

Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee  
November 17, 2008  
Minutes

**Attendees:** Mehdi Nassirpour, John Werthwein, Joyce Schroeder, Jeff Darko, Jessica Baker, Greg Piland, Alan Ho, Miles Anderson, Peggy Westerfield, Jim Hickey, Dan Mueller, Susan Fitzpatrick, Abraham Emmanuel, Cathy Kolb, Chris Wuellner, Michael Handley, James Hall, John Webber, Liz Buck, Lori Midden

**By phone:** Dan Lee, Roseanne Nance, Alex Cabral, Mike Gillette, Dan Leonard, and Ruth Kafensztok

John Werthwein opened the meeting for Mike Stout who was attending a press conference. He announced the most compelling statistic number of fatalities — 200 under last year. This is a huge improvement. He thanked everyone for their part in saving lives.

After committee introductions, Lori Midden had minutes approved.

Alex Cabral, **NHTSA**, discussed Illinois' 408 funding approach for pre-reporting. There will be pre-approval next year starting in January and February. He stressed the need for the preliminary project reports to assist year's funds.

Greg Piland (**FHWA**) is a member of the NTRCC. Before re-organization, NHTSA assumed the leadership role. With the re-organization, leadership will be rotated with FHWA this year and then FMCSAP. There are three subcommittees—Greg's committee is working on updating training for the states in the traffic records area and how to disseminate information more effectively. He will be e-mailing committee members to determine what training offered in the state, what is available and look for ways to increase training availability to the state. He is looking for suggestions for training needs. The subcommittees will meet quarterly and it will be six months before assessment is complete. He will update the TRCC at the next meeting.

Chris asked if there is a specific target audience for the training. Greg stated that the audience will start at the federal level and progress to local level. An example of the progression is FARS code received from NHTSA to use in datamart.

Mehdi asked if training materials have been put together-which have not—just in the initial phase. Again, please let Greg know the specific needs.

**Safety Data Warehouse update** – Peggy Westerfield provided the following report.

**SDM2:**

Content includes focus on user tools, including Excel 2007 as ad hoc reporting tool and a Map that integrates with Excel.

- Office 2007 Upgrade nearly complete for the Department.
- Map functionality will be demonstrated to the GIS user group this week and contains most of the required functionality.

- Planning now for a round of user acceptance testing; targeting release in December.

Training/Support Plan is the other critical area that was identified for improvement.

- Exploring alternatives to hands-on training that will allow users access to training Information as they need it.
- Biggest challenge is integrating toolset with the content knowledge (knowing what the data fields are and how to use them in context).

### **FARS Source Code:**

Received and provided to BIP developer for analysis.

- Evaluating to determine feasibility of re-using the presentation layer.
- Dependent on the modification of the Data Access Layer, which accesses the internal data structure.

Timing – dependent on what we find in the evaluation. Hope to be able to report on that at next meeting.

Mehdi inquired about outside access—Peggy responded that external access has predefined reports that are interactive. Each person needs to enroll and receive a user ID. BIP is willing to work with requests.

Timeframe for incorporating FARS is dependent on coding and access layers. May not be completely compatible and they will need to evaluate. She hopes to address this issue at the next meeting.

### **CODES Update**

Mehdi reported we have been able to link crash data to healthcare data (hospital discharge and trauma registry). Produced presentation (on IDOT website). Data from public health from 2004, 2005 and 2006. Linking is a very lengthy process but we are making progress. Waiting on Dan Lee to send EMS data.

**SafetyAnalyst package developed by FHWA** – Illinois is able to develop safe function. Mainly used by engineering. Pool fund study enables us to receive software free of charge. Working on the data management side conversion. This is being reviewed by the group. Mehdi suggested checking the website for additional information. IDOT is committed to this project.

**Working on IDOT/Public Health program with Loyola study on data quality.** Mehdi will send out report. He reminded committee that the Quick Facts are available on the website.

Ruth reported that 2006 data update is now available to the public. 2007 data is being processed. They are finalizing the data quality report. She also reported that the IL data reporting system is an on-line query system with four bases--mortality, hospital discharge, trauma registry and IDOT crash data—14 years of data.

**MCR, CIS, AIS update.** Jim Garceau reported the following.

**AIS:**

- Archives are down more than up. One of the optical juke boxes was down for 3 weeks and eventually replaced. The replacement unit is having parts replaced like the old one was – power supply, hard drives, etc.
- Pulling crash docs off the imaging system is a struggle because the juke boxes keep going down. The old juke box was slowing down; the replacement hasn't been up enough to get any real metrics.

**CIS:**

- Just released new client release last week, it included changes to support House Bill 5907 which starting 1/1/2009 will raise the minimum property damage reporting level to \$1500 for crashes involving insured motorists.
- Met with Mehdi to discuss formalizing some QA/QC reports, starting with those used to generate the 408 application metrics
- Currently working on adding/testing HB5907 changes:
  - to the service that handles the electronic transfer of MCR crashes to CIS
  - to the service that returns MCR crashes back to Chicago PD
  - to the service that handles electronic crash data submitted by 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors

**MCR:**

- Continuing support of the v1.x & v2.x products
- HB5907 changes, a patch for the v1.x client that should be ready for end user testing first part of December & a v2.x automated update by mid-December
- Working on a database deletion tool to satisfy an IOIA finding that programmers have access to the production database. With the tool, database manipulations will be tracked with an audit trail of the tools
- Some of the current MCR programs are having problems running in the new server environment. Tools are being created to monitor the applications running and diagnose problems.

Greg Piland asked if the AIS image update is part of the 408 funding. Jim replied they are 402 funding and he is not sure of any new funding. Greg asks if it is new software-- Jim explained that new software actually streamlines Global 360. Custom code is quicker, more efficient and less costly. Catherine Kolb asked what the plans are for a web-based MCR—Jim replied there are none, no resource time. CPD does not use client-based technology. With no web access, it is difficult to implement.

## **MCR Update**

Michael Handley reported that there were 110,000 electronic crash reports this year which is a 25,000-30,000 increase over last year. CPD is a major factor in growth. Over 1000 new people trained this year—more than half is from CPD. Working with CPD desk officers-- since October, 700 reports have been received.

Version 2 data feed with CPD will increase to mobile reporting.

Past three months have spent working with pilot mode updates on version and HB. Update has been slowed by HB 5907. Agency is responsible for updating report.

Main focus is top 92 agencies, as well as Skokie, Bloomington, McLean County, Champaign County, Marketing program is being written for TRCC meeting for FY09.

### **Jessica Baker gave an update on the Safety Data and Data Services area.**

- Stats unit is working on October 08 crashes --31 days behind
- Location unit is working on August 08 -- 45 days behind
- Case prep scanning in real time
- Safety responsibility is working on September 08 cases.

She complimented her unit on a great job.

07 Crash facts have been printed and are available at this meeting as well as on the website.

## **Safety Engineering Update**

Roseanne Nance reported that the local services project draft final report is done and beta website is being tested before moving it to IDOT for hosting and security.

Safety performance project – research project nearing completion. Meeting on November 20 with researchers to review final deliverables. Local crash – Union and Lake Counties are missing crash reports and are being manually processed by safety eng. Will be finished by December. Cook County is waiting on class A injuries.

**Dan Lee reported that pre hospital data is NEMSIS compliant data.** Currently working with vendors to complete software element stage—will be doing internal testing, beta testing. After release of the data, there will be a 1 year transition period to ensure uniform data. By the next meeting, they will be in final testing phases and will have a launch date established. After 2005 there is a hold up on Chicago data--they switched systems.

Mehdi asked if the original request covered was adequate. Will send it again.

Ruth – will there be changes in format of data collection? Dan Lee explained that data elements will change, new bubble sheet, new paper stock will help with collection. Electronic collection will be in XML – NEMSIS compliant. He also announced there is a new trauma registrar Adelisa Orantia. Please work with her for trauma information.

**Jeff Darko reported that ISP is still working on citations.**

Rosanne: **Illinois safety summit** will be held December 11. Need a representative from TRCC to update on IT. All are invited to attend.

Joyce presented a PowerPoint update on **MMUCC** which will be included on the website.

Jim Hall asked how Illinois compares nationally. Joyce Schroder doesn't believe many states are compliant—doesn't know the exact number. Mehdi reported that some states have linkage. People who are linking data do understand MUCC and the difficulty in linking the data.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

**Human Factors Mehdi** - quick facts and data issues were addressed in his earlier report.

**Information Technology**—did not meet

**Data Quality** –met on the new crash report reporting thresholds

**Engineering Factors** – Illinois received additional safety funds for roadway departure crashes --state curves represent 34% of single run off the road crashes. Will be giving the 5% maps to ISP for integrated approach for review of these maps. Research projects underway include: shoulder drop offs, edge of pavement, roundabouts, safety performance peer exchange, speed enforcement evaluation project. HS manual will be going through national balloting process next year. Will focus on additional counties for integrated safety initiatives.

**Lori will be contacting members on the data systems for an update for next 408 applications.**

**Jim Hicky**—waiting on data quality – **CPD** is in the midst of changing past practices and state standards. Good news. Anxiously moving forward and are very close. Caught up in one database versus two databases. He will meet with Jessica and Lori following the TRCC meeting.

**Next meeting will be March 2.**