

Julia Brown of DeRidder High School in DeRidder, Louisiana used a VDI desktop trainer to illustrate the effects of texting and driving, talking on the phone and driving, and using a speaker phone while driving. Using the VDI trainer, Ms. Brown administered driving tests to 65 test subjects (53 teens; 12 adults). She hypothesized that teen driving is greatly impaired while either talking or texting on their cell phones.

Using various tests of statistical analysis, Ms. Brown was able to support her hypothesis and provide results stating that teen driver's skills are impaired when texting or talking on a cell phone. The importance of this research was recognized by Ms. Brown's high school, when she was awarded the Director's Award at the 2008 Science Fair.

Here is a picture of Julia and her award. Congratulations, Julia, and thank you for conducting this very important research!

