Our Friend Dave Fenno
(December 2, 1965 – October 12, 2006)

Our friend and colleague David Fenno passed away Thursday, October 12, 2006. Dave fought a 12 year battle with cancer as he was diagnosed with synovial sarcoma cancer in April 1995. Over the next decade plus he endured numerous medical procedures to treat the disease. Many times over those year doctors told him that he had months to live. To prove everyone wrong, he celebrated his 40th birthday last December, a birthday he said he never imagined that he would see.

Dave joined TTI in 1993 as a graduate student and moved to the Houston Office in 1995 after completing his Master's Degree at A&M. He worked on a wide variety of topics but his work focused on HOV lane management and operations. For years he worked closely with TxDOT and METRO on many issues.

During his fight against cancer he inspired those who knew him with his never give up attitude and determination to live. Dave retired earlier this year to spend more time with his family. Even though we kept up through phone conversations and an occasional lunch, we have missed his presence here in the Houston office. In his last letter to his family and friends Dave said “I couldn’t have made it through all these years without the love and support provided by my loving parents and many of you”. He also said that “If I had given up in the beginning, I would have missed out on so much. It’s been a long, bumpy, and sometimes painful road, but it’s been worth taking, for I’ve made so many friends with you, and known what it is like to start and have a family.” Dave is survived by his wife Monica, his son William. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Dave requested that donations be made to his son’s college education fund. Dave said that he hopes William will be an Aggie someday and that it would mean more to him if we helped the family in that way.

Donations via check can be made to "The Fidelity Advisor 529 Plan – William Fenno" (Please write his account number, 704035310, at the bottom left portion of the check) and mailed to: Fidelity Investments Institutional Operations Company, Inc. (FIIOC) P.O. Box 770002 Cincinnati, OH 45277-0081
Marketing and Outreach Contract Awarded

TTI was awarded the contract to continue the marketing and outreach functions of the Travel Model Improvement Program (TMIP) for the Federal Highway Administration. The Center for Professional Development is again taking the lead in coordinating this project and is supported by Communications, Event Management and Planning, and SPP&E. Gary Thomas will continue on as project manager and Penelope Weinberger will continue in her role as on-site contractor in Washington, DC. The new contract is for the 06-07 fiscal year and renewable for up to five years. Total funds allocated to the project over the 5 years is $5 million.

TxDOT / DART Successful in ICM

By Christopher Poe

The US DOT has selected eight corridors in the US to develop and demonstrate the concept of Integrated Corridor Management (ICM). These corridors are called ICM Pioneer Sites, and three of those corridors are in Texas. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is the lead agency in Houston and San Antonio where IH-10 will be the Pioneer Site corridor in each city. Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) will be the lead agency in Dallas where US 75 will be the Pioneer Site corridor. TTI is part of the team in each of the three cities. All eight Pioneer sites are shown in the figure below.

The US DOT states that “ICM represents the next generation of transportation strategies that can reduce congestion by coupling the power of integrated operational capabilities in corridors and accurate mode independent performance information the public can use to make informed transportation choices. Transportation professionals and informed travelers can work together to collectively improve each network’s performance and the overall travel experience. Integrated corridor management will result in a reduction in travel times, delays, fuel consumption, emissions, and incidents, and an increase in reliability and predictability of travel.”

Each Pioneer Site will use a technical support team to conduct the work required to develop the ICM corridor. TTI will be the lead for the support team in Houston and will assist in San Antonio and Dallas. The technical work is divided into three stages. Stage One is to develop Concept of Operations (ConOps) and Requirements documents. From these ConOps and Requirements documents, the US DOT will select up to four corridors to proceed to stages two and three. The sites selected for Stage Two will have their proposed ICM Concept analyzed and modeled using USDOT-provided resources, methodology, and tools. Stage Three is the Demonstration stage and the final Pioneer sites will be funded to deploy their full ICM concept.
Recent Travels

TTI San Antonio Research and Implementation Office staff have been on the move! Gary Barricklow has been to McAllen and El Paso on data collection trips. Ken Giusti worked with Gary and in El Paso and Kwaku Obeng-Boampong assisted Gary in McAllen. Kwaku also traveled to Houston for a Synchro training course. (See related article on page 4.)

Steve Venglar attended meetings in El Paso and took several trips to Austin to meet with project sponsors. Russell Henk, the most intrepid of San Antonio travelers, has been to El Paso three times, Houston, Beaumont, Louise, Bastrop, Georgetown and Johnson City.

Tony Voigt, Chris Poe, and Russell Henk traveled to El Paso on September 13 to participate in the Urban Office Meeting - PolyCom video units were used by all TTI Urban Office for those who did not travel to El Paso.

Bob Brydia and Gary Thomas traveled to Austin to teach the pilot workshop on the project “Wireline ITS Communications Training”. The workshop teaches the basics of communication principles, media, protocols, and technologies, as well as presenting a methodology to use in the design or evaluation of ITS communication systems. The workshop was met with very positive reviews and will be taught across the state over the rest of the fiscal year. (See related article on page 4.)

Several project kick-off meetings were attended by Darrell Borchardt in College Station and in Kingsville, and Robert Benz traveling to Austin.

Bob Brydia traveled to Austin to participate in the first working group session of the AIMHigh (Austin area Incident Management for Highways) project led by Jodi Carson.

Bob Brydia and Leonard Ruback were in Austin for the kick-off meeting of project 5586, Next Generations Communication Architecture for TxDOT ATMS. Bob, Leonard, Hassan Charara and Kevin Balke, traveled to Austin for the ITS Technical Committee Meeting.

Ask Kevin Balke how trips to Austin/Boston/Austin can really mess with your head? It all started with him traveling to Austin on Sept. 19-21 to attend the TxDOT ITS Technical Committee Meeting; then during the same week travel to Boston to meet w/Volpe Center and FHWA at MIT in Cambridge about DYNAMIT being integrated in the Houston Claire, DYNASMART, Rhodes Project. He was back in Austin by Sept. 22 to attend a Loop 1 Managed Lane project meeting. Leonard Ruback joined Kevin in Austin for the Loop 1 meeting.

Srinivasa Sunkari was in Austin, September 18th for Project 456297 kick-off Meeting with TxDOT

Paul Carlson and Beverly Kuhn traveled to Austin on Sep 11-12 to attend the RMC 4 TAP meeting marathon.

LuAnn Theiss traveled to Bryan on September 11 to meet with Dean Alberson and ESCO regarding engineered material arresting system, testing, and teaming for a future proposal. LuAnn traveled to Beaumont on September 20 to make a Teens in the Driver Seat presentation.

Anthony Voigt and LuAnn Theiss traveled to Beaumont on September 28 to meet with the District Engineer and Lamar University staff regarding interagency work as well as intersection assessments.

Robert Benz traveled to Prairie View on September 29 to attend the Prairie View A&M Industry Advisory Council meeting.

Gary Thomas was in Ames, Iowa (one of his former homes) on September 19-21 to teach the NHI course "Freeway Management and Operations" for the Iowa Department of Transportation.

(Continued on page 5)
Training Opportunity Available

By Bob Brydia

Last year, TxDOT project 5-4969 “Wireline Communications Design Guidebook for Intelligent Transportation Systems”, developed materials for a Wireline Communications Workshop. The workshop teaches a broad overview of communications, progressing through topics such as media, protocols, topologies, architectures, typical equipment, and the communication technologies most often used in ITS deployments. The workshop also teaches a design/evaluation methodology for looking at project communication requirements and analyzing options to find the most appropriate choices.

This project is currently in implementation status. Gary Thomas and Bob Brydia will be teaching the course at Gilchrist (Room 103) on November 14 (8am -4:30pm) to personnel from area TxDOT districts. This will be one of nine workshops taught across the state.

Because room 103 has seating above and beyond the number of TxDOT attendees, this group will be offering spots in the class to anyone internally that had an interest. There is no-cost for this training opportunity.

If you would like to attend this training, please respond to Diane Fischer (d-fischer@tamu.edu, 979-845-9898). Seats will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis.

If you would like some additional information about the workshop to determine if you are interested, please contact Bob at 979-845-8140.

Synchro Training Workshop

By Kwaku Obeng-Boampong

NOTE: Robert Benz, Charles Stevens and Jonathan Tydlacka attended the Synchro Training Workshop on September 13-15. The article by Kwaku Obeng Boampong is from the advanced session held on Friday, September 15. Brown bag lunches will be planned so training can be shared with all.

The advanced session focused mainly on background issues in Synchro including differences in delay calculations in Synchro from those in the Highway Capacity (HCS) Software (and HCM for that matter). Differences in Right Turn on Red calculations were shown to differ in Synchro from HCS. Differences in delay values for Synchro and SimTraffic were also mentioned. Other highlights discussed involved advanced Synchro inputs such as the Phase Templates and the Ring and Barrier design. Actuated timing inputs including Yield Points, Coordinated Recall, Dual Entry, Max Inhibit and Force-Offs were also discussed and an example of coding a diamond interchange was performed.

File and Project Management topics were treated and included some neat topics like Saving Part of a File which allows you to save part of a larger network and re-merge back into that larger file. This also allows you to merge the saved part in to other files by changing coordinates.

We also touched on the Universal Traffic Data Format (UTDF) in Synchro which allows transferal of data between various software packages. In this case, it allows for transfer of Synchro data to a .csv file format as well as using UTDF to read TMC style counts (e.g. from PETRA software – for TMC data collection) for input into Synchro.

There is now a 3D animation option in SimTraffic which might rival VISSIM’s. Synchro Version 7 is a lot more visually appealing and has easier navigation tools compared to Version 6. Overall this was a good course, but for anyone thinking of attending just the advanced training session for a newer version of Synchro, you might want to attend the whole session in order to get a sense of all or most of the features available in the newer version. The course was a little rushed particularly towards the end because there were just too many things to cover within that period of time.
Travels - continued

(Continued from page 3)

**Andy Ballard**, with an ever-watchful eye on hurricane threats, traveled to Houston to discuss evacuation logistics and will also be mentoring a local high school student on an advanced study project on evacuation modeling. Andy attended a Microsoft Developer Network Event in Houston. The seminar demonstrated many of the network programming features available in Microsoft's .NET Framework. The most interesting item in the event was related to one of the examples used to demonstrate the processing and presentation of dynamic data sets. The data that the Microsoft presenter used was none other than the Houston TranStar traffic data feeds that were developed by the Houston Office!

What do the month of September, Doha, Beijing, and Paris, all have in common? **Ed Seymour**!

The trip to Doha, Qatar (pronounced "Cut-ter") with Val Pezoldt included a visit to the TAMU at Qatar campus. Ed was in Beijing, China to attend the China Transportation Forum. **Kevin Balke** went to Paris, France with Ed along with members of a team represented by the FHWA and Harris County. It was a first hand look at the CLAIRE software system in operation.

In between trips to China and Europe, Ed and Kevin were seen in the Boston area meeting with MIT and Volpe National Transportation System

The map is a representation of what the flights looked like - not what they felt like!!!
DalTrans FMC Under Construction
By Jim Carvell

TTI staff members recently took a hard hat tour of the DalTrans Freeway Management Center now under construction and due to be finished in the spring of 2007. Since TTI Dallas will have office space there, Holly Crenshaw, Manager of Facilities & Support Services and Brian Long, Lead Microcomputer/LAN Administrator, were there to insure that adequate provisions had been made for TTI's network and telecommunications systems. Also along were Bryan Miller, Senior Systems Analyst and Jim Carvell, Senior Research Engineer, both assigned to TTI's Dallas office. The “interim” DalTrans system has been in operation for over ten years and currently controls and monitors about 100 miles of freeway. The ultimate system will include over 300 miles of freeway cameras, dynamic message signs, and other advanced Intelligent Transportation Systems. Bryan Miller developed prototype freeway management software for the interim system and TxDOT has adopted that package for the new DalTrans system. In addition to TxDOT freeway operations personnel, the 54,000 square foot building will also house all District traffic staff, Dallas Area Rapid Transit HOV operations and Dallas County Sheriff Courtesy Patrol dispatch operations. Although local city traffic and enforcement personnel will not physically be housed in the center, high speed communication systems will expedite sharing of traffic data including video for coordinated operations. TTI has been a partner with TxDOT Dallas in freeway management since 1968 when TTI established its Dallas office to assist with the FHWA sponsored Dallas Corridor Study. Ed Seymour was an employee of the City of Dallas at the time and was heavily involved in the project as was Jim Carvell who moved from College Station to open the TTI Dallas office. Pictured below are an exterior shot of the building and interior shot of TTI and TxDOT personnel inspecting the building.

TxDOT RMC Fall Meeting - Arlington, Texas

The November Research Management Committee Meetings will be at the Hilton - Arlington. The program schedule is as follows:

RMC 1 - Wednesday November 8, 2006 - 10:00 a.m.
Thursday November 9, 2006 - 8:00 a.m.
RMC 2 - Monday November 6, 2006 - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday November 7, 2006 - 8:00 a.m.
RMC 3 - Monday November 6, 2006 - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday November 7, 2006 - 8:00 a.m.
RMC 4 - Monday November 6, 2006 - 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday November 7, 2006 - 8:00 a.m.
RMC 5 - Wednesday November 8, 2006 - 1:00 p.m.
Thursday November 9, 2006 - 8:00 a.m.

A schedule for TOG practice presentations was sent through e-mail by Nancy Stratta on Monday, October 16.
TOG Is Hiring

New positions and positions filled are listed below. Continue to share this information with your contacts. You can also forward potential names to the hiring supervisors so they can make personal contact. Applicants interested in applying for a position should go to https://tamujobs.tamu.edu/ choose "create an application" on the left side, and follow the instructions on the site to apply for the position.

**New Positions**

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<td>061408</td>
<td>Software Applications Developer I</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Paso Office</td>
<td>Rafael Aldrete</td>
<td>061101</td>
<td>Software Application Developer II</td>
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<td>El Paso Office</td>
<td>Rafael Aldrete</td>
<td>070228</td>
<td>Programmer/Analyst I</td>
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<td>Houston Office</td>
<td>Tony Voigt</td>
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<td>Asst. Research Engineer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dallas Office</td>
<td>Chris Poe</td>
<td>061144</td>
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**Pending**

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**Birthdays**

- Oct 1 Nicholas Koncz
- Oct 1 Dan Walker
- Oct 3 Geza Pesti
- Oct 6 Shauna Bustamante
- Oct 11 Omar Mata
- Oct 19 Gene Hawkins
- Oct 19 Charles Stevens
- Oct 20 Brenda Manak
- Oct 21 Christopher Debaillon
- Oct 23 Jack Antebi
- Oct 25 Byron Blaschke
- Oct 27 Srinivasa Sunkari
- Oct 29 Rajat Rajbhandari
- Oct 31 Marcus Brewer
- Nov 01 Ivan Lorenz
- Nov 10 Paul Carlson
- Nov 25 Jerry Salazar
- Nov 29 Keqing Li

**TOG Mission Statement**

To facilitate innovations in transportation system operations through leadership in research, education and technology transfer.