



20th Edition

Polk County Traffic Incident Management Team

May 2008



Proud to be a TIM Team Member!

(Written by Gary Weiss, E.F.O.)

American Compliance Technologies, Inc (A-C-T) is a full service environmental and infrastructure Solution Company with its corporate office located in Bartow, Florida and six (6) offices located throughout Florida. A-C-T has been providing environmental solutions to the community of over 20 years with the same professional management team. A-C-T has significant experience working with governmental agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Department of Transportation (DOT) the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Chemtrec and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). One division of A-C-T is Emergency Response. Through our state of the art dispatch center and procedures one phone call puts the caller in contact with a trained and experienced project manager who will answer any incident related questions, dispatch an emergency response team with the correct equipment to mitigate and cleanup the spill. Our goal, on the initial response is to meet whenever possible the 90 minute open roads goal. Working and communicating closely with FHP, FDOT, Fire Departments and Tow Companies accomplish this goal. This communication is only one part of the link in the partnership that A-C-T has forged over the years with emergency service and community groups. manpower and equipment.

SAFETY is GOAL #1

Response and public safety is the number one goal of all A-C-T responders. Whether it, applying sorbents to reduce the "slick" on the roadway, helping divert traffic under the direction of the law enforcement agency, or quickly and completely completing the cleanup ACT is committed to safety. All A-C-T responders meet all or exceed OSHA required training. Select A-C-T responders had completed DOT-MOT Training and are equipped for establishing safe highway operational zones. All responders are trained in the incident management system and A-C-T routinely operated with in unified command system as the haz-mat group or technical specialists.

Mission

The TIM Team Program brings together all agencies involved in clearing the roadway crashes with the objective of improving detection, verification, response, and clearance times to expeditiously remove a motor vehicle crash or incident from the roadway while providing the best real-time information to motorists, resulting in a safer highway environment for both incident responders and motorists.

EXPERIENCE COUNTS

Having in house experience in multi-disciplined fields is unique to A-C-T. If a geologist, chemist, professional engineer, structural specialist, construction specialist or hazardous material special they are available instantly, this eliminates the need for subcontractor. A-C-T not only provides OSHA and ICS training throughout the state through A-C-T University, it has members with vast emergency service and environmental experience. A-C-T has members that operated at the attacks on the World Trade Center, major waterway oil tanker and pipeline spills, anthrax-contaminated building, homeland security issues as well as chemical and weather related disasters. A-C-T has members on USAR Task Forces and four (4) LEPC's through the state and represents environmental groups on the State Commission on Emergency Response. A-C-T is proud to have members on both the Polk County and Collier County TIM.



The Florida Department of Transportation did conduct a simulation hurricane emergency evacuation exercise on Saturday, May 31st.

Although no "Contra-flow" was initiated, TIM Team response agencies executed the deployment of human resources and equipment along a 63 – mile stretch of I-4 from Tampa to Orlando. The idea was to practice the exercise, observe and monitor the process, confirm roles and responsibilities, and review the process experience to identify opportunities for improvement. Planners estimated this drill to require 220 FHP Troopers, 110 FDOT personnel, and more than 3,000 MOT devices (cones & barricades). Additionally, a 9 hour estimated duration. Traffic flow was not shifted in any way during this exercise. (Referenced from Bay News Nine, 5/28/08)

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Upcoming Events:

TIM Team Meeting – June 12, 2008
TIM Team Meeting – September 11, 2008
TIM Team Meeting – December 11, 2008





Florida's Motorists can now get up-to-the-minute **Travel Times** on the **511** system. By dialing 511 and requesting a transfer to the Southwest Florida system or by logging into www.southwestflorida511.com and scrolling over the time clock icons. "Know Before You Go" so motorists can make informed decisions about route options based on current traffic conditions for I-75.

The entire **511** Advance Traveler Information System is an excellent resource for information during large-scale emergency weather events in Florida. Traffic and Travel conditions are continually being updated with information from a myriad of detection devices and information sources.



SWIFT SunGuide Center located at the Daniels Pkwy Rest Area is built. Furniture and operations equipment is being brought in and installed during this phase of the project. Additionally, high-tech I T S devices are being installed along I-75 to provide traffic information to TMC personnel and FHP communications center professionals. This state-of-the-art facility is an communications & operations hub for integration and dissemination of information with respect to Florida's transportation system. SWIFT SunGuide Center is the title which stands for : **S**outh **W**est **I**nteragency **F**acility for **T**ransportation.

Traffic Incident Management Team "Polk County" was launched April 23rd to bring together the professional responders to work as a team, address local issues that impact agencies and learn about the perspectives of other agencies. These workshops were very well attended and the teams elected to continue meeting on a regular basis year after year. This team will partner with multi-district TIM Teams from Tampa to Orlando with a goal of Unified Command Structure, Inter-Operable Communications and Professional Cooperation in support of responder safety, motorist safety and quick clearance.

T I M TEAM NEW WEBSITE!

www.swfltim.org

Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter, or would like to submit an article, please contact Don Olson at don.olson@dot.state.fl.us.

The Polk County TIM Team is committed to implementing the Quick Clearance principles of Florida's Open Roads Policy through the "3 Cs" of TIM: Communication, Cooperation and Coordination, and providing the public with the best real-time Motorist Information available. Team membership draws from state, regional, and local transportation agencies, public safety providers, and other organizations and companies that service the traveling public. The Teams, sponsored by the FDOT, meet bi-monthly.



Traffic Incident Management

