



## Vehicle Probe Project Committee Monthly Status Webcast February 24, 2009 Minutes

Participants – see attached

### **Agenda**

Topic		Speaker
1	Introductions and Welcome	Bill Stoeckert
2	Validation Effort	Stan Young
3	Data Application and Use	Phil Tarnoff
4	Monitoring Site Update	Rick Schuman
5	ITS America 2009 Annual Meeting Presentations	Karen Jehanian
6	Contract Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Data Use Agreement Status</li><li>o Expansion Status</li><li>o Payment Process</li></ul>	Kathy Frankle
7	Agency Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Expansion Plans</li></ul>	All
8	Review of Action Items from this call	Karen Jehanian
9	Next Webcast	Karen Jehanian

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Bill Stoeckert opened the webcast at 10:30 a.m. by welcoming everyone and thanking those participating. The following is a summary of the discussion. These meeting minutes and all Vehicle Probe (VP) Project information is available at: <http://www.i95coalition.net/i95/Projects/ProjectDatabase/tabid/120/agentType/View/PropertyID/107/Default.aspx> (Most documents are on the 'Highlights' page).

### **2. Validation Effort**

Stan Young reviewed the Data Validation effort to date for the Vehicle Probe project. He noted that the Validation Report and Executive Summary are available on the Coalition website at

<http://www.i95coalition.net/i95/Projects/ProjectDatabase/tabid/120/agentType/View/PropertyID/107/Default.aspx>

Stan reviewed the Data Validation Status, Methodology, and Initial Results. He noted the issues for continued study. Stan stated that INRIX data generally meets the specifications. He also acknowledged that data characteristics and accuracy must be understood to properly design data applications for travel times on message signs, 511, etc. Stan concluded by stating that ongoing validation efforts and application development must continue in parallel.



### **3. Data Application and Use**

Phil Tarnoff began his discussion of the real-time applications for Vehicle Probe data by noting that probe data is adequate to support TMC and archive applications however, questions remain regarding the use of data for real-time traveler information. He then reviewed a two-pronged effort to address these questions. This effort included new confidence “values” assigned by INRIX for the data and a filtering technique proposed by UMD. The filtering would smooth abrupt changes in travel time values. Phil reviewed the flow chart for the process of taking probe data from collection to use in real-time applications.

Regarding the results to date from the filtering process, a participant asked if the same results were seen in the lower bins (i.e. 0-30 mph and 30-45 mph). Phil explained that the studies have not used binned data but his expectation is that filtering would have a greater impact on that data. A question arose as to the cause of the gap between the blue tooth and INRIX data. Phil responded that the fleet vehicles used to collect the VP data are not representative of the entire traffic stream. A comment was made that with the proposed rulemaking for Section 1201 of SAFETEA-LU, agencies may be looking toward the vehicle probe project data to assist in establishing or updating their real-time information systems.

Phil stated that the team is looking for agencies to provide candidate sites to participate in further evaluation of the filtering processes. He asked that agencies who may be interested, to contact Karen Jehanian, Bill Stoeckert, or himself. A question arose regarding the volumes on the roads that the data will be collected. Phil explained that they plan on making a general assessment first.

### **4. Monitoring Site Update**

Rick Schuman presented some basic statistics about the monitoring site. He also mentioned how the INRIX Demo Site was used during the Presidential Inauguration. Rick showed the new Background Map that was updated in early February. He also presented a possible overlay enhancement that would do the following:

- Change the color scheme
- Increase the transparency of color bands (to allow the route shield/numbers to be more visible)
- Increase the width of the color bands

He then asked for the members’ opinions as to whether these changes should be made. Based on the comments made by the participants, the following recommendations were made (on an interim basis):

- Keep the existing color scheme
- Increase the transparency of color bands

Rick reviewed the options for the next round of improvements to the monitoring site. He asked the group where they would like INRIX to focus their efforts. The following comments were made:

- Focus efforts on confidence values,
- As additional persons use the site, allow them to make comments based on their experience; and,
- Continue to have the map populate the data/information quickly.



## **5. ISTA 2009 Annual Meeting Presentations**

Karen Jehanian noted that the ITS America 2009 Annual Meeting will be held in National Harbor, Maryland from June 1 through June 3, 2009. She explained that the I-95 Corridor Coalition is seeking to hold a session on the Vehicle Probe Project. Specifically, this session would focus on how the member agencies are using the data and the results of the program evaluation.

## **6. Contract Update**

Kathy Frankle gave an update on the contract. Specifically, she reviewed the status of the Data Use Agreements and the Expansions.

## **7. Agency Updates**

Each member agency present gave a status update related to their use of the Vehicle Probe data. All updates can be found in the slide presentation on the I-95 Corridor Coalition website on the Vehicle Probe project (highlights) page. The link is shown at the beginning of these minutes.

## **8. Review of Actions Items**

- a. Review and modify slides in today's presentation as needed to reflect comments made during the webcast.
- b. Post slide presentation and meeting minutes for today's webcast to the I-95 Corridor Coalition website.
- c. INRIX to make changes to the monitoring site based on the comments received. This includes:
  - Keeping the existing color scheme
  - Increasing the transparency of color bands
- d. Pete Costello to send contact information for Alabama and South Carolina to New Jersey DOT.

## **9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting may be held during the first week of April 2009. An email will be forthcoming with a date and time for consideration.

Any questions in the meantime should be directed to:

- Bill Stoeckert at 774.207.0367 or [wstoeckert@yahoo.com](mailto:wstoeckert@yahoo.com)
- Stan Young at 301.403.4593 or [seyoung@umd.edu](mailto:seyoung@umd.edu)
- Rick Schuman at 407.298.4346 or [rick@inrix.com](mailto:rick@inrix.com)
- Jeff Summerson at [i95Support@inrix.com](mailto:i95Support@inrix.com) for questions or comments regarding the monitoring site
- DUA issues and project expansion issues should be directed to Kathy Frankle at [kfrankle@umd.edu](mailto:kfrankle@umd.edu)

Mr. Stoeckert thanked the Committee members for their time and valuable input.

The conference call was adjourned at 12 Noon.



**Minutes  
Vehicle Probe Project Committee  
Webcast/Conference Call  
February 24, 2009**

**PARTICIPANTS**

<b>I-95 Corridor Coalition:</b>
Bill Stoeckert

<b>Vehicle Probe Committee Webcast Attendees:</b>	
Scott Cowherd	Virginia DOT
Nathan Erlbaum	New York State DOT
Tim Herlihy/Jim Hadden/Sue Catlett	New Jersey DOT
Don Hass	Delaware DOT
Glenn McLaughlin	Maryland SHA
JoAnn Oerter	North Carolina DOT
Ben McKeever/Bob Rupert	FHWA/USDOT
Kathy Frankle/Phil Tarnoff/Stan Young	University of Maryland
Rick Schuman/Pete Costello/Jeff Summerson	INRIX
Stacy Unholz	PBS&J

<b>Consultant Support Staff:</b>
Karen Jehanian/Joanna Reagle, KMJ Consulting, Inc.