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Behind the Wheel? Then Drop the Click-Wheel

A new study completed at Drexel University has confirmed what many owners of iTrips and cassette adapters have already realized: that futzing with your iPod while driving really isn't a good idea.

In fact, the Drexel research team -- led by Dario Salvucci, a computer scientist -- concluded that switching songs on an iPod is just as distracting to a driver as, say, dialing a cellphone. Mercifully, Mr. Salvucci conducted the study by putting students in a driving simulator, not by turning them loose on the highway.

It's not exactly man-bites-dog news that multitasking behind the wheel is unsafe, but plenty of people remain interested in studies like Mr. Salvucci's: The National Science Foundation helped pay for the research, according to The Triangle, Drexel's student newspaper. --Brock Read

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