

Comment from Paul Newman

I drive a 2015 Honda Accord model that includes a camera embedded in the right side mirror assembly. At the push of a button or upon lifting the turn signal bar, I can see, on a medium size screen in the center of the dash, vehicles in the blind spot and/or vehicles, people, scooters approaching the right side of my vehicle. I believe a system such as this is superior to the legacy mirror systems on vehicles for the following reasons

- 1) Although my eyes are diverting slightly away from the activity in front of me, I can still see what's going on in front of my vehicle.
- 2) The screen is much bigger than the mirror itself and I can make out with greater clarity the objects to the right of me.
- 3) Using legacy right-hand mirrors, you often turn your head more than 90 degrees to see what's happening/approaching you. Many people do not have this flexibility as they grow older.
- 4) I find my brain can quickly determine whether there is a vehicle to the side or approaching me. In the old approach, you have to physically turn your head and often make a decision based on a rapid glance. The camera systems give you more information and time.
- 5) Honda placed the video screen at the center of the dash as part of an information center. I think it would be even more effective if it were directly in front or slightly to one side of the driver.
- 6) I bought this vehicle at age 57 and found it very easy to adapt to this technology. When friends ride with me, the comment how effective it is.
- 7) Although I only have the right side mirror, I think a left side camera would be just as easy to use.
- 8) Especially with today's highway driving and drivers who do not observe speed limits, when it is time to make a lane change, the camera gives me greater confidence about the amount of space/time I have and whether there are rapidly approaching vehicles.
- 9) Right side camera will also be more effective to avoid collisions with rapidly approaching scooters on side walks.
- 10) The ability to zoom would be valuable. Recognition technology that could calculate the approaching speed of a vehicle, scooter to the left or right would be valuable.
- 11) I could imagine a future where the output of the camera is projected onto the windshield as a heads up display; thus allowing even more awareness of activity in front and side of vehicle during a lane change / turn.
- 12) And if the cameras were recording the last 30-60 seconds of activity at all times, it could be helpful/hurtful in identifying the root cause of a traffic accident.

In conclusion, I've experienced this technology since February 2015. It has enabled me to operate my vehicle more confidently. It has helped me to avoid accidents. It has helped me to avoid a neck injury. I fully support the value-add cameras in side-mirrors can bring to the driving experience.