ATRI Research Presented at TRB Annual Meeting

Results from four ATRI’s research studies were presented at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), held in January in Washington, DC.

- Analysis of Operational Costs of Trucking
  Authors: Todd Trego and Dan Murray
  Authors: Rachel Pickett, Dan Murray and Chris Flanigan (FMCSA)
- Snow and Ice Accumulation on Vehicles
  Authors: Todd Trego and Rebecca Brewster
- Developing a Methodology for Deriving Cost Impacts to the Trucking Industry Generated by Freight BottleNecks
  Authors: Jeff Short, Todd Trego and Rex White

Copies of the papers presented at TRB are available from ATRI’s website at www.atrionline.org.

ATRI Updates Online Idling Regulations Compendium

ATRI recently updated its listing of state and local idling regulations found on the ATRI website. The updated listing is provided in two forms: a cab card, which can be downloaded and carried in the glove box of a truck, and an online compendium, which provides links to individual regulations. Recent updates include the enactment of new limits in Chicago and the Ohio cities of Cleveland and Maple Heights. Changes to idling regulations in Illinois, New Jersey and South Euclid, Ohio, are also noted. ATRI continues to monitor the development of idling regulations across the country and maintains the compendium and cab card as a free service to help trucking companies and truck drivers comply with the increasing number of state and local idling regulations. Both the compendium and cab card are available for download on the ATRI website.

ATRI to Document Truck Parking System User Requirements

ATRI has been selected by the I-95 Corridor Coalition to solicit industry input to the Coalition’s real-time truck parking availability system design and user interface. ATRI will also assist the Coalition in promoting awareness about the system and its functionality to carriers and drivers.

The I-95 Corridor Coalition received one of two truck parking grants awarded by the Federal Highway Administration as part of the Corridors of the Future Program. Under the FHWA grant, the Coalition will outfit selected public and private parking lots in eight to mid-Atlantic States with optical imaging analytics, a technology that will detect available spaces in individual parking lots. The system will then integrate and process the data collected to calculate parking availability by area and disseminate the information to drivers and carriers through a variety of media.

ATRI has already initiated its work to identify driver preferences for receiving parking availability information. On February 4th, ATRI’s regular feature on Sirius/XM Radio’s Dave Nemo Show included the I-95 Corridor Coalition’s Marygrace Parker, who detailed system plans for listeners, and ATRI’s Dan Murray, who asked drivers to comment on information delivery.

“I was gratified by the number of callers who thanked us for bringing real-world solutions to a persistent problem for drivers,” said Mrs. Parker, the I-95 Corridor Coalition’s Program Coordinator for Freight Mobility, Safety and Security. “Drivers validated what we knew to be a real issue, pulling into multiple lots in an attempt to find open parking spots wastes valuable time, fuel and creates additional risk exposure.” Likewise, drivers who are forced to park illegally on highway ramps when there is no available parking or the location of available parking is not known, creates significant safety hazards for truck and car drivers,” said Mrs. Parker. The Coalition’s proposed system will allow for advance trip planning as well as real-time information delivery.

The stretch of I-95 designated in the Corridors of the Future grant runs from Connecticut to North Carolina, through some of the nation’s most congested urban areas. The Coalition estimates that the eight states in the truck parking project area are home to over 130,000 commercial motor carriers.

ATRI will soon launch an online survey for input from drivers and carriers on the system design. Working with the American Trucking Associations’ America’s Road Team Captains, ATRI will also solicit additional driver input at the Mid-America Trucking Show in Louisville next month. The I-95 Corridor Coalition and its project team, including ATRI, Telvent and Cambridge Systematics, are working closely together to ensure that the system being developed will serve as a workable tool for drivers to gain real-time truck parking availability information.

New ATRI Chairman Sets Priorities for 2010

Maverick USA Chairman and CEO Steve Williams sees tremendous potential for his first year as chairman of the ATRI Board of Directors. “I’ve had the privilege of serving on the ATRI Board for several years now and I know firsthand how much value ATRI provides the trucking industry and its many stakeholders. Serving as chairman will afford me the opportunity to lead ATRI’s outreach in a way that expands our core base of supporters and sponsors,” Williams recently told the ATRI Insider.

In setting out his priorities as chairman, Williams applauded the groundwork laid by his predecessor Doug Duncan, FedEx’s Freight President and CEO. “With Doug at the helm, ATRI became a leading source of credible industry research and information for government agencies and motor carriers,” Williams said.

Williams said his goal for 2010 is to highlight the many ways that ATRI’s research is informing the debate on so many critical industry issues including hours-of-service, higher productivity vehicles, onboard safety systems and freight performance measures. “Doing so will help to translate ATRI’s reputation for excellence into expanded industry financial support for the Institute’s research agenda,” said Williams.

(Continued on page 2)
Message From the President

A new year brings new leadership to ATRI. Doug Duncan, a founding Board member and ATRI Chairman since 2005, will be retiring from his position as President and CEO of FedEx Freight on February 28th. With the announcement last year of his pending retirement, Doug also indicated that he would be stepping down as chairman of ATRI upon completion of two successful terms in that position. His successor as ATRI Chairman is Steve Williams, Maverick USA Chairman and CEO.

It has been an honor and a privilege for me to work with Doug Duncan during his tenure as ATRI Chairman. With Doug at the helm, the Institute experienced tremendous success in research contracts awarded and research published. The Institute also saw record numbers of industry stakeholders actively involved in critical industry studies and operational testing. Working closely as I did with Doug, it’s clear to me why he has enjoyed such success throughout his career. His strategic direction, technical acumen and commitment to this industry are traits to be admired and emulate.

On behalf of the ATRI Board and staff, I want to thank Doug for his service to ATRI and wish him the best in his retirement.

Rebecca M. Brewer
President and Chief Operating Officer

ATRI would like to thank the following state trucking associations for their financial support of the industry’s research agenda:

- Alabama Trucking Association
- Arkansas Trucking Association
- Colorado Motor Carriers Association
- Georgia Motor Trucking Association
- Idaho Trucking Association
- Illinois Trucking Association
- Iowa Motor Truck Association
- Kansas Motor Carriers Association
- Kentucky Motor Transport Association
- Maine Motor Transport Association
- Maryland Motor Truck Association
- Minnesota Trucking Association
- Missouri Trucking Association
- Motor Transport Association of Connecticut
- Nevada Motor Transport Association
- New Mexico Trucking Association
- New York State Motor Truck Association
- Ohio Trucking Association
- Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association
- South Carolina Trucking Association
- Tennessee Trucking Association
- Texas Motor Transportation Association
- Trucking Association Executives Council - Region II
- Wyoming Trucking Association

RAC Member Scott Wombold

Scott Wombold’s background and experience lend a critical perspective to the ATRI Research Advisory Committee, of which he has been a member since 2009. As Vice President of National Accounts and Wholesale Fuel for Pilot Travel Centers, Scott fully understands and appreciates the challenges in identifying and deploying long term solutions to the perennial industry issue of truck parking.

Scott got his start with Pilot in 1985 as a Travel Center manager and subsequently promoted to District Manager. In 1990 he was named Director of National Accounts, where he was instrumental in creating the Pilot Wholesale Fuel Department, which now sells over 25 million gallons of bulk fuel per month.

In 2002 Scott joined COMDATA where he held senior roles in the wholesale fuel department which supported over 5,000 travel centers. In 2007 as Vice President of Strategic Sales where he grew the Pegasus TransFlo scanning program to over 25 million accounts and senior vice president and general manager of the Merchant Services department which supported over 5,000 travel centers and other merchants in the United States and Canada.

In 2007 Scott joined COMDATA where he held positions as Senior Vice President of National Accounts and Senior Vice President and General Manager of Merchant Services. He was responsible for managing the Merchant Services Departments and also managed the Virtual Fleet Department.

In 2008 he was named President of Pilot Travel Centers, which is a subsidiary of Pilot Flying J, and a member of the board of directors.

Specific priorities detailed by Williams for his term as chairman include:

- Seek new opportunities to highlight ATRI’s research to a broader audience of stakeholders.
- Identify strategic partnerships for ATRI with government, industry and academia.
- Expand the research agenda to better link freight research to broad transportation and economic objectives.
- Increase the number of industry stakeholders who support the Institute through annual charitable contributions, including those from motor carriers, industry suppliers and state trucking associations.
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Maine Truck Weight Analysis

ATRI recently released the findings of its analysis on the potential energy and emissions impacts of expanding the federal gross vehicle weight (GVW) exemption to additional portions of the Maine Interstate system. As part of TEA-21, the Maine Turnpike and a portion of I-95 in Kittery were provided an exemption from the federal weight limit.

Using state-of-the-art simulation modeling, the analysis found that traveling a slightly longer route with higher average speeds resulted in less fuel consumed and fewer emissions than traveling on a route with lower average speeds, numerous speed limit changes and traffic signals. In comparing the operation of a vehicle with a GVW of 100,000 pounds over two different routes – an Interstate route versus a state highway route, trip-specific fuel efficiency improvements, measured in miles per gallon, of 14 to 21 percent were identified when traveling over the Interstate route. Trip-specific emissions were also estimated to decrease by 6 to 11 percent for CO2 and 3 to 8 percent for PM and NOx + NMHC over this route.

A link to the full report, which was available for the Maine Department of Transportation, is available on ATRI’s website.

(Williams, continued from page 1)

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Don Geesey
RAC Chairman
Senior Vice President of Safety
Schneider National, Inc.

Mr. Paul Baute
Safety Director
Grumman Industries, Inc.

Mr. Philip L. Byrd, Sr.
President & CEO
Building Honey Express

Mr. Michael C. Connelly
Director of Research
International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Mr. John Culp
Executive Vice President & CFO
Maverick USA, Inc.

Mr. Chad Englund
President
C.B. England North America

Ms. Sheila D. Focher
Managing Director
Wyoming Trucking Association, Inc.

Mr. David Foster
Vice President, Field Maintenance
Southeastern Freight Lines

Dr. Kathleen Hancock, PhD
Director, Center for Geospatial Info. Technology
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Mr. Stephen A. Keppler
Interim Executive Director
Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance

Mr. Dick Landis
President and Chief Executive Officer
HELP, Inc.

Mr. Trina Martynowicz
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. Jeffrey J. McCaig
President & CEO
Tracmex Transportation, Inc.

Mr. Ed Miller
Motor Carrier Policy Officer
Maryland DOT

Ms. Jennifer Morrison
Vehicle Factors Engineer
National Transportation Safety Board

Mr. Michael Neatz
Senior Vice President
RVC Worldwide Enterprise Services, Inc.

Mr. Steve L. Niswander
President & CEO
Maverick USA, Inc.

Mr. Stephen Ortenzi
President & CEO
Wellingdon W. Ortenzi Insurance, Inc.

Mr. Jim Runk
President & CEO
Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association

Mr. Thomas Weidler
Director of Operations
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association Foundation

Mr. Scott Wombold
Vice President, National Accounts and Wholesale Fuel Pilot Travel Centers

Mr. Greer Woodfill
Vice President of Corporate Safety and Security
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2009-2010 Research Advisory Committee

ATRI’s Research Advisory Committee (RAC) is responsible for annually recommending a research agenda for the Institute.
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(Continued on page 3)