

RECENT RELEASE OF VIRGINIA TECH "STARS" DATA
POINTS OF CONSIDERATION

1. No correlation of STARS evaluation and rating to the actual on-field reported NFL injuries over the past two years (2009-2010)
 - Speed 297 players, 30 reported concussions
 - Air XP 303 players, 27 reported concussions
 - Air Advantage 489 players, 31 reported concussions
2. NFL conducted their own study and found that the DNA Pro Plus was the best performing helmet in the study
3. Studies have long shown that most concussions are "helmet-to-helmet" impacts, whereas the STARS testing simulated "helmet-to-ground" impacts
4. Rotational impact forces are ignored completely in the STARS evaluation
5. The STARS evaluation focuses primarily on "Peak G forces," contrary to current concussion research
6. The testing was conducted at ambient conditions only (72 degrees)
7. HITS data was gathered with Riddell helmets only
8. HITS data was gathered with faceguards, lab test had no faceguards
9. The "time duration" of the impact is disregarded in the STARS testing
10. The STAR report fails to mention that the current science and extensive research by universities around the world has yet to pin down the actual causation of concussion.
11. To base "concussion reduction" to a single test protocol of the type proffered by the STARS evaluation appears to be, at the very least, presumptuous (if not irresponsible)
12. Research has demonstrated that there is a significant difference between high school athletes and collegiate athletes
13. There is no correlation of injury data between young players and collegiate athletes

Other Considerations

1. Virginia Tech is a Riddell sponsored school
2. Virginia Tech and Impact ("HITS System") have a fiduciary relationship
3. Impact and Riddell have a fiduciary relationship
4. Other universities have conducted their own studies and found Schutt to be the best performing helmet, such as Penn State
5. Schutt's position is that the known research and science have not reached a point where a laboratory test can be directly correlated to on-field injury prevention – apart from NOCSAE
6. The study did not use the current model configuration of ION, Air XP, or DNA

