



Contacts:

Bill Wells, 404-281-7490

Michael Hunter, 404-385-1243

Research at Georgia Tech to Help Shape the Future of Intelligent Vehicle Communications Presented to ITS Georgia Members

ATLANTA (October 28, 2005) – Researchers at Georgia Tech are helping to determine what combination of computing, communication and sensing technology vehicles of the future will use to operate more safely and use the highway more efficiently. Details of the research were presented to a meeting of the Intelligent Transportation Society of Georgia.

Drs. Michael Hunter, Richard Fujimoto, Randall Guensler and their research team are testing smart cars that communicate with each other and with a simulated traffic management network. The idea is to help establish what information should be sent and received from both drivers and traffic system managers and how best to deliver that information in rural and urban environments.

“One can envision creating an integrated network leveraging various wireless technologies that work together to provide collision avoidance, real-time traffic, mapping and other information to drivers,” said Dr. Hunter. “Simultaneously, transportation system managers would have better information on traffic incidents and volumes and could better deploy assets and program traffic control devices.”

Dr. Hunter’s presentation discussed Georgia Tech’s simulation experiments of varying ad-hoc vehicle-to-vehicle network configurations and a detailed field study of short range communications between vehicles and between vehicles and roadside stations. Also highlighted were expected wireless communication characteristics in a driving environment and factors that significantly affect communication performance. The benefits of multi-hop communications in

###More###

improving communication performance were also discussed. Dr. Hunter's presentation may be viewed at www.itsga.org.

Dr. Hunter is an Assistant Professor at the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology. His primary teaching and research interests are in transportation operations and design, specializing in adaptive signal control, traffic simulation, freeway geometric design, and arterial corridor operations. Dr. Hunter obtained his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic University (1992), his M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin (1994), and his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin (2003). After obtaining his M.S. he worked as a transportation engineer for several years at the Sear-Brown Group in Rochester, NY. He has conducted numerous traffic impact studies, signal timing projects, freeway operation evaluations, toll plaza analyzes, etc.

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 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. ITS America is the organization that provides technical advice and assistance to the U.S. Department of Transportation. For more information, visit www.itsga.org.

End