

# Towing & Recovery Incentive Program (TRIP) TDOT Highway Safety Operations Conference



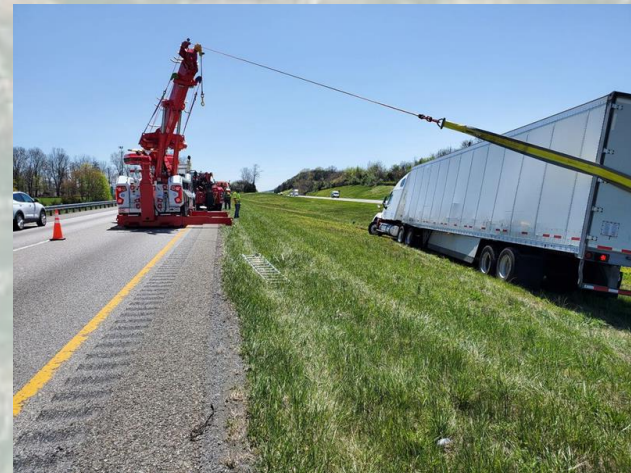
November 15, 2023



# WHAT IS TRIP?

- **TRIP IS A QUICK CLEARANCE INCENTIVE PROGRAM THAT PARTNERS AGENCIES WITH HEAVY DUTY TOWING COMPANIES**
- **PERFORMANCE BASED FOCUSED ON SAFETY, RAPID RESPONSE AND LANE CLEARANCE WITHIN 90 MINUTES**
- **STANDARDIZES THE TOWING RESPONSE**
- **ESTABLISHES CLEAR AND CONSISTENT EXPECTATIONS AMONGST T.I.M. STAKEHOLDERS**
- **PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK OF OPERATIONS**
- **BUILDS SOLID RELATIONSHIPS**
- **ALLOWS FOR LESSONS TO BE SHARED**

**“TOOL IN THE TOOLBOX”**



# HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDING

- Mid-2000's: Statewide TIM Group was looking at the feasibility of TRIP
- Assigned to the Virginia Transportation Research Council to investigate
- Forwarded through FHWA
- Early VDOT Champions: Operations Division
- VSP brought into the fold during the FHWA analysis for buy in
- Identified need for legislative support
- Delayed the Pilot Program by one year
- HB 2020: Hold Harmless Legislation/ 2017
- Outreach and development 2017
- Go Live: December 17, 2017
- Research Council funded with FHWA grant



# CURRENT PROGRAM DETAILS

- 633 miles of interstate coverage
- 5 VDOT Districts/ 4 Traffic Operation centers
- 6 State Police Divisions/ 6 VSP Dispatch Centers
- VDOT TOC Activates TRIP response
- 37 Towing companies
- Custom Design Recovery Zones
- Standardized Response for all TRIP activations
- Preset Response Time Expectations
- 90-minute clearance goals for live lanes
- All within the ICS™ structure
- Expansion underway: I-85 & I-77



# Primary TRIP Activation Stakeholders

- **Trucking Industry**
- **VDOT**
  - TOC staff
  - IMC/IMO Personnel
  - SSP
- **VSP: Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6**
- **TRIP Towing Community 37 companies**
- **Sister Agencies:**
  - **VDEM, DEQ, VDACS and ABC**
  - **Fire, Coroner, Local PD, public, media**



# Equipment/ Personnel Requirements

- 25-ton dual axle and one 50-ton wrecker (or 35-ton Rotator)
- Support truck/trailer including a full set of tools and additional resources.
- A 3-man team response to every TRIP crash
- Other specialized equipment
- 24/7 equipment availability



# Training Requirements

- **TRIP Level 1 and Level 2 training provided by WreckMaster**
  - **TRIP Level 1- Operators**
  - **TRIP Level 2- Supervisor**
- **Hazardous Material awareness/ Hazwoper 24 or 40 hour**
- **SHRP2 Responder Training**
- **NIMS 100 & 700**
- **VDOT Basic Work Zone Training**
- **Continuing Education Req.**
- **Full Training for TRIP responders**



# TRIP Performance: Operations

Region	Total Trip Since 2017	Average Response Time (HH:MM)	Average TRIP Clearance Time (HH:MM)	Average Scene Clearance Time (HH:MM)
Richmond	733	0:39	1:09	3:16
Fredericksburg	152	0:35	0:40	2:18
Staunton	358	0:36	0:41	2:17
Salem	355	0:33	0:37	2:01
Bristol	288	0:31	0:37	2:41
I-81 Corridor Only	1001	0:33	0:38	2:20
	Total Statewide	Avg Response	Avg TRIP Clearance	Avg Scene Clearance
	1886	0:35	0:45	2:31





# TRIP Performance: Incentive Earnings

Region	Incentive	No Incentive	Disincentive \$600***	Disincentive \$600 +**	Canceled \$600*	% cleared for Incentive Bonus
Richmond	583	92	24	18	16	81%
Fredericksburg	138	10	0	0	4	93%
Staunton	333	11	2	1	11	96%
Salem	338	5	3	0	8	97%
Bristol	273	10	1	0	4	96%
I-81 Corridor Only	944	26	6	1	23	96%
	<b>Total Incentive</b>	<b>Total No Incentive</b>	<b>Total Dis 600</b>	<b>Total Dis +</b>	<b>Total Canceled*</b>	<b>Avg % successful</b>
	<b>1665</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>90%</b>



# TRIP Incidents



# TRIP Incidents



# Lessons Learned

- **RELATIONSHIPS #1:** Critical to success, need to establish trust and credibility  
Takes time, takes work... takes patience... lots of patience
- **STATEWIDE CONSISTENCY of TRIP Activation #2**
  - Growing Pains
  - Change in culture
- Incident Command aspect
- Creative Response
- Tool and equipment requirements
- Timestamp process
- Return under a planned work zone
- Monthly AAR Meetings



# TRIP Event # 7145968917

Date & Time: **10/13/23 0630**

Location: **I-81 SB MM 138.4**

Key Personnel VDOT:

**Bryan Painter**

VSP DIV / Badge #:

**623105188 / 1975**

TRIP Company:

**Brown & Son**

Activating Agency:

**IMC**

## Incident Description

**OT tanker**

**Cargo: 7,500 gallons diesel**





10/13/23 07:23  
715 Goodwin Ave  
Salem VA 24153  
Bryan.Painter Salem IMC/VDOT



- TT ~100 feet of guardrail and a bridge; OT on shoulder
- Tractor destroyed, cargo tank ruptured, leaking fuel/cargo into drainage culvert; ~4,100 gallons spilled
- VDEM & regional HAZMAT team responded; detour put in place

1/2



- **HAZMAT pumped tanker**
- **Separate casualty; 20-minute TRIP stop time**
- **Winched tractor to road, loaded onto large rollback**
- **Upright trailer; road tractor to tow**
- **Cedar Hill completed HAZMAT cleanup**

2/2

# PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Notification Time:

0644

Arrival Time:

0715

Response Time

31 mins

Notice to Proceed:

1320

Work Stop:

1335

Work Resume:

1355

TRIP Stop Time:

1408

TRIP Time

28 mins

Scene Clearance Time:

1436

Incentive:

\$3000

Add'l Equipment:

Road tractor, rollback





# TRIP Performance/ Recap

- Program is 6 years old
- 1886 TRIP Activations as of November 1, 2023
- Average Response for the TRIP Team: 35 minutes
- Average Lane Clearance for the Recovery: 45 Minutes
- Lane Clearance with 90 minutes: 90%
- Average Total Scene Clearance 2 hours 31 minutes



# Thank you! QUESTIONS?

**SCOTT KAPTON:** VDOT TRIP PROJECT MANAGER/ PARSONS

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