

Washington D.C.

June 21, 2005 Coalition Meeting

Happy Anniversary, NTIMC!

The NTIMC celebrated a first anniversary at its meeting on June 21, 2005. Seventeen participants from fourteen organizational members attended the Coalition's fourth meeting. The law enforcement, fire safety, towing, and transportation communities were represented. Coalition business focused on the following topics:

- Membership
- Actions on the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 Visibility Standards
- Communications and Outreach
- Results from the European Scan Trip on Traffic Incident Response
- Research and Knowledge Management

Coalition Takes Action on New Members

The Membership Task Force presented several recommendations for new Coalition members. As a result, motions were carried unanimously to invite the following organizations to participate in the Coalition:

- National Sheriff's Association
- International Association of Emergency Managers
- National Emergency Management Association
- American Public Transportation Association

The Task Force will continue to consider other potential members and will provide additional recommendations at NTIMC's Fall 2005 meeting.

Coalition Forms a Personal Protective Equipment Technology Working Group (PPETWG)

Since the last NTIMC meeting, the Coalition sent a letter to the American National Standards Institute regarding their new visibility standards (ANSI/ISEA 107-2004). This letter is being circulated in the relevant committees and will be reviewed at a September 2005 meeting.

Coalition members engaged in a discussion on how best to provide input to this group in advance of their September meeting. Each Coalition member was encouraged to contact ANSI. In addition, the PPETWG was formed to track issues regarding visibility standards. Members include: John Corbin, Donna Clarke, Mike Brown, Dave Helman, Bill Troup, and Henry deVries. Hari Kalla (FHWA MUTCD) and Dick Aston (IACP) will also be invited to participate. The PPETWG will hold a formation meeting in July or August 2005.

Communications and Outreach Efforts are Underway

Steve Austin proposed that the Coalition and its members begin to disseminate information about the Coalition and its activities to their communities, i.e., "the people on the street." His proposal included four activities – attendance at trade shows, advertising the Coalition through member websites, developing Coalition presentation materials, publishing articles in electronic and print trade journals/magazines.

Many of Steve's comments will be addressed under the broader scope of the communications and outreach plan, being led by Karen Haas. Ms. Haas is developing a Strategic Communications & Outreach Plan that identifies specific steps needed to accomplish the near-term communications and outreach objectives that are critical to the success of this fledgling coalition.

Near term communications and outreach objectives are:

- Raise the awareness of the public safety and transportation communities about the need for more effective traffic incident management (TIM) operations
- Promote formation of Regional Incident Management Coalitions

Key messages are:

Promote a Structured, Regional Approach: NTIMC encourages multidisciplinary regional coalitions to

develop structured Regional Traffic Incident Management Programs, and create Regional Traffic Incident Management Plans.

Create Sustainable Incident Management Programs:

Working within the context of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS), NTIMC is working to create recognition that multidisciplinary regional TIM programs should be sustained and supported on a policy level.

The plan is being developed by a Working Group. A draft plan will be presented to the NTIMC at its October 2005 meeting. Members of the Working Group developing the plan include Steve Austin, Rebecca Brewster, John Corbin, Steve Cyra, Harriet Cooley, Linda Dodge, Henry DeVries, Paul Einreinhofer, Jim Goerke, Dave Helman, T. J. Nedrow, Stephan Parker, and Laurie Radow. Karen Haas of Manifest Inc. provides communications consultant support and administrative support is provided by Valerie Briggs of AASHTO and Brett Graves of SAIC.

Coalition Members Report on the European Scan Trip on Traffic Incident Response

Six Coalition members recently took part in the European Scan Trip on Traffic Incident Response sponsored by FHWA, AASHTO, and NCHRP. They included: Henry deVries, Rebecca Brewster, Kevin McGinnis, John Corbin, Dave Helman, and Mike Zezeski. Participants visited England, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden to identify traffic incident technologies and practices that might have immediate or near-term implementation value in the U.S. The tour team provided recommendations in the following areas:

- Program and institutional issues – national incident response policy, on-scene working relationships of incident responders, performance measures, training, and auto clubs.
- Tactical and on-scene operations issues – incident responders, clearance practices, tactical considerations, dispatch practices, response times, and road users upstream of the incident.
- Communications and technology issues – traffic management and information centers and communication practices.

Henry deVries' presentation from the scan trip can be found on the Coalition's Website: <http://timcoalition.org/?siteid=41&pageid=1380>

The team also developed an implementation plan, of which the Coalition is a major part. The \$1 million implementation plan covers five activity areas:

- Leveraging Partnership with the Existing NTIMC
- National Organization Building and Adaptation of NTIMC
- Internationalizing the Coalition
- Immediate Knowledge Sharing Opportunities
- Rapid Deployment Projects

The scan tour group will be meeting in the upcoming month to discuss next steps. The Coalition is seen as a valuable resource in terms of being able to proactively address the trip recommendations.

Updates on Research and Knowledge Management Products

The following items were briefed at the Coalition meeting:

- FHWA Traffic Incident Management Community of Practice Website
- FHWA Simplified Guide to Incident Command Systems for Transportation Professionals
- I-95 Corridor Coalition NIMS Integration Project
- NTIMC Research Compendium
- NCHRP Projects of Relevance
- U.S. Fire Administration Study of Emergency Vehicle Warning Lighting Systems
- U.S. Fire Administration Study of Traffic Incident Management Systems
- U.S. Fire Administration Partnership with CVVFA

For more information, see the full summary of the meeting: <http://timcoalition.org/?siteid=41&pageid=592>.

Upcoming Events

- **NTIMC Communications Planning Workshop**, Washington, D.C. September 11, 2005.
- **ITS America World Congress**, San Francisco, CA – November 8-10, 2005
- **TRB Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC – January 22-26, 2006
- **Planned Special Events/Traffic Incident Management Conference**, CA – December 2006