**National Transportation Operations Coalition (NTOC)**

**Talking Operations Webinar Series**

*Guidelines for Disseminating Road Weather Advisory & Control Information*

**November 1, 2012**

Mike Pietrzyk: Dr. Alfelor: Realizing it may be early, are you aware of any specific road weather information dissemination benefits that have been realized during the recent Monster Storm Sandy disaster?

Roemer Alfelor, FHWA: Mike - I haven't seen any documented or quantified benefits yet. We are interested in hearing from various agencies, not just the DOTs, about how they used the weather information before and during the storm.

Mike Pietrzyk: DR. Alfelor: You may have some of the operating/response agencies to Sandy participating in THIS webinar. Maybe you could encourage them to provide some feedback today over the live chat?

Jocelyn Bauer: Is anyone on the webinar aware of road weather information dissemination benefits that have been realized during the recent Monster Storm Sandy disaster?

Esther Dadufalza SDOT: Are the guidelines applicable for arterial streets?

Catherine Chernoff: Are you aware of interest from any jurisdictions in Canada in these guidelines?

Roemer Alfelor, FHWA: Esther - Yes, the guidelines apply to disseminating road weather info on arterials.

Roemer Alfelor, FHWA: Catherine - We haven't received any inquiries from Canada yet. They do have representatives in various Road Weather Management coalitions/groups that are interested in this subject.

Robert Hallowell: Are there plans to create XML-based guidelines for dissemination of this data? For example MassDOT has their own 'standard' :http://www.eot.state.ma.us/downloads/developers\_beta/Event\_XMLFeed\_Documentation.pdf

John Campbell: Esther, there are a few guidelines that are probably most applicable to freeways & interstates but, in general, most are applicable to arterials as well.

Robert Hallowell: For Mr Garcia -- where do the visibility measures come from on your route pages that show camera imagery? Do some sites not have co-located sensors and that is why they have N/A for visibility?

Jeremy Duensing - Telvent: Vince, is the availability of the "visibility" parameter contingent on a visibility sensor on an RWIS? How accurate do you find the visibility measurements?

Vince Garcia: Jeremy: Yes, the visibility parameter is contingent upon an RWIS sensor. We kept place holders on our page so we can easily add sensors and have them appear for our users.

Vince Garcia: Robert: The visibility measures come directly from relevant RWIS stations that are outfitted with visibility sensors.

Peter Vega: Is anyone using automated advanced warning signs/message displays for weather?

Peter Vega: Are there advanced warning signs connected directly to the sensors to automatically generate messages in times of decreased visibility or adverse weather?

Phillip Anderle: Peter, Colorado DOT has a site that displays messages on a VMS board for road conditions that are tied to a sensor, but nothing on weather.

Deepak Gopalakrishna: Peter - Active Warning Systems examples are in operation for visibility and pavement conditions. A summary of those approaches can be found in the Developments in WRTM report, http://ntl.bts.gov/lib/42000/42900/42965/wrtm\_final\_report\_06302011.pdf, Chapter 2

PennDOT: Are the information panels at the auditorium supplied by the DOT, or does the DOT just provide the weather pages as content?

Vince Garcia:PennDOT: The information panels are supplied by the DOT. We purchased them, installed them and provide the content for them.