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Intelligent Transportation Society Recognizes GDOT's 511 as ITS Outstanding Achievement of the Year

Georgia 511 gets more than 4,200 calls a day in first month

AUGUSTA, GA (October 1, 2007) – The Intelligent Transportation Society of Georgia (ITSGA) today recognized the Georgia 511 real-time traffic information system as the most significant transportation technology advancement of the year. The award was presented to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) at the ITSGA 2007 annual meeting in Augusta.

“The Georgia 511 program has already proven its value to the traveling public in Georgia by the higher than expected number of calls since its launch in mid-August,” said Marvin Woodward, president of ITS Georgia. “It is an excellent example of an ITS solution improving the efficiency and safety of our transportation systems.”

Georgia 511 provides an extensive menu of options available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Callers connect to the system by simply dialing 5-1-1 from any landline or mobile phone. Between the launch date of August 15th and September 15th, Georgia 511 received 128,867 calls, significantly exceeding the Georgia Department of Transportation's own expectations. That number translates to an average of 4,296 calls per day.

The service provides statewide traffic conditions, route-specific information and details on road or lane closures due to construction, incidents or weather. Estimated travel times are available for major roads within the metro-Atlanta area. Additionally, connections are available to transit providers, major airports, rideshare organizations, tourism information and 511 systems in neighboring states.

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An automated voice recognition system guides callers through the service. Callers can also reach live operators at the Transportation Management Center to report accidents, request HERO assistance or obtain additional information.

Georgia 511 has a companion website at www.511ga.org and a toll-free number for callers from outside the state, 1-877-MYGA511.

About ITS Georgia

ITS Georgia is a group of organizations that support ITS technology as a way to significantly reduce congestion and improve the performance, safety and efficiency of our transportation system. ITS Georgia provides a forum for advocacy, facilitation, integration, and for learning more about Intelligent Transportation Systems. ITS Georgia is the 2006 ITS America State Chapter of the Year.

ITS Georgia members include federal, state and local transportation agencies, ITS technology and service providers, large private and commercial transportation system users, universities, and other interested parties with missions that involve, or are affected by, the transportation system. ITS Georgia is the state Chapter of ITS America.

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