

Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee
May 18, 2009

Attending: Mike Stout, Lori Midden, Mehdi Nassirpour, Joyce Schroeder, Lou Humphrey, Michael Morris, Jacque Huddleston, Jim Garceau, Peggy Westerfield, Jessica Baker, Greg Piland, Tom Casson

By phone: Connie Satler, Susan Fitzpatrick, Ruth Kafensztok

Mike opened the meeting. Greg Piland had several updates to the minutes. (available online)

Lori announced that Alex Cabral, NHTSA, will not be attending as he is conducting an assessment in Tennessee. Greg reported to the committee about funding and TRCC training.

Mehdi asked if there is any funding available from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) for collecting speed data for large trucks. He indicated that he would ask Steve Mattioli to get more involved and that there are avenues of MCSAP dollars available for data improvement.

Lori reviewed the ranking of the 408 grants. Dollar amounts are pending until clarification of the award. The 408 grant submission was done online. She and John Werthwein are working on a monthly progress report form to track grant progress. This new form will require monthly updates by the funded agencies.

Lori discussed the new subcommittee formation to plan meetings. This will involve representatives from the entire committee, meeting following quarterly meetings, to plan the agendas for the next committee meeting. This planning process is critical to developing the strategic plan for the 2011 TRCC Assessment. We need for each agency to be represented.

Peggy Westerfield presented the update for Safety Data Mart - Currently working on wrapping up our version 2 project for SDM. This involved changes to some of the user tools, and addition of some new data elements. Project had taken longer than initially projected. Primarily involved IDOT users because the user tools require software installation.

Update regarding FARS Analysis Project – We looked at the FARS site as a model for providing external access for adhoc reports. Initial technology and data structure were in consistent with IDOT's data structure, so we pursued a browser-based solution that will provide adhoc capability. Since the solution is browser-based, it will be able to be delivered to users who are external to IDOT. Provided a brief demonstration of the Version 1 Release – ability to apply a filter based on crash, vehicle or person attributes; ability to select a measure to display (Crash Count, Fatal Crash Count, A Injury Crash Count, Fatalities, Injuries, Vehicle Count); ability to display an attribute in the row. Goal of the initial release is on simplicity. Plan to have training information & documentation available for users. Should be able to test for external access in the next 2-3 weeks. Requested volunteers who are interested in testing.

Update on Local Safety Services Project – Project was initiated, utilizing resources from University of Illinois, to develop a tool that could be used by locals to access crash data. The software has been provided to IDOT and a project is open to transition this application to be hosted by IDOT. Three of the four modules have been reviewed.

Update on Local Crash Data Collection Project – Of the data that was returned, the new location information has been put into the Safety Data Mart. This helps resolve the previous gap where we had information on the crashes, but no location information. All counties are complete, with the exception of Cook.

Mehdi reported on the CODES program—making progress in linking 2005 crash data to augmented hospital discharge data. NHTSA is making CODES to be part of the high safety program. He and Susan Fitzpatrick will be attending a mandatory CODES meeting in Baltimore in June 22-24, 2009. Mike McGlincy who developed the CODES2000 software will hold a one on one meeting with grantees in Baltimore. As part of the data linkage project, we are planning to link the 2005 crash data to EMS data. Since EMS database is very complex and requires additional analyses before we link it to crash data, Mehdi has asked Evelyn, Dan and Ruth from the Loyola University to conduct a thorough analysis on the 2005 EMS database. Susan Fitzpatrick is training on the new CODES software that is available to all the CODES states.

Mehdi gave an update on the SafetyAnalyst software and described how the Software will be used at IDOT. The software will be handled through the Bureau of Safety Engineering, Bureau of Information Processing and the faculty at the University of Illinois under the research grant. Mehdi described that the DTS has U of I develop system only Illinois specific. He explained that the SafetyAnalyst project will be taken over by AASHTO July 1, 2009. He distributed an update on the changes (copy attached). He indicated that there will be a technical advisory group that will oversee this project.

As a member of the national Expert Panel on developing performance measures for traffic records, he distributed a draft version of the performance measures (Copy attached) for all traffic safety databases in six components of data quality (Timeliness, Accuracy, Completeness, Consistency, Accessibility, and Integration) and asked everyone to review and send their comments back to him by June 12, 2009. This document will be finalized November 09 and will be used in February, 2010. Grantees will not be qualified for future 408 grants if these measures are not followed.

Jim Garceau gave the following update:

MCR

- Finishing up some fixes on the v2 client dealing with selecting and using printers, a new manifest or release was put into QA last Thursday. Once MCR Support says it's good to go, it will be put into production.
- Data feeds are now going to be encrypted, that went into production last week and both the encrypted and unencrypted data files will be on the agency ftp sites until 6/15. This is a grace period for the agencies to convert their processes.
- Fatal notification—once a crash is entered, e-mail to anticipate further information.
- Bar code area-is being updated and then will be tested.

CIS

- QA/QC interface—pull 408 app metrics
- Been working with a couple agencies with the transfer of crash data electronically to the state, the first (New World) may be ready to start testing in the field next month.

AIS

- The upgrade is in production and integrated into CIS
- The system has the ability to grad documents from both the new and old storage locations. Still doing batch conversion of documents from the optical juke boxes to the new SAN storage.
- The majority of CIS (post 2004 crash) documents have been converted to the new storage location
- Will be looking at re-tooling the doc conversion processes to move the GAI documents ('99-'03)

Lou Humphrey reported on the electronic versus paper crash reporting. There were a total of 528,300 crash reports in 2008. 411,100 (77.8%) were paper reports—117,200 (22.2%) were electronic.

Jessica Baker reported that Data Entry is working February 09 cases, 36 days behind. Location Coding has finished 08—the GIS consultants are working on the 2009 locator tool and should have it up and running this week so Location can begin coding 2009 crashes. Safety Responsibility is working January 09 and Case Prep is scanning in real time.

Subcommittees:

Jessica reported that the Human Factors committee met to rank the 408 grant requests.

Data Quality met on May 2 to rank the 408 grant requests. Their committee decided not to make any changes to the crash reporting form until 2010.