



**TRANSPORTATION SAFETY ADVANCEMENT GROUP**  
Promoting Technology for Public Safety

# Transportation Safety Advancement Group **2010 ANNUAL REPORT**

## **TSAG Mission**

*Within its technology for public safety strategy, TSAG promotes transportation safety and efficiency through optimized communications networks between and among public safety providers, travelers, vehicles and infrastructures.*

**February 2011**

# TSAG | 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

February 1, 2011

Linda Dodge  
ITS Joint Program Office  
Research and Innovative Technology Administration  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Transportation Safety Advancement Group 2010 Annual Report

Dear Linda,

The Transportation Safety Advancement Group (TSAG) is pleased to submit this Annual Report of 2010 activities and key accomplishments. The report illustrates the significant contributions of TSAG members, our public safety stakeholders and of TSAG support staff, for which we're grateful.

We trust that this Annual Report adequately captures the strength of partnership that TSAG continues to enjoy with US DOT in general and with your office in particular. We commend your leadership, and especially expert guidance and support. Moreover, we respect and appreciate the opportunity to participate with RITA and the ITS Joint Program Office in its important national public safety mission.

Please let me know if you have questions or would like any additional information.

Respectfully,



Dia Gainor, Chair

c: Scott Belcher

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## I. Introduction

The Transportation Safety Advancement Group (TSAG) is pleased to provide this Annual Report of its 2010 activity. The report provides a profile and summary of TSAG work, of corresponding investment of resources, and of relevant outcomes. These outcomes increasingly demonstrate the strength of TSAG members' focus and dedication to its technology for public safety mission.

TSAG achievements are in large measure credited to its continuing collaborative association with its US DOT partners, including the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, ITS Joint Program Office and with key DOT modal administrations. This Report verifies the value of these associations and of other public and private partnerships, as TSAG pursues its mission to help serve the safety needs of our nation's travelers. The strength and relevance of TSAG activities continue to be advanced through a roster of nationally known transportation and public safety professionals and supporting organizations (Table A). During 2010, these members invested some 3,500 volunteer hours as they guided an aggressive 2010 Work Plan, and pursued specific activities and actions for advancing the TSAG mission.

### **2010 achievement highlights include:**

- Participated in the discussion of national ITS planning and ITS research policy.
- Advanced the discussion of national transportation safety and emergency responder needs.
- Advanced awareness of good practices and lessons learned in the delivery of transportation and public safety services.
- Advancing a national awareness of state and locally based strategies for public safety.
- Lead the US DOT project to address emergency responder 9-1-1 information priorities.
- Strengthened strategic partnerships for leveraging resources in expanding knowledge transfer of ITS and advanced technologies as effective and efficient public safety tools.

Through the forgoing, TSAG pursues its fundamental goals of advancing the national pursuit of traveler safety and efficiency and of promoting public safety services coordination and emergency responder safety. These goals are addressed through a dual focus: first, incident prevention through technologies that support safe and efficient transportation operations; and second, incident response, through technologies that support effective incident identification, incident management, and incident and event management including responder safety, victim rescue, and incident scene clearance.

TSAG pursues these fundamental goals through gaining insight and knowledge of proven and emerging technologies and through pursuing knowledge transfer programs. In turn, knowledge transfer activity is directed at promoting technologies that support safe and efficient transportation operations, that support coordinated event management and emergency response, that promote interoperable public safety communications, and corresponding public policy that advances good practice across these areas.

## II. Key 2010 Work Plan Accomplishments

Through its detailed 2010 Work Plan, TSAG accomplished important mission focused activities including:

### **RITA Strategic Plan for Research, Development and Technology Activities (Strategic Research Plan)**

TSAG completed a detailed analysis of the RITA Strategic Plan for Research, Development and Technology Activities (RITA 2010-2015 Strategic Research Plan), and responded to the associated request for public comment. From TSAG comments and recommendations, additional opportunities to discuss public safety research and technology needs surfaced, among these a TSAG/ IntelliDriveSM 'listening session' that itself generated additional TSAG public safety research recommendations.

### **TSAG Website - Outreach, Awareness, Knowledge Transfer**

From its original launching in early 2009, the official TSAG Website ([www.tsag-its.org](http://www.tsag-its.org)) continues to improve in content, function and service to the broad public safety community. During 2010 over 100,000 website visits were recorded, with a corresponding growth in 'feedback' contacts through the website's interactive "Share Your Input" feature. As TSAG activity evolves and expands, so too does its Website expand to include key public safety technologies references and key TSAG projects profiles and activity updates. Similarly, as these projects and activities evolve, the TSAG Website will continue to evolve as a key communications medium for serving TSAG's advancing technology for public safety mission.

### **TSAG Case Studies Workshops Series**

Through key support from RITA's ITS Joint Program Office and its T3 Professional Capacity Building (PCB) program, TSAG continued its successful Case Studies Workshop (CSW) Series. During 2010, two T3 workshops were completed; the first dedicated to presenting the TSAG NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum to a Webinar audience, and the second a CSW on the Fort Hood, TX Army Base shootings, presented in conjunction with the National Rural ITS (NRITS) Annual Conference. The TSAG CSW Series has grown in stature and popularity, with webinar interactive participation typically ranging between 100 and 200 participants, as illustrated below:

#### **Fort Hood, TX Army Base Shooting Incident**

This workshop reviewed the various public safety communications and response challenges associated with a 'closed' military base immediately following a major shooting incident that resulted in multiple fatalities and injuries. Internal emergency communications and response protocols, combined with constrained highway access available to local agency public safety responders presented a range of operations decision points addressed largely through pre planned 9-1-1 processes and pre-planned agency emergency coordination plans.

#### **NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum Webinar**

The successful TSAG Case Studies Workshops model and framework was employed to serve this special NG9-1-1 What's Next project need. Through its T3 partners, TSAG extended the NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum 'reach' to a national audience. Some 125 public safety, NG9-1-1 and emergency responder interests were able to view Forum presentations and participated through interactive Q&A sessions in a constructive and helpful manner.

By established practice, TSAG Case Studies Workshops proceedings are available in complete detail, including visual and audio presentations through the TSAG Website.

## **ITS Strategies for Public Safety Project**

In early 2010, TSAG expanded its 2010 Work Plan adding an 'ITS Strategies for Public Safety' project. The project proposes to identify best practices and eventually propose a 'model' for state level ITS Strategic Plans, and within these Plans define specific 'ITS strategies for public safety. By definition, strategies for public safety are those technology applications and institutional frameworks that specifically address public safety and emergency responder needs. Over the next 2-3 years, this project is envisioned to establish a unified, nationally-based ITS Strategic Plans program.

## **NG9-1-1 What's Next Project**

TSAG is partnered with US DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and RITA's ITS Joint Program Office in delivering an NG9-1-1 What's Next project. The project, managed through this 3-way consortium, delivered its NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum during September 2010. The Forum assembled nationally recognized representatives of four emergency responder groups including Emergency Medical Services, Fire & Rescue, Law Enforcement, and Transportation Operations to individually and collectively identify priority information requirements delivered through evolving NG9-1-1 communications centers.

The project will continue into 2011 and an NG9-1-1 What's Next project report will be prepared and delivered to US DOT, in support of its evolving national NG9-1-1 program plan, and as follow on NG9-1-1 What's Next outreach activity is defined.

## **TSAG Strategic Partners Program**

Initiated in 2009, the TSAG Strategic Partners program continued to expand during 2010. Through this program, TSAG leverages resources for expanding its knowledge transfer reach and for broadening its technology for public safety awareness base. Strategic Partners, through reciprocal agreements, maintain website links to promote awareness of public safety technologies research, assessment and evaluation, plus identify related knowledge transfer events and venues. As its communications mediums are refined, TSAG Strategic Partners will serve increasingly important roles in advancing pursuit of the TSAG mission.

### III. Additional Foundational Activities

Beyond its key accomplishments, TSAG completed additional planning and development of mission specific implementation tools including:

#### 2009 Annual Report

In keeping with its charter provision to maintain a strong liaison with US DOT and with ITS America, a 2009 Annual Report was prepared, published, and broadly distributed.

#### TSAG Technical Information Exchange Program

As an element of its all member business meetings agenda, the TSAG Technical Information Exchange (TIE) program invites experts in key member interest topics to provide overviews of current or emerging technology for public safety applications. During 2010 TIE presentations included:

- March 10, 2010 - RITA Strategic Research Plan & Intellidrive<sup>SM</sup> (Valerie Briggs, ITS JPO)
- June 17, 2010 - Intellidrive<sup>SM</sup> Systems Engineering Element (Walt Fehr, ITS JPO)
- June 17, 2010 - Clarus Road Weather Management Program (Mark Pisano, FHWA)
- June 17, 2010 - NG9-1-1 Status Report (Laurie Flaherty, NHTSA)
- Dec 16, 2010 - MIT Lincoln Labs Distributed Disaster Response System (Gregg Hogan, MIT)

#### Public Safety Research, Assessment & Evaluation, and Knowledge Transfer

Driven by transportation and public safety centered events and by public safety research, best practices, and technology assessment and evaluation, TSAG pursues communications mediums for advancing the national dialogue on known and emerging public safety technologies. These mediums become increasingly useful as TSAG cultivates its valued partnerships, including its key stakeholders, its growing roster of TSAG ‘friends’ and of course, its direct working partnership with the RITA, ITS Joint Program Office and associated US DOT modal administrations.

#### Technology Transfer Program

Through its Technology Transfer program, a cornerstone of its broader technology knowledge transfer effort, this TSAG member activity promotes an active dialogue among transportation and public safety interests, in particular the eight transportation and public safety interest communities directly affiliated with TSAG.

#### US DOT Executive Briefing

On December 15, TSAG leadership, joined by its National Traffic Incident Management Coalition (NTIMC) partner, completed a formal briefing of select US DOT modal administration executives. The interactive session focused on overviews of key TSAG and NTIMC activity plus discussion of emerging opportunities for directly engaging in national public safety programs, including NG9-1-1, Intellidrive<sup>SM</sup> and others.



## IV. Allied Stakeholder Support

In addition to the foregoing Work Plan and Strategic Plan activity, TSAG members and staff supported its allied stakeholders and partners through direct involvement in mutual interest programs and projects including:

### **US DOT / RITA**

- RITA Strategic Research Plan
- NG9-1-1 What's Next
- US DOT Congestion Management Initiative
- US DOT Rural Initiative

### **National Rural ITS Conference**

- NRITS Meetings Support
- NRITS Annual Conference Program Support
- TSAG Case Studies Workshop (Integrated Into NRITS Annual Conference)

### **ITS America**

- State Chapters Council
- Safety Forum
- Associated Public Safety Programs Support

### **National Traffic Incident Management Coalition**

- National Unified Goal Support
- Interoperability Working Group Participation
- 2010 TIM Summit Support
- Associated Incident Management Program Support



## V. Looking Ahead

From its 2010 work, TSAG has strengthened its position to serve as a prominent vehicle for advancing a national technology for public safety focus. TSAG continues to provide meaningful transportation operations and public safety input and general ITS and public safety support to its key stakeholders and to the US Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration ITS Joint Program Office and associated US DOT modal administrations.

During 2011 and subsequent years TSAG will continue to sharpen its organizational focus on technology for public safety, taking care to keep this focus foremost in serving its purpose for advancing technology applications in transportation operations and public safety - while efficiently managing its resources.

TSAG looks forward to continuing its work, and to continuing its evolving relationship with the US Department of Transportation, its allied stakeholders, and its targeted local, regional and state level transportation and public safety agencies.

## Appendix A

### TSAG 2010 Meetings/Events Summary

TSAG members guided the organization's planning, operations and strategic direction through all member business meetings, executive committee meetings and teleconferences, and ad hoc project meetings, including:

Meeting	Date
All Member Business Meeting	March 10
Executive Committee	March 11
All Member Business Meeting	June 17
Executive Committee	June 18
CS Workshop (Ft Hood) – NRITS	August 3
TIM Summit (NTIMC)	Sept 21-22
IntelliDrive Listening Session	October 19
NG9-1-1 What's Next Forum	Sept 23-24
NG9-1-1 What's Next Working Groups	Oct–Dec Tele meets (8)
US DOT Briefing	Dec 15
All Member Business Meeting	Dec 16
NG9-1-1 What's Next Project Leadership	Jan - Dec

Teleconference	Date
Executive Committee	January 28
Executive / Membership Committee	February 4
NTIMC Interoperability Working Group	February 23
Executive Committee	March 24
Executive Committee	April 5
ITSA Safety Forum	April 29
Executive Committee	May 3
Executive Committee (Bylaws Update)	May 3, 27 & June 10
NTIMC Interoperability Working Group	August 25
ITSA Safety Forum	September 7
Executive Committee	September 15
ITSA Safety Forum	October 5
Executive / Membership Committee	November 3
NTIMC Interoperability Working Group	November 4
Executive / Membership Committee	November 10
NTIMC Interoperability Working Group	December 6
Executive Committee	December 10

From the foregoing, TSAG estimates that over 3500 member volunteer hours were contributed to the advancement of its technology for public safety mission.

## Appendix B

# TSAG Vision, Mission and Operating Principles

### **Vision**

Protected travelers and public safety personnel who serve them through integrated Intelligent Transportation Systems technologies.

### **Mission**

Within its technology for public safety strategy, TSAG promotes transportation safety and efficiency through optimized communications networks between and among public safety providers, travelers, vehicles and infrastructures.

### **Operating Principles**

**Public Safety Through Technology** – The advancement of proven and emerging technologies for traveler safety and for the safety of emergency responders remains a TSAG priority as these and as broader Intelligent Transportation Systems are deployed on our nation's multi-mode transportation networks.

**Public Safety Through Strategic Partnerships** – Strategic Partnerships and institutions that serve to advance transportation safety and mobility through technology are encouraged and will be promoted through support of relevant public policy, technology research, and competitive and open technology markets.

**Public Safety Through Knowledge Transfer** – TSAG will advance traveler and emergency responder safety through forums that share knowledge, promote awareness and exchange experience, all employed to create an awareness of national public safety challenges and opportunities.

## Appendix C TSAG Member Roster, January 2011

### Interest Community

### Candidate Stakeholder Organizations

### Designated Members

#### Emergency Communications

Association of Public Communications Officials (APCO)  
National Emergency Number Association (NENA)  
National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC)  
National Association of State 911 Administrators (NASNA)

Jim Goerke, NENA  
Nancy Pollock, APCO

#### Law Enforcement

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)  
National Sheriffs Association (NSA)  
Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA)  
Major Counties Sheriffs Association (MCSA)

Dan Dytchkowskyj, NSA  
Philip Strohm, IACP

#### Emergency Medical Services

American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)  
Association for Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM)  
Assoc of College Surgeons / Committee on Trauma (ACS/COT)  
National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)  
National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP)  
National Assoc of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT)

Dia Gainor, NASEMSO  
Ted Delbridge, NAEMSP

#### Fire & Rescue

International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)  
International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF)  
National Fire Protection Association (NAFP)  
National Association of State Fire Marshalls (NASFM)  
National Volunteer Firefighters Council (NVFC)

Mike Brown, IAFC  
T. J. Nedrow, NVFC

#### Transportation Operations

American Assoc of State Highway  
& Transportation Officials (AASHTO)  
American Automobile Association (AAA)  
Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA)  
Assoc of Transportation Safety Information Professionals (ATSIP)

John Corbin, AASHTO  
Jill Ingrassia, AAA

#### Emergency Management

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)  
National Emergency Management Association (NEMA)

Bill Hinkle, NEMA  
Rick Comerford, IAEM

#### Technology & Telematics

American Trucking Association (ATA)  
National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO)  
National Association of State Technology Directors (NASTD)  
Public Technology Institute (PTI)

Skip Yeakel, ATA  
Cynthia Manley, CCAS

#### Academic & Research

Transportation Research Board (TRB)  
University Transportation Centers (UTC)

Thomas West, CCIT  
Robert Gray, Penn St U.



# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



ITS Joint Program Office  
Public Safety Program Coordinator

ITS America  
Vice President of Programs

Executive Committee



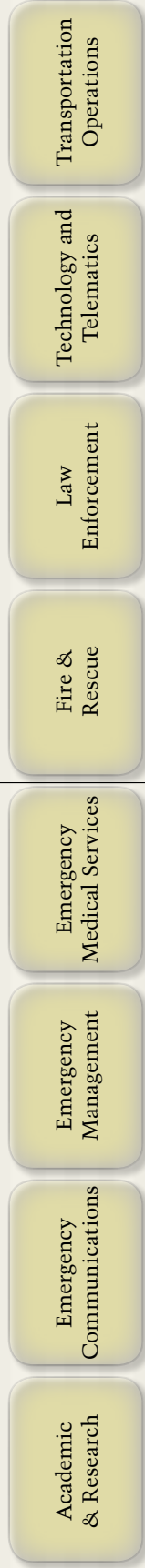
TSAG Chair

TSAG Vice-Chair

Immediate Past Chair

ITSA Safety Forum Representative

Transportation Safety Advancement Group Membership  
Comprised of Eight (8) Transportation & Public Safety Interest Communities, Two (2) Members Each



U.S. Department of Transportation Modal Agency Representatives



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The Transportation Safety Advancement Group is supported by the US Department of Transportation, ITS Joint Program Office as partners in promoting ITS technologies for public safety.