

Getting Results from Regional Traffic Incident Management Teams



Polk County, Florida TIM Team

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District One



If this incident was on I-4, how many agencies would respond ?





Fatal or Felony crash investigation a critical TIM function



The Highway Incident Problem

- 50 - 60% of congestion is caused by incidents
- 13 - 30% of crashes are secondary to incidents
- Incident responder injuries are significant
- Incident caused congestion nears **\$80 Billion** annually



Roving Patrols are proven to be one of the best TIM strategies



Definitions

- Incident
 - *Any non recurring event that causes capacity reduction or increased demand*
- Incident management
 - *The organized cooperative effort of multiple agencies to detect & verify incidents, respond & manage the scene, manage traffic & provide traveler information, and clear the incident*
- TIM Team
 - *A group of organizations meeting regularly to identify issues, and develop improved incident management operations through coordination, communication and cooperation*

The TIM Team Approach

- Create long term plan for sustained benefits
- Use facilitation style to maximize participation
- Foster institutional cooperation
- Provide value to participants

TIM Team Participants

911

- Law enforcement
- Fire-rescue
- Emergency Management
- Transportation
- Turnpike
- Medical examiner
- Hazardous materials teams
- Environmental clean-up contractor
- Towing and Recovery



FDOT's Role

911

- Sponsoring TIM Team meetings
- Operating service patrols
- Developing dynamic sign systems
- Placing special mile-marker signs
- Developing complex ramp identification signing
- Developing diversion route plans
- Developing a Team notification/agency resource guide

TIM Team Logistics

- Quarterly or Bi-monthly meetings
 - *Different agency venues*
- Respect members time, 2 hr max
- Broad distribution of agendas and minutes
- Team notebooks for compilation of materials

TIM Team Activities

911

- Long range work plans
- Tabletop exercises
- Share problems, issues, resources
- Develop response plans & procedures
- Develop response criteria
- Define roles & responsibilities
- Agency facility tours



TIM Team Accomplishments

- Agency notification & resource guide
- Fuel spill workshop
- Mass casualty and other exercise participation
- Hurricane-EOC presentations



TIM Team Accomplishments

- First responder checklist
- Freeway incident severity levels
- Participation in mutual aid & fire chiefs assoc. meetings
- Post incident debriefing format

The Challenges Ahead

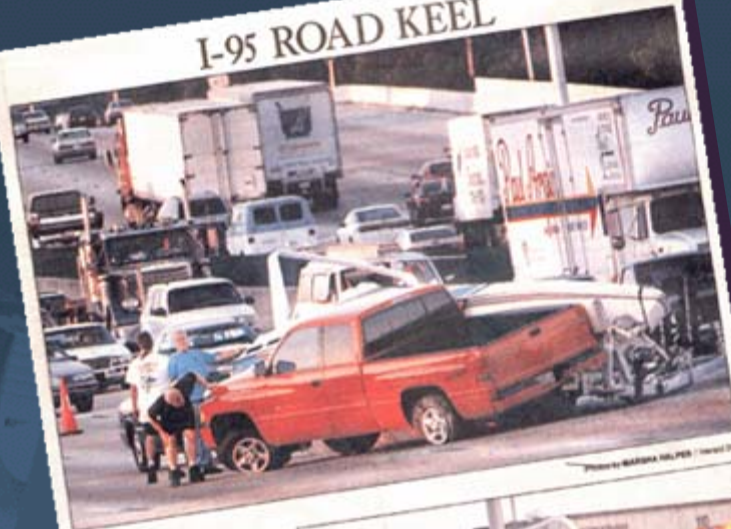
- Maintaining continuous improvement
- Putting the plans into action
- Sustaining the momentum
- Dealing with changing personnel
- Increasing pressure to improve



Traffic Incident
Management

Florida Headlines

I-95 ROAD KEEL



Commuters from Broward heading to Miami-Dade were locked in a traffic jam Friday when a boat fell off its trailer during afternoon rush hour. No one was hurt in the incident that left the Gully Knowledge sign on the southbound lanes of Interstate 95 just off Hollywood Boulevard.

Florida Highway Patrol troopers closed down one part of a lane as they funneled traffic along the side of the boat.

According to witnesses, a southbound 1997 red Dodge pickup truck apparently swerved and hit the boat, causing the trailer to jackknife. The boat wound up in the middle of the interstate and the truck was on the side of the road.

It took a few hours for troopers to clear the crash, which backed up cars as far as Interstate 595.



Sun-Sentinel

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PALM BEACH EDITION

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SPILL SHUTS DOWN TURNPIKE

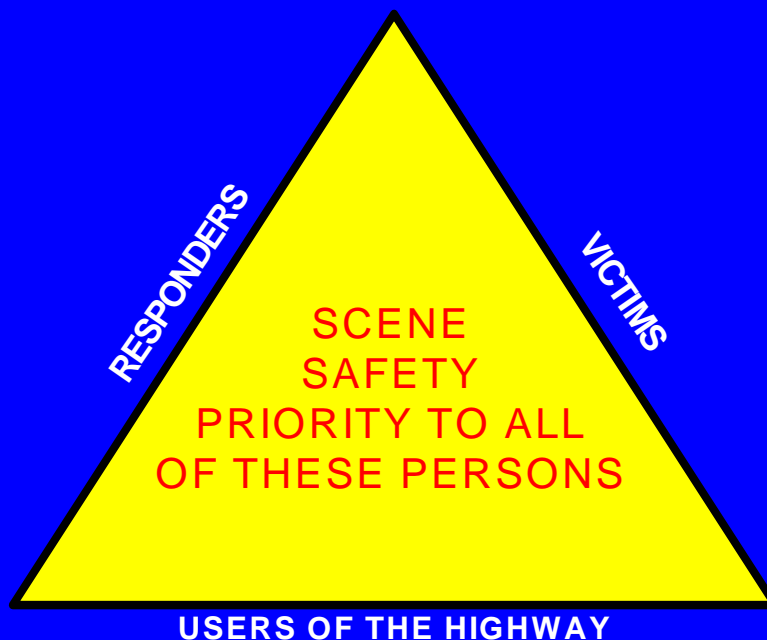


Workers drill a hole in a tanker to siphon an estimated 4,500 gallons of gasoline after the rig overturned on Florida's Turnpike at Chas-
elms Boulevard on Sunday. The turnpike was closed in both direc-
tions for more than 12 hours after the 9:47 a.m. accident. Half of the
tanker's 9,100 gallons of gasoline spilled. The 18-wheel tanker driven
by Terry Lewis, 32, of Hollywood, was northbound in the right lane
when a car crossed in front of him, according to the Florida Highway
Patrol. Lewis suffered minor injuries. The car did not stop.

No more “It’s not my job”

MUTCD

Scope of Responsibility
for Traffic Control



EVERY RESPONDER TO A HIGHWAY
INCIDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY

Do we think there is a need for Training Standards?

This incident blocked a Freeway for
six hours





Participate in multi- agency training and your local TIM team



Today's final exam



*If this is your work place, wear the
required protective garment:
A Class II reflective vest*







The Orlando Regional Traffic Management Center





Regional Transportation Management Center, Tampa

Opened Summer 2007



I-4 Surveillance & Motorist Information System, Orlando

- In a formal survey of area drivers:
 - *73% saw congestion messages on dynamic signs*
 - *67% found them accurate*
 - *58% found it timely*
 - *33% said it was very important*
 - *Nearly 50% sought alternate routes for delays over 10-15 min*
 - *FHP found 50% reduction in response times and found the ITS to be essential in saving lives*



TIM Teams Develop Candidate Improvement Opportunities

- Incident detection/verification
- Prompt effective Response
- Site management and safety
- Traffic management during incidents
- Motorist information
- Safe and Quick Clearance

Why do we need ITS and how does it help us manage incidents

- Technology affects our lives profoundly in many areas
- We can't afford to continue to build our way out of congestion
- Why not apply technology and management to transportation?

On average, 58% of the congestion we experience is related to incidents

(Texas Transportation Institute, Urban Roadway Congestion Annual Report,)