

## Quarterly Report – Public Page

Date of Report: 4/04/08

Contract Number: *DTRT57-08-C-10015*

Prepared for: *US Department of Transportation*

Project Title: *Development, Design, and Testing of Optimized “Soft Crack Arrestors”*

Prepared by: *Engineering Mechanics Corporation of Columbus (Emc<sup>2</sup>)*

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For 120-day interim report period ending: *April 4, 2008*

Progress to date: The progress in this reporting period involved completion of a fiber specimen fabrication jig, procurement of a significant number of candidate fibers, initial slow rate tests for screening the candidate fibers, modifications to the initial test machine design to address safety and sensor issues identified during the period, and partial fabrication of the dynamic test machine. Since, standard test machines do not have the capabilities needed for this assessment, a completely new special designed test machine with high-strain and low-temperature capabilities was required to be built from scratch. Major components for the new test machine including electronics, sensors, mechanical systems have been procured and assembly is in progress. Candidate fiber materials have been procured and screening tests identified a promising commercially available fiber material.