

Comment from Nick Boylan

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Mar 14, 2022

Hello! I'm a former on-the-road salesperson with 20 years of driving experience and north of 1 million miles. I've driven a number of different vehicles over the years.

I currently own, and have used, a vehicle with a camera-based visibility system for about a year now (2021 Bolt EV) wherein the rear view "mirror" has both a mirror mode and the ability to flip a switch and see significantly more area. Further, the vehicle has a 360 deg camera setup. I cannot express enough how much BETTER this setup is as compared to traditional mirrors, especially when navigating tricky areas of parking lots, high pedestrian areas, and other such spaces. You can see much, much more without visibility loss as compared to mirrors.

Further, consider lane changing and passing. Many cars, including my own, now have BLIS systems - which gives me a clear warning of someone in my blind spot and the adjacent lane. When I am lane changing or passing, and if the BLIS is NOT showing a vehicle I (nor anyone I know) don't just change lanes, I look over my shoulder and check the space. The mirror is insufficient because even mirrors have blind spots.

So long as the camera system is cleanable, offers at least as much visibility as the mirror, and is easy to use/see the output of then I don't see how camera-based systems aren't a major upgrade.