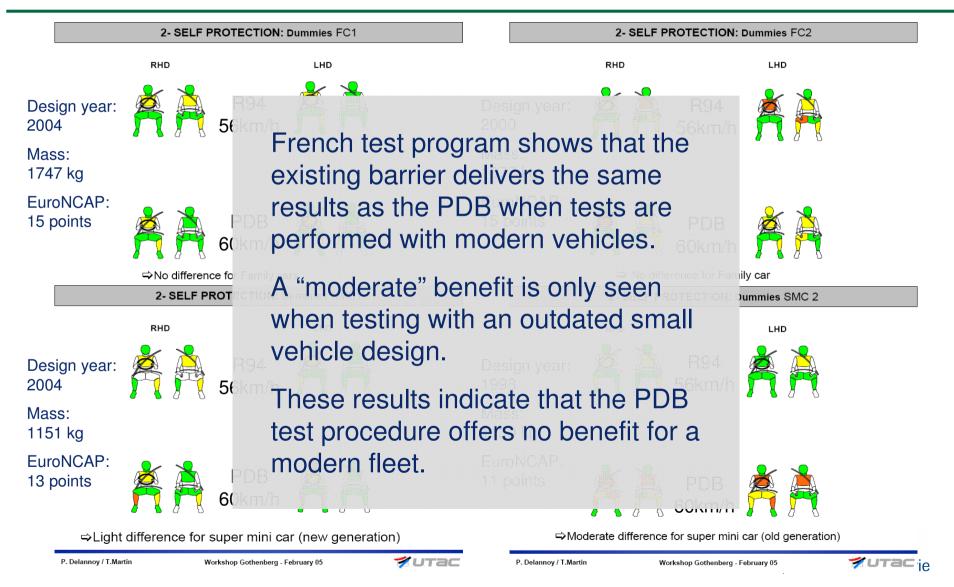
Issue 9: Cost/Benefit



What benefit can be derived from the proposed amendments?



What benefit can be derived from the proposed amendments?



Issue 10:

If the PDB is introduced, how should and how could the cars of the future be designed? How does this compare to the current situation and will it lead to a reduction in injuries and fatalities?



Conclusion:

The VDA does not oppose the improvement of regulatory requirements, but does not believe that the current proposals to amend ECE-R94 would improve safety in frontal impacts.

