Newly Published:
Traffic Message Channel Codes: Impact and Use within the I-95 Corridor Coalition’s Vehicle Probe Project Summary Report (December 2015)

This report on Traffic Message Channel (TMC) codes:

- Documents the source, governance and intellectual property issues related to use of the TMC codes by government agencies;
- Explores the suitability of the TMC codes for a variety of traffic data reporting; and,
- Recommends best practices and future direction to the Coalition and its member agencies.

Some of the findings/recommendations for public agencies include:

- Continue to use TMC codes for the procurement and use of outsourced probe traffic data, particularly for traveler information and performance measure purposes. The TMC standard is supported by multiple vendors providing for cost-effective, competitive procurement of data, tools, and applications.
- Align TMC codes to their internal referencing system (i.e. ‘conflation’) particularly as use of TMC codes within an agency increases and budget appropriately for this activity.
- Consider alternate segmentation methods provided by vendors for applications requiring higher levels of granularity.
- Investigate the use of vendor specific solutions for locations such as ramps, special use lanes, and other facilities where TMC codes are not typically available.
- Investigate the use of vendor specific solutions if data is needed for facilities where TMC codes are not available. Be aware such solutions are proprietary, and may create vendor lock-in with its associated procurement issues. Locations such as ramps with lower grade facilities, some special use lanes, and portions of minor arterials and collectors, and the majority of local streets fall in this category.
- Continue use and development of open standards (when available) in future procurements.

This report also noted that a new standard for segmentation of roadways to exchange traffic and other road attribute data should not be pursued at this time.

The work effort for this project was funded through a FHWA/RITA grant, received by the I-95 Corridor Coalition.

Look for a webcast on this topic later this spring!

Questions or Concerns:
General Project Questions & Contracting Issues: Kathy Frankle at 301-405-8271 or kfrankle@umd.edu
Data Validation: Masoud Hamedi at 301-405-2350 or masoud@umd.edu
VPP Suite: John Allen at 215-666-3057 or jallen35@umd.edu or UMD CATT Lab at vpp-support@rtis.org
Logistics: Joanna Reagle at 610-228-0760 or jreagle@kmjinc.com

Upcoming Meetings:
VPP Agency Project Team
Webcast- March 8, 2016
(10:30am-noon)
Please Click the link above to register for the webcast.

VPP Suite User Group
Webcast- April 21, 2016
(10:30am-noon)

TISPTC Meeting/Webcast- April 26, 2016
Connected and Automated Vehicles Conference: What States Need to Know- June 21 & 22, 2016 Maryland Maritime Institute, Linthicum MD.

Recent Meeting Info
VPP Suite User Group
Webcast- January 20, 2016
- Presentation
- Meeting Notes

VPP Agency Project Team
Webcast- December 17, 2015
- Presentation
- Meeting Notes

Past copies of the VPP newsletters are now available on the Coalition Website under the Newsletters Tab!