



## Exciting things are happening!

### TSMO happenings from December 2021 - April 2022 Travel Information, Data and Highway Operations Group

The Coalition has been very busy providing members with training, information exchanges, and engagement! Our members and distinguished speakers shared a lot of valuable information, and we are sharing it with you!


This newsletter provides information on events focusing on **Traveler Information, Data, and Highway Operations**.

#### Traveler Information

These days, travel information is much more than the agency 511 number. The Coalition helps member agencies integrate third-party (such as Waze) into their travel platforms.

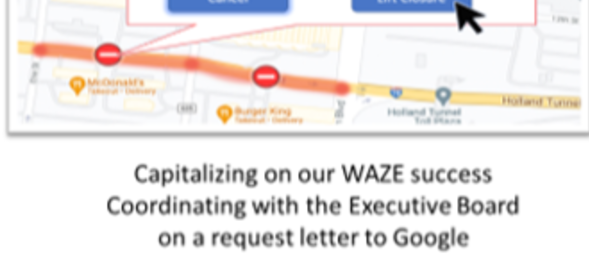
A Coalition-led group began coordinating with Waze (in November 2019) to address issues and work to have features added to the service. This group now meets with Waze twice a year to continue the progress. We are capitalizing on our Waze success and will coordinate with other third-party mapping providers. If you are interested in learning more about this exciting work, please contact Denise Markow ([dmarkow@tetcoalition.org](mailto:dmarkow@tetcoalition.org)).

### WAZE



Coordinating with WAZE Map Editors on Road Closures

### Google Maps

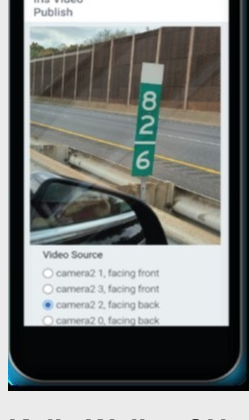
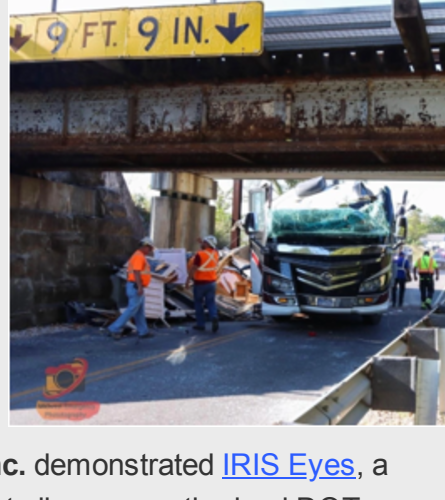


Capitalizing on our WAZE success  
Coordinating with the Executive Board on a request letter to Google

#### Traveler Information Web Summit: Improving Safety - Implementing New Travel Information Services for Commercial Vehicles – March 17, 2022

This web meeting featured four presentations from member agencies and vendors regarding travel information for commercial vehicles within their agency, as well as new technology to assist them in their work. Take a look at the [presentation](#), [slides](#), or [Q&A summary](#) or visit the [Travel Info Events tab](#) on the TSMO section of the Coalition website for information for other travel info events.

**Ryan McNary of PennDOT** provided background information on the challenges and successes PennDOT experienced in publishing low bridge data to the public on [511PA](#) starting in 2020. **Mary Farrell of Information Logistics, Inc.** provided context behind this information rollout, including sources for bridge data and where data could or should be published. Since the start of the program, there have been a minimum of 500-layer activations per month.

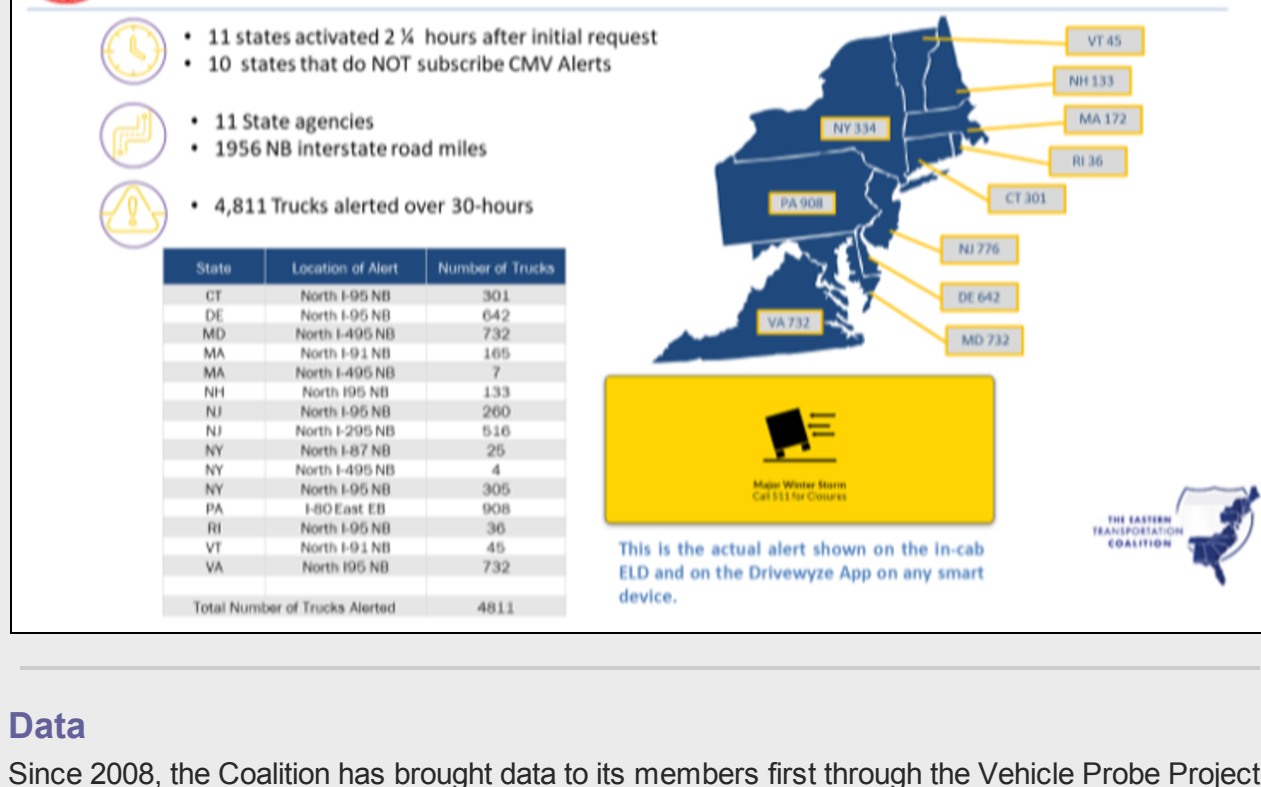


**John Farrell of Information Logistics, Inc.** demonstrated [IRIS Eyes](#), a lightweight live video streaming service that allows an authorized DOT operator in the field to send real-time video back to an operations center via smartphone. This application can provide visual access in areas without direct stationary camera coverage.

**Kelly Wells of North Carolina DOT** presented information on and results of their commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety alert message pilot completed by Drivewyze with INRIX data. Drivewyze can alert CMV drivers of slowdowns and congestion events.

**The study showed that during a crash on I-95 Southbound, CMV drivers who were alerted reduced speeds by 8-11MPH compared to 2-3MPH in a control group of drivers who were not notified. Drivewyze users in NC have been issued 50,000 alerts to date.**

**Sal Cowan of New Jersey DOT, Amy Lopez of INRIX, and Marc Nichols of Drivewyze** presented their collaboration on a major safety effort on 647 miles of NJ roadway to provide safety alerts to CMV drivers. The deployment's effectiveness was demonstrated during Winter Storm Kenan in January 2022. Drivewyze was able to send more than 4800 alerts to CMV drivers in each affected state over a 30-hour period to warn drivers of weather-related closures and congestion.



#### Data

Since 2008, the Coalition has brought data to its members first through the Vehicle Probe Project and now through the **Eastern Transportation Coalition's Transportation Data Marketplace (TDM)**. Through the guidance and work of all member states, the RFP process which spanned from August 2021 through January 2022, selected vendors to provide data as part of the TDM.



**As of July 1, 2022, the Transportation Data Marketplace, will provide members the opportunity to obtain data in any or all of the six different categories (Travel Time & Speed, Origin-Destination, Freight, Waypoint, Volume, and Conflation) from 13 prequalified vendors.** For more information about this exciting opportunity, please visit the [TDM page of the Coalition website](#) or contact Denise Markow ([dmarkow@tetcoalition.org](mailto:dmarkow@tetcoalition.org)).

A Validation Technical Advisory Committee, comprised of select agency members will oversee the validation processes. For more information on this committee and its activities, please contact Stan Young ([seyoung@tetcoalition.org](mailto:seyoung@tetcoalition.org)).

#### Highway Operations Groups (HOGs) - A Fresh Start!

The Highway Operations Groups, more commonly known as the HOGs, have been a signature program for members since the Coalition's inception (1994). The focus has been on incident management with the goal of bringing together stakeholders in a particular region to facilitate cross-border communication. There are five core regional groups within the corridor: New England, Tri-State, Delaware Valley, Potomac, and Southern. In the past, these exchanges were held in person. In order to keep discussions going and information flowing – it is time for a Fresh Start! We are keeping the HOGs name and focusing on bringing together stakeholders from **Maintenance, TMC Operations, Law Enforcement, Freight, and Towing operations** to continue sharing and learning from each other – whether virtual or in-person. A restart has begun in the New England region, as noted below, and we are moving south! Currently, we are holding virtual exchanges while planning for in-person events in the near future.

If you are interested in being a part of the HOGs, please contact Denise Markow ([dmarkow@tetcoalition.org](mailto:dmarkow@tetcoalition.org)).

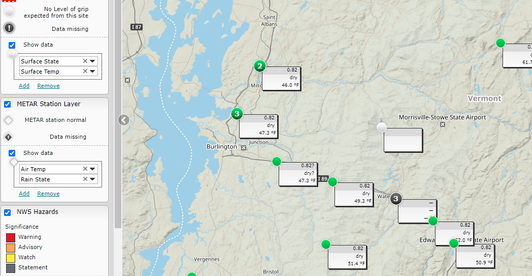
### State Roundtable: Overview of agency Snow and Ice Operations

Identify the preparation steps being taken by snow and ice personnel, snow management operational centers, law enforcement and towing operations for the upcoming winter season.

**What are your biggest challenges?**

- Are there weather briefings?
- How do you use/monitor RWIS stations (i.e. pavement sensors or wind anemometers)?
- Are cameras used in your operations and if so, how are they used?
- Does your agency use DMS boards to post weather messaging and if so, do you have a protocol?
- How do you communicate between Snow and Ice personnel, Law Enforcement and TMC Operations?
- How are you handling truck restrictions or other type of restrictions?





A screenshot of the RWIS platform VTrans uses

#### New England HOGs - Post Winter Round-up – April 7, 2022

The focus of this HOGs meeting was reviewing the recent winter season activities and preparing for the next one. **Ryan Knapp of Vermont AOT** described in detail how they use RWIS and the challenges they face in Vermont. [Click here to view his presentation.](#)

Staff from the following Coalition member states actively participated in the roundtable portion of this meeting: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. States discussed

their maintenance operations, how they distribute information to travelers, and their recommendations for the next season. **FACTOID: MassDOT reduced its road-salt usage by \$1M** by using RWIS to predict road conditions.

#### New England HOGs- Fresh Start: Freight – February 17, 2022

This roundtable discussion highlighted topics such as oversize-overweight (OS/OW) vehicle restrictions, waivers, and notifications. Most states impose restrictions on oversized vehicles during storms. Each state has a unique way to notify drivers and industry partners of new restrictions on permits. Most importantly, agency members from the following states discussed accommodations for special OS/OW vehicles during emergency events, such as providing emergency permits: Connecticut, Maine, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

#### New England HOGs Exchange - A Fresh Start – December 2, 2021

This HOGs meeting included two roundtable discussions and a presentation from **Dom Ciaramitaro (North Carolina DOT)** on NCDOT's use of Tethered Drones on Safety Service Patrol (SSP) vehicles. Dom spoke about the process NCDOT used, issues encountered, and benefits found as part of the tethered drone pilot. Participants were interested in how NCDOT is using and evaluating the performance of the drones. [To view NCDOT presentation on the use of Tethered Drones on Safety Service Patrol \(SSP\) Vehicles, click here.](#)



During the roundtable portion of this meeting, member agencies discussed two different topics - Road/Weather Operations and SSP vehicles. For Road and Weather operations, agencies discussed their processes, communications, the technology used, as well as their biggest challenges. For Safety Service Patrols, agency members discussed how their SSP function, communicate, equipment used, as well as performance metrics.

#### Follow the Coalition on YouTube and subscribe to be informed!

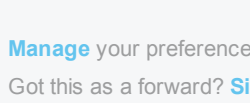
Recordings from many of the Coalition's webinars are available [here - take a look!](#)

#### Questions or Comments:

**General Coalition:** Denise Markow at 301.789.9088 or [dmarkow@tetcoalition.org](mailto:dmarkow@tetcoalition.org)

**Logistics:** Joanna Reagle at 610.228.0760 or [jreagle@kmjinc.com](mailto:jreagle@kmjinc.com)

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