**Omar Smadi, Pavement Management Specialist, CTRE**

**This Article** is the latest periodic update about current work and future plans for Iowa’s pavement management program (IPMP). For readers who are new to Technology News, here’s a rundown of the program:

**What does the program do?**
The IPMP provides roadway data and computing tools to help agencies make cost-effective decisions about road repair, rehabilitation, and reconstruction. These tools include:

- information on pavement condition for individual pavement sections
- raw pavement distress data (or pavement condition data) from the automated distress collection equipment
- inventory and history information on roadways
- an objective and consistent planning tool to support development of regional and statewide transportation improvement plans
- training on pavement management software and principles
- videologging of roadways

**What roads are covered?**
The IPMP covers all federal-aid eligible roads in Iowa, whether under state, county, or city jurisdictions.

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**Who pays for this?**
The Iowa DOT funds data collection on county non-federal aid paved roads (approximately 5,500 miles over a two-year period). Cities pay $60 per mile, plus an additional cost (based on the number of miles) for CTRE to set up the system, manage data collection, and deliver the data.

**A little history**
Funded by, and in cooperation with, the Iowa DOT, CTRE began developing the IPMP in 1994 and implementing it in 1999. Major tasks that have been completed include the following:

**Delivering 2003 distress data**
By the end of June 2004, roadway distress data collected in 2003 will be delivered on CD to participating cities, counties, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), and regional planning authorities (RPAs).

Shaded areas on the accompanying map show the geographic areas where 2003 distress data were collected.

**Collecting distress data in 2004**
This year we are beginning the fifth cycle of distress data collection. All 18 of Iowa’s RPAs and eight MPOs are participating in the effort.

To participate in additional data collection for 2004, please send a request through the IPMP website, www.ctre.iastate.edu/ipmp. A notice will also be sent through the Iowa DOT mailing to all cities in the state.

**Training**
Several training workshops covering the pavement management software and the IPMP GIS tools were conducted last year, and we are planning a very aggressive training program again in 2004 and 2005.
Training on dTIMS and GIS tools, including the newly developed section tool, will begin later this year.

Again this year, we will also conduct training sessions for RPAs and MPOs in their offices.

A dTIMS users’ group will also be formed to allow users to meet and discuss their experiences and insights.

**New IPMP website**
The IPMP project website was unveiled in 2003. It includes information about IPMP tasks and distress data collection, the workshop schedule, frequently asked questions, and other information.

**What service do you need?**
The new website also includes an electronic request for information form. We have received several such requests since the website was unveiled. It is becoming the preferred way for local agencies to request information and support. If you have questions, try it out: www.ctre.iastate.edu/ipmp.

**For more information**
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**Other services**

**Video logging.** Working with the data collection vendor (Roadware Corporation), CTRE is making video-logging capabilities available to local transportation agencies. Roadware can provide video logs (one view or multiple views) of the right-of-way, as well as pavement images for roads where distress data are being collected.

Through its VISIDATA software, Roadware integrates video and data into a single desktop application. VISIDATA lets you “drive” your network without leaving your office.

Roadway is providing this service to local transportation agencies participating in the IPMP at a cost of

- $10.00 per mile for one right-of-way view
- $20 for panoramic (three views)
- plus an additional $10 per mile for the pavement images

Together, the video logs, images, and VISIDATA software provide transportation agencies with continuous coverage (160 images per mile) of their highway network integrated with the condition data that Roadware already collects. A copy of the VISIDATA software can be purchased for $500.

Last year, eight agencies purchased video log information, and the data and images are already being used in presentations to city councils and county boards of supervisors.

**dTIMS pavement management software**
dTIMS software is a tool that allows local and regional agencies to use pavement condition information as the basis for determining and prioritizing roadway maintenance and rehabilitation needs and developing cost-effective long-range plans and programs.

Fifty cities, counties, MPOs, and RPAs have purchased dTIMS. The initial cost of the software is $500, plus an additional annual fee for maintenance and update. We still have several copies available.

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**To participate in data collection for 2004, send a request through the IPMP website, www.ctre.iastate.edu/ipmp.**