



**Highway Incident and Transportation Systems (HITS)
Committee Meeting
December 17, 2020
3:00 PM EST**

Minutes

Attending – Donnie Woodyard (CO), Cyndy Wright Johnson (MD), Scott Winston (VA), Rachel Ford (OR), Keith Wages (NASEMSO), Jim Green (NASEMSO), Dr. Doug Kupas (PA), Jeremy Agulnek (HAAS Alert), Cory Hohs (HAAS Alert), Gamunu Wijentunge (NHTSA), Tammy Trimble (Virginia Tech Transportation Institute), Travis Terry (Virginia Tech Transportation Institute), Charlie Vits (IMMI), Josh Walters (Biospatial), Joe Ferrell (Biospatial), Dia Gainor (NASEMSO), Mary Hedges (NASEMSO), Hannah Degn (NASEMSO)

Welcome and Roll Call – Keith Wages, Immediate Past President of NASEMSO, called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM EST in David Newton’s absence.

Review & Approval of August 12th Meeting Record (attached) – The meeting record was approved as submitted. Woodyard moved/ Winston seconded/ Motion passed.

An Examination of Emergency Response Scenarios for Automated Driving Scenarios – Tammy Trimble, & Travis Terry, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, presented their study addressing how automated driving systems (ADS) may impact emergency response. <https://featured.vtti.vt.edu/?p=1088>

Dr. Travis Terry shared a PowerPoint presentation describing the 2018 study on automated driving systems (ADS) and how interaction with emergency response vehicles could be improved with ADS. They met with focus groups composed of public safety first responders (law enforcement, fire and EMS). Each public safety group identified their needs with ADS-equipped vehicles. Some of those needs included: knowing the ADS vehicle in driverless operation as soon as possible when arriving at the scene; how to disable the vehicle after an incident; moving the vehicle from the scene; knowing the ADS vehicle could distinguish public safety officials from pedestrians and more. The overall goal was to inform on what is needed in the development of ADS technology that would be important to first responders. The findings were included in the Best Practices developed for ADS technology. Tammy Trimble said there are opportunities for collaboration with private companies and NASEMSO on ADS. Josh Walters commented that a secondary goal for ACN systems on ambulances is to integrate ACN information with NEMSIS ePCR record collection. Additional information about ACN comms with AVs could be documented in the ePCR for research.

Project and Committee Updates

- Transportation Safety Advancement Group – Dia explained that TSAG is an organized coalition of branches of transportation systems which provides technical input for USDOT grant programs involving Intelligent Transportation Systems.

- Road to Zero Coalition – Dia reported she is spearheading one of three working groups of this coalition. The Coalition is working to end preventable deaths on roadways by 2050.
- TIM Executive Leaders Group – Dia represents NASEMSO and EMS in this leadership group whose purpose is to promote traffic incident management (TIM) training for responders to roadway incidents. The large gathering they typically hold annually was sidelined by COVID this year. She continues to encourage the promotion of TIM to EMS entities. Keith Wages shared that TIM training is now required for EMS certification in Georgia. Keith said the in-person TIM training is impressive.
- Safe Transport of Children Crash Test Project [testing-child-restraint-devices-for-ambulances](#)– Jim Green, Project Manager, announced that the project recently received a small contract from the New Jersey EMS for Children program to develop a sled buck used to conduct crash testing. He will begin the project by assembling stakeholders to help design the sled buck before it is used for testing of pediatric restraints.
- AVL Committee / Ambulance Standards Update – Sue Prentiss or Dale Adkerson were not available to report.

Collaboration between State Highway Safety Officials and State EMS Officials – All are invited to share examples from their state.

Donnie asked about availability of data on TIM training by states, as he would like to see the data for Colorado. Mary will provide that to him.

Dr. Doug Kupas shared that the NEMSIS data is beginning to show a reduction in lights and sirens use in EMS, which has been an interest of his. He completed a study addressing this safety issue in EMS for NHTSA in 2017. The white paper is available at [Lights and Siren Use by Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\): Above All Do No Harm](#)

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 3:58 PM EST.

Next Meeting – February 10, 2021