



PROJECT NEWS

For the Southern Traffic Incident eXchange

September 2010

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Stakeholder Input

Do you have regional news or pictures to include in the next STIX Newsletter?

Has your TMC expanded its coverage area?

Do you think your TMC could benefit from an AAR or additional outreach?

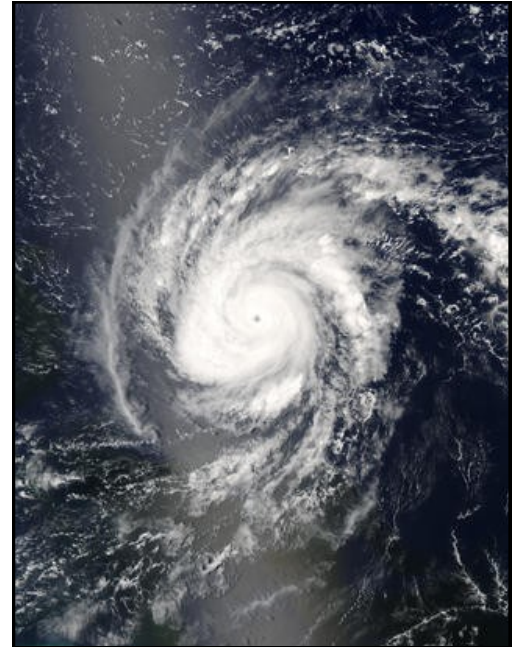
If so, please contact
Christine Simonton @
c.simonton@delcan.com

Hurricane evacuation coordination webinar

On June 4, a Hurricane Evacuation Webinar was conducted among all four STIX states to prepare for the 2010 hurricane season. The purpose of the webinar was to help the states better coordinate their evacuation routes and prepare for traveler influx. The meeting served as an important reminder to each state not to forget about its evacuees once they cross state lines.

Representatives who participated in the webinar included Georgia Department of Transportation's State Maintenance Engineer, Highway Emergency Response Operators Manager, and TMC Operations Manager; North Carolina Department of Transportation's Statewide Incident Management Coordinator; South Carolina's Safety and Systems Engineer and Statewide Incident Management Coordinator; and Florida Department of Transportation's Statewide Traf-

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Hurricane Frances, nasa.gov

Spotlight on: Georgia's TMC

Georgia's Transportation Management Center (TMC), located in Atlanta, is committed to enhancing travel safety and transportation efficiency by managing incidents, controlling traffic, and providing accurate information to the traveling public.

Anyone who tours the TMC can see that the operators stay busy—and data from the past five years shows exactly how busy they are. The TMC's incident log shows the number of incidents that the operators manage has been steadily increasing since 2006. From 2006 to 2007, the number of incidents jumped more than 20%, from 25,988 to 32,610. And from 2007 to 2008, the increase was nearly 37%.

Fast forward to 2009, and the number of total incidents is 55,503—that's more than double in less than four years.

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Georgia's Traffic Management Center in Atlanta

Hurricane webinar, Cont.

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fic Incident Management and Road Rangers Manager.

The webinar included evacuation plans for each state, information sharing on state border situations, and proper contact methods to share information during the hurricane. ■

The five best “Best Practices”

In March, the I-95 Corridor Coalition released the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Teams Best Practice Report. Designed to be used by TIM stakeholders to help improve their programs, the report introduces Best Practices from TIM teams throughout the I-95 corridor and around the entire US.

Five practices from Coalition member states were highlighted for their innovation and success. They are listed below:

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Incident Management Task Force (IMTF) Policy Violation Acknowledgement Form: IMTF has created a Feedback Committee to ensure agencies are learning from their mistakes and correcting on-scene behavior.

Florida’s TImE4Safety Traffic Incident Management Handbook and Training Modules: The North Florida Transportation Planning Organization funded the development of the Time for Safety (TImE4Safety) TIM handbook and five companion training modules in the form of eight to 10-minute videos. The handbook and DVD establish standard guidelines and recommendations for traffic incident management and operations.

Georgia’s Towing and Recovery Incentive Program (TRIP): Developed to meet the goals outlined in the Metro Atlanta Traffic

Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force’s Strategic Vision, TRIP pays qualified heavy-duty towing and recovery companies monetary bonuses for clearing large commercial vehicle incidents within 90 minutes.

New York’s Streaming Video on Highway Emergency Local Patrol (HELP) Trucks: In Region 8 of New York, HELP vehicles are equipped with live video that streams back to the co-located TMC housing the New York State Patrol and DOT.

North Carolina Incident Management Best Practices Training Video: The State Incident Management Engineer teamed with responders, including the State Fire Marshal and law enforcement, to develop an Incident Management Best Practices video. The video covers National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1901, which updates apparatus and traffic cone placement at incident scenes and high-visibility chevron striping. The video also covers safe vehicle placement, tapers, and proper traffic control.

Impressively, three of the five highlighted programs come from STIX states. Congratulations, Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina!

The Coalition’s Traffic Incident Management Teams Best Practice Report can be found in its entirety [here](#). ■

For more information, contact:
Gary Millsaps
gmillsaps@dot.ga.gov
(404) 894-3857

The I-95 Corridor Coalition,
The Federal Highway Administration, and
The National Traffic Incident Management Coalition

present

A Summit on the National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management

Baltimore, Maryland
September 21 – 22, 2010

The I-95 Corridor Coalition is sponsoring the first national NUG Summit, so there is no conference registration fee. The National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management (NUG) was developed under the direction of the National Traffic Incident Management Coalition (NTIMC). The NUG’s three major objectives are Responder Safety; Safe, Quick Clearance; and Prompt, Reliable Interoperable Communications.

Topics and speakers encompass NUG Progress, Funding Options, Performance Measures, Incident Management Best Practices, Sustaining TIM Teams, Service Patrols, TIM Training, and interdisciplinary incident management issues and best practices for the resolution of those issues. More information about the NUG Summit can be found [here](#).

Georgia’s TMC, Cont.

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Things won’t be slowing down for the TMC operators anytime soon. In the first 31 weeks of this year, TMC operators worked an additional 2,000 incidents compared to the same time frame in 2009.

The tables below show the stats from year to year.

Year	Number of Incidents	Increase in Percent
2006	25,988	-----
2007	32,610	20.31%
2008	51,684	36.91%
2009	55,503	6.88%

Year	Number of Incidents	Increase in Percent
2009 (wks 1-31)	32,045	-----
2010 (wks 1-31)	34,070	5.94%

All this, and they manage all STIX activations, too. Keep up the great work, Georgia! ■