

Maryland Connected and Automated Vehicles Working Group

Risk, Liability, and Insurance – What is the right approach?





# **Smart(ER)** Mobility

### **Issues Identified**

- Connected vs. Autonomous
- Use cases
- Level of automation
- Operational domain
- Fleet vs. Individual
- Product liability



#### Approach to Analysis Example

| 1 Liability and Mitigation Assessment Matrix |  |                         |                           |   |                        |  |   |  |                         |   |   |  |
|--|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| 2  |  |                         |                           |   |                        |  |   |  |                         |   |   |  |
| 3  | Category   | Landside or<br>Airside? | Mobility or<br>Operation? | Identified Use<br>Case  | Level of<br>Automation | Anticipated Operational<br>Characteristics   | Liability Considerations  | Liability Mitigation Opportunities   | Liability<br>Assessment | Insurance Considerations  | Potential Applicable<br>Jurisdictions                             |  |
| 8  | Goods<br>movement<br>(External to<br>airside<br>warehouse) | Airside and<br>Landside | Mobility                  | Autonomous<br>cargo and goods<br>movement<br>tractor trailer<br>(i.e. Amazon or<br>FedEx) | Levels 3-5             | Mapped route; potential<br>transponders at key<br>geographic locations;<br>critically restricted areas,<br>controlled/uncontrolled<br>areas, secured areas;<br>remote monitoring | *Workers on ground<br>*Anticipated low-speed<br>operations<br>*Aircraft moving to and from<br>gate, but minimal given<br>location of operations<br>*Ground equipment<br>*Close proximity to aircraft, but<br>owned by operator<br>*Aircraft engine<br>ingestion/exhaust plumes<br>*Vehicle size and weight<br>*Day vs. Night Operations<br>*Weather | *Verify wireless communications not<br>interfering with aircraft navigation<br>*Low-speed operations<br>*Minimize nearby fueling trucks<br>*Additional airside worker training<br>focused on interaction with<br>autonomous vehicles<br>*Safety operational verifications from<br>operator |                         | Given size of vehicles and<br>operational nature of airport,<br>including cost of equipment and<br>planes, higher insurance<br>requirements than human<br>operated vehicles recommended<br>for time being. However, this use<br>case warrants discussions with<br>operators since potential<br>damages would be to operator's<br>own equipment. There is still<br>liability for airport safety and<br>operations of other carriers, but<br>ability to limit geographic<br>footprint of routes may create<br>less liability. | TCAA, airport operations<br>and NAVCanada, air traffic<br>control |  |
| 9  |  |                         |                           |   |                        |  |   |  |                         |   |   |  |
|  | Airport<br>maintenance<br>operations<br>(after hours)      | Airside                 | Mobility                  | Autonomous<br>security and<br>inspection  | Levels 4-5             | Primarily fixed route with<br>lane markings and<br>geofencing; potential<br>transponders at key<br>geographic locations;   | *Workers on ground<br>*Anticipated low-speed<br>operations<br>*Potential rebalancing of<br>aircraft, but minimal given<br>location of operations  | *Low-speed operations<br>*Additional airside worker training<br>focused on interaction with<br>autonomous vehicles<br>*Safety operational verifications from   |                         | Consider higher insurance<br>requirements for initial testing<br>and operations which can be<br>lowered upon demonstration of<br>safe operation based on incident   | TCAA, airport operations  |  |

## Takeaways

- Like deployment, short-term has most grey areas
- Data sharing standard needed for crash investigations and determination of liability
- Application of immunities for DOTs and public agencies not certain
- Chance for new insurance products that share risk and promote innovation
- Industry wide education continues to be important opportunity



### Food for Thought

What makes CAVs different from an insurance perspective?

How does the integration of CAVs impact contractual relationships?

What pushback can be expected if more liability placed on companies seeking to deploy?

What level of risk are DOTs comfortable with? Is "none" reasonable?

How to approach and mitigate risks and liabilities that CAVs present?



#### **Resources:**

<u>20-4 Coordinating State</u>
<u>Policies, Laws and Regulations</u>
<u>for Automated Driving Systems</u>
<u>Across New England</u>

1ECOLOGY

VSelf

- <u>https://www.rand.org/topics/auto</u> nomous-vehicles.html
- <u>https://cdlresources.org/</u>



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