



**Polk County
Traffic Incident Management Team**

January 14, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering	Rick Grube	City of Lakeland
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering	Johnny Adkins	Stepp's Towing
Scott Malcom	Parsons	Todd Riley	Stepp's Towing
Romona Burke	FDOT	Kevin Salsbery	FDOT
Cathie McKenzie	Gannett Fleming	Ricky Thomas	ICA
Mark Kara	Professional Towing	Jim Hilbert	FTE
David Tilki	FTE	Robert Slotabec	SWS Enviro.

Call to Order: The Polk TIM Team meeting was held on Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 10:00 AM at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880. Charles Stratton and Scott Malcom facilitated the meeting.

Charles Stratton reminded the Team of the TIM meeting(s) goal will be "practice what we preach" by keeping the meetings to 90 minutes!

Introductions: Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

Agency News:

Road Rangers

The team was informed that the Road Ranger program now has a statewide sponsor through State Farm. The funds will help equip the Road Ranger trucks with better equipment such as updated Dynamic Message Signs (DMS). The new DMS signs will be able to show the "Move Over" message during incidents which has shown a positive impact on motorists obeying the law.

Towing and Wrecker News

The team was informed that the 2016 Tow Show will take place April 7-10, 2016 at the Hilton in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. The 2016 Tow Show will include new and exciting experiences to the towing industry. The event is a great way to learn more about the industry and connect with other incident responders. To learn more, please visit the following website: <http://floridatowshow.com/>

Other Agency News

No updates

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Danny Thompson presented to the team on the dangers and precautions that should be taken in regards to hybrid vehicles during traffic incidents. One of the issues stems from the high voltage cables running through the car's frame, which are connected to the battery. Most of the amperage in the hybrids can be upwards of 100 amps or greater. That's where the danger lies for first responders; they must make sure that there is not any electricity running through those orange or yellow cables before they can use metal tools like the Jaws of Life to remove a traveler.

Always treat high-voltage cables as if they were energized. Although there are no extrication techniques specific to hybrids, when cutting, always consider the location of high-voltage wiring. Manufacturers have placed high-voltage wiring and batteries in areas that are not typically considered cut points. However, if the vehicle has suffered extensive damage, consider that these components may interfere with established cut zones, and plan accordingly.

In some situations, because of the high-voltage battery's location in the Honda Civic and Accord hybrids, between the rear seat back and the trunk, you cannot use the more advanced technique of trunk tunneling. Based on a quick review of available models, it appears to be a common practice to run the high-voltage cable on the side opposite to that where the gas fill pipe is located. First responders must examine the vehicle's underside to determine the exact location.

Additionally, first responders should not approach directly from the vehicle's front or rear until it has been disabled and immobilized to prevent being in the vehicle's travel path if it should move. This is especially important for hybrids because they may seem to be shut off when they are actually in their "Ready" mode. Chock the tires, place the transmission in Park, and engage the parking brake. To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Charles Stratton informed the team about the St. Patrick's Drunk Driving Campaign: Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving -The campaign will take place March 17, 2016.

- For too many Americans, St. Patrick's Day has ended in tragedy due to drunk drivers getting behind the wheel. Over St. Patrick's Day from 2009 to 2013, there were a total of 276 lives lost in drunk-driving crashes.

Charles Stratton informed the team about the Super Bowl Drunk Driving Campaign: Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk. The campaign will take place February 7, 2016.

- According to data from NHTSA, in 2014 9,967 people were killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes in the United States—31 percent of all vehicle crash fatalities in the nation. The numbers go even higher on weekends. (There were 5,447 alcohol-impaired driving fatalities, making up 40 percent of all fatalities that occurred during weekends.)
- A driver is considered alcohol-impaired with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher, the set limit in all states.

Charles Stratton informed the team about Celebrating "80 Years" of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The MUTCD is continuously being updated to reflect the ever-changing needs of the people and the equally dynamic advances in technology. Ten editions have been published since 1935.

Mr. Stratton provided a handout to the team on Chapter 6I. of the MUTCD which covers Control of Traffic Through Traffic Incident Management Areas. The 6I Section of MUTCD includes the following: The primary functions of TTC at a traffic incident management area are to inform road

users of the incident and to provide guidance information on the path to follow through the incident area. Alerting road users and establishing a well-defined path to guide road users through the incident area will serve to protect the incident responders and those involved in working at the incident scene and will aid in moving road users expeditiously past or around the traffic incident, will reduce the likelihood of secondary traffic crashes, and will preclude unnecessary use of the surrounding local road system. To view the Chapter 6I. MUTCD handout, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Charles Stratton spoke to the team about the new “connected vehicles” website which covers all of the basics. The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) recently launched a new website describing the basics of connected vehicles. The interactive site introduces users to the concept by asking “What type of connected vehicle user are you?” and describes how the technology will benefit the selected type of transportation user (from bicyclists and pedestrians to motorists and commercial truck drivers).

The website also offers videos and presentations illustrating connected vehicle technology in action as well as descriptive diagrams of the inside of a connected vehicle. The website provides details on the next steps for the federal government in deploying connected vehicles and a big-picture view of what is going on with connected vehicle technology around the globe. To learn more, please click on the following link: http://www.its.dot.gov/cv_basics/index.htm

Charles Stratton spoke to the team about applications of unmanned aerial vehicles for emergency response scenarios. For the past three years, the Michigan Tech Research Institute (MTRI) in Ann Arbor, Michigan has been researching and implementing applications of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) for use in transportation and emergency based studies for state and federal transportation agencies. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) enabled remote sensing has the capability to help decrease costs and increase safety during emergency response situations and routine transportation infrastructure inspections, helping to achieve efficiency in operations, maintenance, and asset management. By using remote sensing as a type of non-obstructive and non-destructive data collection method, important surrounding conditions can be measured from a distance without interfering with emergency personnel, touching transportation infrastructure, or disrupting traffic.

FDOT Construction Update

Charles Stratton requested that all TIM Team members make sure they are receiving the District One Weekly Road Watch Reports and to contact him if there were any concerns.

Active Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Completed Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Anticipated Future Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Additional construction information is available on the FDOT Road Watch website located at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/D1/news/newsreleases/default.shtm>

This resource is updated on a weekly basis.

Future Meetings:

The next Polk County TIM Team will be April 14, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880.

As always, please continue to visit the TIM Team website for updates, and also help support our TIM Team by providing the TIM Team website to others that may be interested in joining our team!
<http://www.swftim.org/>

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 644.1898 or via email at cstratton@metriceng.com