



The benefits of using simulation software for RTC (Road Traffic Collision) training when compared to the traditional hands-on approach.

Over the past eighteen months and with the challenges Covid has brought, we have seen a marked increase in on-line digital learning at Rescue-Sim (www.rescue-sim.com). We knew an on-line interactive training tool for Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) and vehicle extrication was important, but we never imagined how quickly organisations would need to adapt their training approach and adopt new tools to support their traditional hands-on training.

The simulation training at Rescue-Sim has not been designed to remove the need for traditional hands-on practical training, as this will always be needed. Simulation training for RTCs and Vehicle Extrication, has been designed to offer the option to use blended learning to complement traditional hands-on training sessions, by using different delivery styles to accommodate the needs of the learners and varying situations.

There are many benefits of using simulation training



Some of the major benefits of using simulation training compared to the traditional hands-on approach are:

Significantly Reduces Costs - no additional costs for repeat training, all new features and modules are included with initial purchase.

Once a user license has been purchased from Rescue-Sim there are no additional costs. A user can repeat training as many times as they require and take advantage of all new features and scenarios that are added in the future.

Simulation training enables training to be initially undertaken without the need of physical vehicles, allowing for mistakes, and exploring options in the classroom first. This then maximises the value of the traditional hands-on approach of using actual vehicles, and ultimately reduces costs.

Access To A Wide Range Of Vehicles – the simulator includes Electric Vehicles, HGVs, trains and other vehicles that are not easily accessible

Simulator training gives access to the latest vehicles, including many EV's (including vehicles being manufactured this year), HGV's and other unique vehicles, such as tractors and trains. Some of these vehicle types are currently not physically available for hands-on training (such as EV's and HGV's) and may not be for some time.

Training modules include information sheets, explaining where critical items are, how to make them safe, and videos of the actual vehicles, enabling users to be able to see where critical items are located, this is particularly useful for EV's, as there are very few available for hands-on training.



Training Without Constraints – no need to wait for set classes, good weather or be delayed due to operational or equipment challenges

By using simulator training you remove the need for reliance on the weather being favourable, the wait for a specific vehicle, operational commitments affecting the practical session or the training facility being available only at a specific time. Simulation training can be done in any weather, at any time of the day, in any location and to fit around all operational commitments (with the ability to pause a scenario midway through and come back to it if required).

Simulator training can be used to deliver training to stations remotely via MS Teams or Zoom, which can be instructor led from any location, removing the need to travel long distances. There is an instructor to student/team chat box where real-time dialogue can be used or replied to later, to support teams or individuals following a training session. As an instructor you can also keep a real time account of the individuals training. This allows the trainer to spot any trends in practice or pick up on any future training that needs to be delivered or programmed into the training planner.



Training Undertaken Anywhere – an internet connection and a browser allows training to be undertaken to large groups world-wide

Simulator training is very simple to set up requiring a few clicks on the computer. There is minimal equipment required for Rescue-Sim training and equipment doesn't need to be regularly upgraded or repurchased.

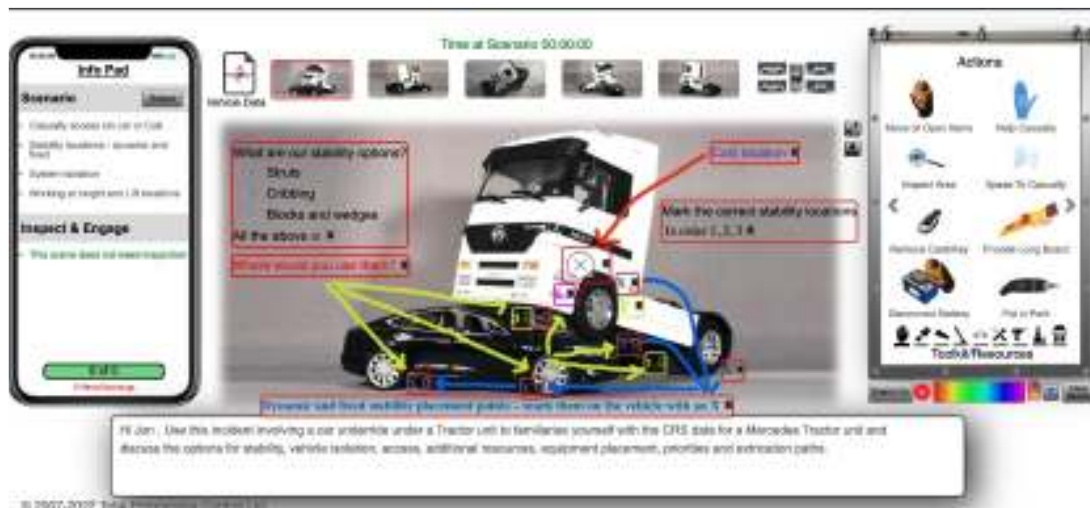
By using Rescue-Sim training it allows larger group training and multiple people from different stations to interact, collaborate and share ideas without the need to travel thus eliminating the issue of the need to get everyone to the same place at the same time. Services with a widespread crew can train easier as the training can be undertaken remotely and at multiple stations. Also, staff members that are remote working or at home can always log in and carry out training from the comfort of their home.

Multiple Scenarios – allows trainers to explore scenarios which would take hours to create

Simulator training allows Fire Services to set up various training scenarios instantly, with no major prior planning. Fire Services can adapt the scenarios to fit their training programme and policies, this saves time, as it requires very little set-up time and preparation.

There are incidents that can be a test of skills and bring up several learning points. It is not always possible to recreate all scenarios following incidents, but with simulation training and using Rescue-Sim you can recreate a simulation of the incident. This can then be used to discuss different operational tactics and systems of work, with the ability to reset the scenario as many times as you like. Rescue-Sim can also create bespoke scenarios to help you in these situations if required.

Additionally Rescue-Sim implements regular updates and adds new features as a matter of course. These new features and updates continue to build on the numerous different scenarios and vehicles to assist with RTCs and vehicle extrication training already on Rescue-Sim.



Traceable Training – all assessments are recorded, instructors can see their trainee's progress

All training that is fully completed and saved is traceable. Instructors are able to see how their trainees are progressing and identify areas that require further support and possibly identify the need for a traditional hands-on training session to help reinforce the simulator training.

Instructor targets can be set with screenshots of the work downloaded and submitted as evidence or audit trails recorded if needed to evidence that the training has been completed. The scenarios can be completed as many times as you like, so if anyone has missed a practical session due to leave or sickness, they can still complete some training competencies using the simulator.

Rescue-Sim can be used in two modes, a trainer mode and an assessment mode:

- The trainer mode is used when teaching a class, you can walk through numerous different scenarios with various vehicles and multiple situations. Whilst in the trainer mode, there are features such as being able to draw on the vehicle, write notes from the class on the screen and take a download image of the screen, including the scenario and any teaching notes for subsequent distribution to class attendees. In addition, you can freely use different tools from the toolkit to demonstrate how to make vehicles and situations safe.
- The assessment mode, individuals go through the various scenarios they have been taught and implement the steps required for a successful outcome. This allows the individual to demonstrate and confirm their learning, and record any errors or hints used to complete the module. There are many features for students, such as being able to repeat the assessments on the scenarios as many times as required; the ability to download assessments; a handy hint button, and the ability to write on completed assessments if students require any assistance from their trainer.

Conclusion

Rescue-Sim recognises there are huge benefits in using simulation training, this includes costs savings, enhanced training opportunities and maximises the investment of existing hands-on training. Many industries have already proven that adopting simulation training provides these benefits and are embracing the digital learning journey.

You can start your digital learning journey today by registering for free at www.rescue-sim.com, where you will gain access to all scenarios, incidents, and training modules.