



PRESS RELEASE

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EMERGENCY RESPONDERS GET LIVE PICTURES FROM FDOT

FDOT District IV Announces Inter-Agency Video Distribution System

(Fort Lauderdale, Florida – February 21, 2007) – Local agencies have a new visual tool to assist in evaluating traffic events while dispatching emergency response teams. Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District IV now has the capability to distribute its live motion Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) camera video feeds to inter-agency partners (and other authorized users), using existing Internet infrastructure at no additional cost.

The new Inter-agency Video Distribution System (iVDS) provides streaming video from 45 CCTV locations along I-95, I-595 and State Road 84 in Broward County. Emergency response agencies such as 911 centers; police, fire and ambulance stations; transportation management centers; airports and transit authorities can benefit from the live images before or during an incident along the freeways.

FDOT District IV distributes the CCTV video streams from the SMARTSM SunGuide Transportation Management Center in Fort Lauderdale. The iVDS system converts the source of the high bandwidth video images to an industry standard “MPEG-4” format allowing high quality viewing through existing Internet connections. The iVDS solution requires authorized users to sign into a secure website, which enables them to select a specific CCTV feed or a tour of CCTV feeds. “This is yet another benefit of the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) that allows for improved response and clearance of incidents along Florida roadways,” said Steven Corbin, FDOT District IV ITS Operations Manager.

The SMART SunGuide TMC is a 24-hour facility run by FDOT District IV and the Broward County Traffic Engineering Division. Operators at the TMC monitor freeways and major arterial routes with CCTV cameras, speed sensors, traffic signal control devices and a fleet of Road Ranger Service Patrol vehicles. In coordination with local law enforcement and fire rescue, operators identify and respond aggressively to quickly clear incidents, disabled vehicles and other interruptions to traffic. Up-to-the-minute information is displayed on Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and on the region’s 5-1-1 Advanced Traveler Information Service. For more information about the SMART SunGuide TMC, please visit www.SMARTSunGuide.com. The iVDS was developed by the software consulting firm IBI Group (www.ibigroup.com) located in Pompano Beach, Florida.

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