



Providing TIM news and highlights
to responders and transportation professionals

Mission

The **TIM Team Program** brings together all agencies involved in clearing roadway crashes with the objective of improving detection, verification, response and clearance times to expeditiously remove a motor vehicle crash or incident from the roadway, while providing the best real-time information to motorists, resulting in a safer highway environment for both incident responders and motorists.

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Safe Vehicle Positioning at Traffic Incident Scenes

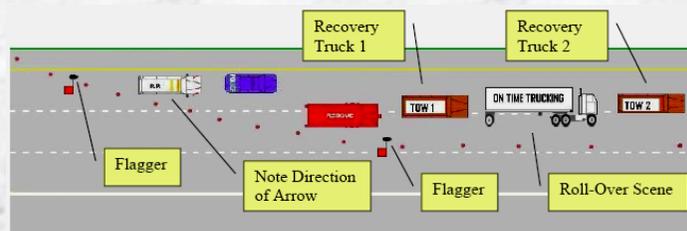
The TIM Teams are developing standard operating guidelines (SOG) for the safe positioning of responder vehicles at traffic incidents. The need for this initiative was identified by team members.

Examples of SOGs developed elsewhere are being gathered and reviewed by the newly-formed task group focusing on the issue to help standardize response procedures.

This effort is an ideal TIM Team project, as the Product will be from the Team and not from just a single agency.

The Scene Safety and Vehicle Positioning Task Group has a goal of obtaining good representation from all disciplines and all five of the corridor counties. The first task group meeting was held September 8; the next meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of October 9.

If you would like to participate, please contact John Sparks (john.sparks@telvent.abengoa.com or 954-714-4910).



ITS Coming to SW Florida

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) deployment is imminent in the I-75 corridor. In the coming weeks, watch for:

- ☞ Construction to start on the Regional Transportation Management Center (RTMC) at the Daniels Pkwy rest area.
- ☞ Installation of CCTV cameras and vehicle detection equipment along the I-75 corridor.
- ☞ Deployment of a new 511 motorist information system in Collier, Lee and Charlotte Counties, and expansion of the current 511 system in Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

Communicating with the Public Using ATIS During Disasters

An upcoming focus of the TIM Teams is effectively utilizing Advanced Traveler Information Systems (ATIS) to provide useful information to travelers during disaster situations. ATIS communication can include:

- * Websites
- * or other call-in telephone systems
- * Push technologies – Reverse 911, Code Red, email, pager and text alerts
- * Private sector travel information
- * Radio and TV media
- * Highway Advisory Radios
- * Dynamic Message Signs (portable and permanent)

Both public and private sector ATIS operating agencies need to work together to provide timely, accurate and consistent information to those who need it.





Lee MPO Launches website and "Blog"

The Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (Lee MPO) has launched its own website and Blog. These new venues are for public comments about, and involvement with, the Lee MPO's Long Range Transportation Plan and planning activities. The Lee MPO's website, <http://mpo-swfl.org> was launched in May 2006. By visiting the website, people can:

- ✓ Volunteer for appointment to citizens committees.
- ✓ Be put on the Transportation Advisory Network (TAN) mailing list.
- ✓ Find out about meetings and public forums. Click on <http://www.mpo-swfl.org/agendas>.
- ✓ Review draft plans and documents.
- ✓ Comment on plans or projects.

The Blog, found at <http://mpo-swfl.blogspot.com> was launched at the end of July 2006, and "is a free exchange of information regarding traffic and transportation issues for Lee County, Florida and its surrounding areas."

The "Blog" and website are among the many tools the Lee MPO uses to ensure the public are involved in the planning of transportation facilities, and are based upon the "Public Involvement Plan," which can also be found on the Lee MPO website. For more ways to get involved, visit the Lee MPO website at <http://mpo-swfl.org>.

Article submitted by Julia B. Davis, AICP, senior planner, SWFRPC/Lee County MPO

Traffic Incident Management – Spread The News!

Let's get the word out on the street! The Collier-Lee and Charlotte-Sarasota-Manatee TIM Teams are both working to disseminate the Open Roads philosophy throughout our local response organizations. TIM Team facilitators will meet directly with your response personnel or work with agency training officers to spread the word on TIM best practices including:

- ✓ Florida's Open Roads Policy
- ✓ Quick Clearance
- ✓ Traffic Incident Impact Levels
- ✓ Spill Mitigation
- ✓ Emergency Vehicle Lighting
- ✓ Accident Investigation Sites
- ✓ After-Incident Reviews
- ✓ Other TIM Best Practices

Sessions are tailored to meet your needs, and can be held as part of a roll call, staff or safety meeting, or as a stand-alone session. There is no restriction or minimum on number of attendees. Please help with this outreach by scheduling a session with your group or training officer.

Contact: John Sparks john.sparks@telvent.abengoa.com (954) 714-4910

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Charlotte-Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team	Tues Oct 10	Sarasota Co. Public Works	1:30pm
Charlotte-Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team	Tues Dec 12	Location TBD	1:30pm
Statewide TIM Conference	Early 2007	TBD	TBD

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team

The Charlotte-Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team is committed to implementing the Quick Clearance principles of Florida's Open Roads Policy through the "3 Cs" of TIM: Communication, Cooperation and Coordination, and providing the public with the best real-time Motorist Information available.

Team membership draws from state, regional, and local transportation agencies, public safety providers, and other organizations and companies that service the traveling public. The Teams, sponsored by FDOT, meet bi-monthly.

