



Ada County Highway District
Alliance for Transportation Research
City and County of Denver
Daktronics, Inc.
David Evans & Associates, Inc.
Douglas County Public Works
Federal Highway Administration
Frankie Friend & Associates
GE Multilin, Lenronics
Idaho Transportation Department
Iteris, Inc.
Kimely-Horn and Associates, Inc.
Meridian Environmental Technology, Inc.
Mixon/Hill, Inc.
Montana Department of Transportation
Nebraska Department of Roads
New Mexico Dept. of Transportation
Short-Elliott-Hendrickson, Inc.
Skyline Products, Inc.
ThomTech Design, Inc.
University of Utah, Traffic Lab
University of Wyoming
Utah Department of Transportation
Utah Transit Authority
Western Transportation Institute, MSU
Westwood One
Wyoming Department of Transportation

Message from the President

Welcome to our Summer newsletter. The mission of the ITS Rocky Mountain Chapter is to “develop partners for the effective deployment of ITS across all surface transportation modes, thus providing a viable and sustainable system for the Rocky Mountain Region that will benefit all users.”



This edition of the newsletter includes an article on ITS in small communities and a wrap-up of news and events in the region. It brings forward the question posed in this space in the Spring issue. What, and more importantly, how do you develop and support ITS projects in communities where the depth of people and skills is exceeded by the needs of the community? It seems obvious, but even the most skilled and creative professionals will eventually run out of the time and the resources necessary to build and sustain ITS deployments. What can be done to support smaller communities both at the political and the professional level?

There are several ways that we may be able to answer these and similar questions. The first is the professional resource that we call ITS Rocky Mountain. Another is taking advantage of upcoming opportunities like the National Rural ITS Conference September 11-13 in Spokane, the American Public Transit Association's Expo in Dallas September 25-28 and the ITS World Congress in San Francisco November 6-10. I have had the good fortune to travel to several state and regional transportation conferences this year and can honestly report that we are not alone in our challenges and concerns. A final opportunity exists in your mailbox. Many of you have received letters seeking sponsorships and donations to improve our annual student scholarship program. Can you think of a better way to invest in the future of our profession and communities?

Finally, we would like all members to become involved in the chapter and help get the word out about the quality of work being done in our region. Please phone, fax or email any comments, suggestions and opportunities to me or to our Chapter web site www.itsrm.org.

- Richard Hodges, Chapter President (RHodges@uta.cog.ut.us)

Table of Contents

ITS in Small Cities - Page 3

Rural Community Interest Groups Band Together - Page 4

Job Announcements - Page 5

Upcoming Events - Page 6

News from Around the Region - Page 7



More Features Coming to Website

A new “members only” section is being added to the ITS Rocky Mountain website. This section will contain sample documents; i.e., MOUs, MOAs, architecture, and example maintenance and operations plans. It will also provide an avenue for requesting additional information from ITS Rocky Mountain Board of Directors’ members as well as others. These pages are password protected and accessible only by ITS Rocky Mountain members. In order to logon, members must have their unique ITS Rocky Mountain chapter membership ID number.

To logon, go to the membership section of the website (<http://www.itsrm.org/membersh.htm>). Click on “Members Only Section”. At prompt enter the following information:

Username: [enter last name]
password: [membership ID number]

If you have difficulties accessing the site, or need your membership ID number, please contact us at membership@itsrm.org.

Submit an Article...

You can submit an article for publication in the ITS Rocky Mountain Newsletter! Articles must be no more than 3 pages in length and must contain contact information for the author. While any article may be submitted, publication priority will be given to articles that match the respective Newsletter’s theme. Graphics and photos are welcome!

2005 submission deadlines are as follows;

October/November/December (Fall) - October 14th. Theme: “Commerical Vehicle Operations”

2006 submission deadlines are as follows;

January/February/March (Winter) - January 20th. Theme: “Maintenance and Operations”

April/May/June (Spring) - April 21st. Theme: “Traveler Information”

July/August/September (Summer) - July 21st. Theme: “Transportation in the Rockies” (Members are invited to provide topics that they would like to see addressed in this issue. Feedback on Chapter services and activities is also encouraged.)



ITS in Small Cities

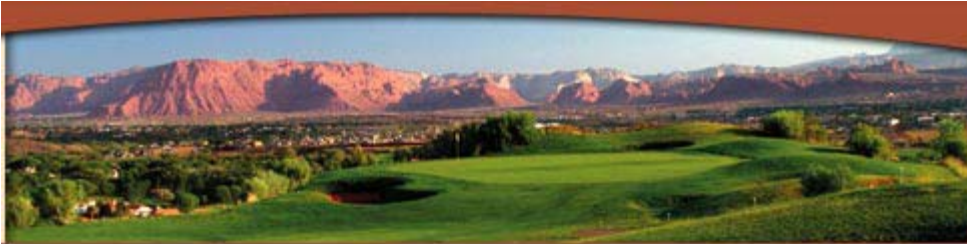
The fastest growing city in the state of Utah is located in Washington County near the southwest corner, six miles from the Arizona state line. This beautiful desert community is known as St. George, Utah. Tucked comfortably next to Zion National Park, 300 miles from the capital city of Salt Lake, St. George benefits from a large amount of tourism as well as having an appeal for those looking for a relaxing place to settle down and enjoy retirement.

Bradley Cameron, ITS Rural Project Manager
Utah Department of Transportation

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) recently partnered with the City of St. George to address the County ITS deployment needs. With virtually no remote management capability, incorporating UDOT’s master plan of extending the State adopted traffic management software system, *i2TMS*, into the area became the top priority. To do this, a hub extension, or Traffic Control Center (TCC) needed to be constructed. With funds limited, the City was able to identify an existing storage area within their City Hall that proved ideal for an interim TCC. Utilizing the State’s microwave WAN, a communication link was established

between the new St. George TCC and the UDOT Traffic Operation Center (TOC) located in Salt Lake City.

The second priority identified was upgrading the area signal interconnect. With UDOT’s preferred communication



connection of fiber optic cable scarce in the area, and the existing 900 MHz spread spectrum wireless interconnect rapidly deteriorating, it became imperative we should upgrade the wireless interconnect system. Identifying the need early on for CCTV deployment, made it easy to determine that a 5.7 GHz point-to-multi-point system would accommodate both our future device expansion, an IP over Ethernet communication connection, and the interface needed with our implemented traffic control software.

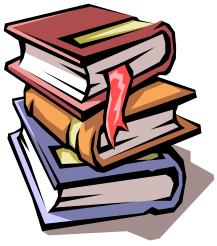
The outcome of this very successful partnership between City and State reflects in a shared ability to remotely access and control the thirty-three State and City owned intersections. Both agencies also have control capability of five new CCTV’s distributing video in MJPEG format.

“You can view the latest project update for the St. George Boulevard online at <http://www.stgeorgeboulevard.com/>.”

St. George Boulevard, a main surface street corridor for the city, is currently under full reconstruction. This State sponsored two construction season project will incorporate fiber optic cable signal connection to ten signals and five CCTV’s on the Boulevard. The City has

committed to connecting their City Hall, located two blocks North of the Boulevard, to this fiber interconnect.

The Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has recently determined to consistently fund ITS projects for at least the next five years. In light of this, a Regional Architecture Study will be generated to identify all of the ITS stakeholders and their ITS priorities for the area. ■



This article was originally published by ITS America.

From the ITS Archives...

Rural Community Interest Groups Band Together

WASHINGTON, DC, Jul 19, 2005 – The National Rural ITS Special Interest Working Group (Rural SIG) of ITS America and the Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation, Inc. (CIT) are cooperating to address many public safety and security matters within rural transportation operational and planning systems. Transportation managers and civil leaders across the country are realizing that the transportation sector affects every essential civil service sector (including energy, public health, education, agriculture, telecommunications, etc.). The groups forged a new relationship two months ago with the focus of jointly working on public safety in rural and small communities.

Obvious similarities in the visions of these transportation and public health groups indicate logical reasoning for the Rural SIG and CIT to coordinate their objectives. Founded in 1986, the non-profit CIT Foundation has dedicated itself to the *prevention* of injury and illness, *research* into rural injury and illness, and *training* for rural emergency medical care providers. Nels Sanddal, President of the Foundation, says “CIT is a highly collaborative organization, believing that answers to health care challenges in rural areas will not come in isolation but in cooperation. Collaborating with public and private agencies regionally, nationally and internationally, the CIT Foundation has achieved remarkable success.”

The Rural SIG was formed in 1998 with the vision of making rural transportation more safe and efficient by defining and developing the rural intelligent transportation systems through systems engineering, integration, analysis, and deployment and planning guidance. According to Steve Albert, Chair of the Rural SIG since 2003, rural America represents a small and dispersed portion of our nation’s population, yet it encompasses a significant portion of the transportation system. Rural areas account for 80 percent of the total U.S. road mileage and 40 percent of the vehicle miles traveled. These roads have a unique set of characteristics related to travelers, operations and maintenance.

Many technology systems are expanding to enable interoperability and integration of once independent services. The new Rural SIG and CIT partnership will lead them into exploring common interests such as researching ways to reduce accidents (developing collision avoidance systems, for example), provide better responses during traffic incidents (using PDAs to identify hazmat or transmit accident and injury data by EMS crews to medical facilities, for example) or incidents that impact transportation (using dynamic message signs to provide early warning of incidents or cameras linked into Emergency Operations Centers during evacuations, for example). “The fruits of this relationship may help manage traffic congestion, though our primary focus is to improve public safety in rural areas and small communities,” says Steve.

As a gateway project, CIT has hired the Western Transportation Institute (WTI), Montana State University, an active member of the Rural SIG, to research ways that would link electronic recordkeeping systems used by the EMS personnel. WTI is dedicated to advancing rural transportation through research and education and consists of a broad-based core group of innovative, technical employees who can meet a variety of research, education, and outreach needs in-house. Considering that the chance of an EMS driver crashing is 10 times higher than that of the average driver, the Rural SIG and CIT Foundation are also looking at project ideas to mitigate the high occupational risks EMS drivers face when responding to an incident.

continued from page 4...

The agencies concerned about safety and security of our rural areas of the national transportation system, such as ITS America, ITS Washington State, ITS Oregon, Oregon and Washington State DOTs, are co-sponsoring the 2005 National Rural ITS Conference held September 11th - 14th in Spokane, Washington. The conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for transportation professionals dealing with rural transportation issues to discuss current topics, exchange information, and attend valuable and memorable networking events. It is a unique opportunity to learn first hand about new and innovative approaches to helping solve the many challenges facing rural transportation. The CIT is participating in its program. For registration and program information, you should go to <http://depts.washington.edu/trac/nrits2005>.

The CIT Foundation is also planning to hold a 2006 Rural EMS Summit to spotlight its course and direction for the next 5-10 years. The dates and location of the summit have not been determined yet. The idea is to attract federal and state policy makers to review the past 20 years of rural EMS and trauma care and, where applicable, to highlight CIT's contributions. The Rural SIG will participate in the development of the 2006 summit. When asked how far they plan to take this partnership, Nels Sanddal and Steve Albert are not ruling the possibility of co-sponsoring a future conference on the topic of public safety in rural transportation systems.

To learn more about the Critical Illness and Trauma Foundation, Inc. (CIT), you should visit its Web site at <http://www.citmt.org>. ■

Job Announcements

If you would like an ad placed in the ITS Rocky Mountain Newsletter and/or the ITS Rocky Mountain website please email employment@itsrm.org.

Research Associate. Western Transportation Institute (WTI), Montana State University (MSU). MS in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Meteorology, or a related field; academic or professional experience in conducting research; demonstrated oral and written communication skills. The Research Associate will provide research support related to the Weather and Winter Mobility program area at WTI such as winter highway maintenance best practices, cold-climate highway runoff best management practices, sensor technologies for winter maintenance and traveler information, and maintenance decision support systems. For a complete job announcement visit www.montana.edu/msuinfo/jobs/prof/ or the WTI website at www.coe.montana.edu/wti. Screening of applications will begin September 1, 2005 and continue until the position is filled. ADA/AA/EO/Veteran Preference.

Transportation Engineering Faculty Position. The Department of Civil Engineering at Montana State University and the Western Transportation Institute invite applications for a joint appointment tenure-track faculty position, in TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING, having a start date as early as January 1, 2006. It is expected that the position will be filled at the Assistant Professor rank. Earned doctorate in Civil/Transportation Engineering or a closely related field, potential for excellence in teaching and research, and evidence of scholarly achievements required. Professional registration and academic or practical experience preferred. For complete vacancy announcement, see www.coe.montana.edu/ce/ or contact Brett Gunnink at (406) 994-2115. Applicants should send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, names and contact information for three references, and brief statements of teaching and scholarly interests to Jaycee Arthur, TRANSPORTATION Faculty Search Committee, Department of Civil Engineering, 205 Cobleigh Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana 59717. Application screening will begin November 1, 2005. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. ADA/AA/EO/Veteran's Preference.



Upcoming Events...

Introduction to Systems Engineering for Advanced Transportation

AUGUST 30-31, 2005 -- Hosted by FHWA-New Mexico Division, this NHI Course is part of the core Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) curriculum established by the ITS Professional Capacity Building (PCB) program. The course is an introduction to systems engineering for ITS project managers and project staff. It provides a high-level view of a broad and rich topic area, introducing basic concepts to individuals who are working on ITS projects. The goal is to allow these individuals to understand the benefits of applying systems engineering approaches as a means of developing quality systems.

The cost is \$270 per person; however, FHWA will cover the fee for the first fifteen respondents who register by August 24th. For more information and to download the course registration form, go to http://www.itsrm.org/Flyer_Systems_Engineering.doc.

Managing High Technology Projects in Transportation

SEPTEMBER 1-2, 2005 -- Hosted by FHWA-New Mexico Division, this highly requested NHI Course is designed to improve project management skills for both public and private sector personnel who are responsible for managing the implementation of technology-intensive transportation projects. The course provides training related to: the fundamental principles and practices of good project management; the steps to be taken for the planning, design and implementation of transportation systems projects, the types of project management tools available for managing transportation systems projects; and the basic skills required to be a good project manager.

The cost is \$270 per person; however, FHWA will cover the fee for the first fifteen respondents who register by August 24th. For more information and to download the course registration form, go to http://www.itsrm.org/Flyer_ITS_Proj_Management.doc.

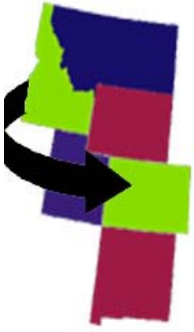
ITS Business Leadership Conference

SEPTEMBER 7-9, 2005 -- Attend this first-time event and walk away with new information and guidance on how to succeed in the ITS marketplace, get updates on the newly passed reauthorization bill, and network with business leaders. Confirmed speakers include representatives from ITS America members Mark IV, 3M, DMJM+Harris, BMW, PB Farradyne, Conexus, Motorola, and Northeastern University School of Business - along with AASHTO, the US DOT, and Congressional ITS Caucus Co-Chairs Representative Mike Rogers (R-MI) and Representative Ellen Tauscher (D-CA).

Visit <http://www.itsa.org/blc2005.html> for additional information. There you can view the preliminary agenda which includes interactive seminars on a variety of topics aimed at your growth and success: Federal and State Funding Programs; The ITS Market; Authorization and Appropriations; Private Financing; and International Marketplace. Register now to guarantee your space in this historic event (only 150 seats are available)!

National Rural ITS Conference

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2005 -- The 2005 National Rural ITS Conference is being held in beautiful Spokane, Washington. This conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for transportation professionals dealing with rural transportation issues to discuss current topics, exchange information, and attend valuable and memorable networking events. This is a unique opportunity to learn firsthand about new and innovative approaches to helping solve the many challenges facing rural transportation. Spouse/guest activities are also being offered. The early registration deadline (August 25th) is fast approaching, so register today by going to <http://www.nrifs2005.org>.



News from around the region...

Operations Showcase

Talking Operations is a series of monthly seminars conducted via the telephone and Internet, which are designed to introduce and educate stakeholders on current trends, tools, and noteworthy practices in Transportation Management and Operations (M&O) and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). The seminars are part of a larger outreach initiative by the National Transportation Operations Coalition (NTOC) to provide technical assistance, training, and information to assist transportation practitioners, decision makers, and the general public with meeting the today's transportation challenges. Participation in the Talking Operations seminars is limited to the first 100 registrants; therefore it is advised that multiple participants from a single agency/organization make arrangements to participate from one location (e.g., conference room or meeting facility) to allow maximum participation. For more information, to review the schedule of future seminars or to register please visit <http://talkingoperations.webex.com>. The next seminar on Transportation System Management - An Opportunity Emerging from Reauthorization, will take place on **August 24, 2005** from 12:45-2:30 pm. For more info go to <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/opscorner/opscorner.asp>.

Electronic Supply Chain Manifests

WASHINGTON, DC -- From the ITS Joint Program Office comes the following report. Electronic supply chain manifest systems (ESCM), also known as electronic freight manifest systems, can enhance security and improve operational efficiencies for shippers/receivers, trucking companies, and air cargo carriers. In 2002, the FHWA completed a study that compared the performance of an internet-based electronic supply chain manifest system against traditional manual paper-based systems. The ESCM system was designed to save time and money by automatically tracking cargo security information from one mode to another throughout the supply chain. Enhancements such as biometrics and smart card devices were used to control access to cargo documentation transmitted over the internet.

Before and after test results showed that the amount of time spent by participants on manifesting and processing load transfers decreased by 57-100% after the ESCM system was deployed. The improved performance was the result of less time spent on paperwork, data entry, arranging and confirming transport, verifying the identities of drivers, and tracking cargo. In a separate report, the FHWA ([FHWA, April 2004](#)) estimated the relative cost savings per shipment.

For more information go to <http://www.benefitcost.its.dot.gov/ITS/benecost.nsf/ByLink/BOTM-August2005>.

ITS should be included in State's long-range transportation plans

DELAWARE -- The Delaware Department of Transportation has learned that integrating ITS early in statewide planning benefits all users. In 2000, the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) Statewide Integrated Transportation Management System Integration project (now known as DelTrac) was selected to receive specially earmarked funds from the U.S. Congress that supported improvements in transportation efficiency, safety, traffic flow, traveler information, reduced emissions, etc. In 2004, the U.S. Department of Transportation released an evaluation report for the DelTrac project. A summary of the lessons learned was made available this month and can be found at <http://www.itslessons.its.dot.gov/its/benecost.nsf/ByLink/LOTM>.