An Introduction to Zone Control
ABC’s of ZONE CONTROL

A = Alert Switch Turned On:
- See a change to your Path of Travel or Line of Sight

B = Before Acting:
- Check your other zones for options

C = Get the best:
- speed control
- lane position and communication
Zone Locations

Left Front

Front

Right Front

Left Rear

Rear

Right Rear
Maximize Lane Positions with Lane Use
Three Zone Conditions

1. **OPEN**
   Able to operate without a restriction to your line of sight or path of travel

2. **CLOSED**
   Travel is not available to you due to a restricted line of sight and/or path of travel

3. **CHANGING**
   Possibility of closure due to actions by others.
OPEN FRONT ZONES

• Must have four seconds of following time
• Must have 12 seconds line of sight distance
• Must have 12 seconds available path of travel

• AFFECTED BY:
  – Lights and traffic controls
  – Slower moving vehicles
  – Roadway
  – Visibility
OPEN SIDE ZONES

- Must see 8 seconds of empty space to the side
- A commitment from others

**AFFECTED BY:**
- Parked cars
- Physical structures and objects
- Pedestrians
- Visibility
OPEN REAR ZONES

• No one closer than 2 seconds
• Must have 12 seconds line of sight to the rear

• FACTORS AFFECTING REAR ZONES
  – Two seconds or less following time by vehicles to rear
  – Visibility
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1. Path of Travel Zone Changes

Examples:

- Vehicles
- Slowing to make a turn
- Ice
- Snow
- Water
- Vehicles stopping
- Pedestrians
- Animals
- Crossing
- Stopped Traffic
2. Line of Sight Zone Changes

A red traffic light is a closed front zone POT.

A motorcyclist to your right is a closed right zone POT.

A hill crest is a closed front zone LOS.

Oncoming traffic is a closed left zone POT.

A vehicle following too closely is a closed rear zone LOS-POT.
B = Before Acting

Check your other Zones

- Search 12-15 Sec Ahead
- Search to either side
- Check Blind Spots
- Check Rear Mirror
- Search to either side
- Check Blind Spots
C = Get the best

1. Speed Control

2. Lane Position

3. Communication
C = Get the best

1. Speed Control

★ Maintain Speed

★ Decelerate

★ Off Gas, Cover Brakes

★ Increase Speed

★ Apply Brakes
C = Get the best

2. Lane Position

[Diagram with lane positions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
C = Get the best

3. Communication

- Signal
  - 5 Sec.
- Daytime Headlights
- Adjust Speed
- Adjust Position
- Horn
Search Your Immediate Path of Travel
Safety Stop

Legal Stop

Staggered Stop
Your Target Area usually contains one or more of the following:

• Tee intersection
• Left/Right curve
• Hill crest
• Horizon