



Research, Development, and Technology

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McLean, VA 22101-2296

SEP 6 2005

Mr. Shui-Ying Wong
JMW Engineering
5562 Caithness Court
Fairfax, Virginia 22032

Dear Mr. Wong:

This letter is a follow-up to discussions we had several months ago. Below is a letter I'm sending to all collision diagram vendors. In the bottom of the letter, I present two options for collision diagram vendors to consider. I recognize your company has developed a preliminary interface between SafetyAnalyst and your software as specified under option #1. I'd like to get your response about developing a fully working interface and taking on option #2.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is sending this letter to all collision diagram vendors to provide all in the industry the same opportunity to work with FHWA and currently nineteen participating states including: Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. In addition, two MPOs, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Inc., and the Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County, Michigan are involved in the project.

SafetyAnalyst will help agencies make better decisions on where to make highway safety improvements on their existing highway network, what safety improvements to make, and in evaluating the effectiveness of implemented safety improvements. The SafetyAnalyst software will have four modules: 1) Module #1 – Network screening to identify sites and corridors with potential for safety improvement, 2) Module #2 – Diagnosis and Countermeasure selection, 3) Economic appraisal of countermeasures and priority ranking of improvement projects, and 4) evaluation of implemented projects. Module #2 greatly benefits from the use of collision diagramming software to identify and examine accident patterns at intersections, segments, and ramps to help diagnose safety problems and select appropriate countermeasures. More information about SafetyAnalyst can be found at www.safetyanalyst.org. Once the SafetyAnalyst software is completed, it will be made available to any public highway agency or consulting firm interested in obtaining it. Currently, we are very close to starting beta-testing activities of Modules 1 and 4 of the software.



The FHWA initiated discussions with all collision diagram vendors over a year ago. Since then, two vendors, Pd' Programming and JMW Engineering, have developed an interface between their software and the SafetyAnalyst software at no cost to FHWA. We are giving all vendors an opportunity to participate in the project. FHWA is offering two options for participating. The first option involves your company developing an interface at no cost to FHWA between your collision diagramming software and SafetyAnalyst software to allow data to be passed from SafetyAnalyst to your software to generate collision diagrams for multiple years of crash data for specific intersections, segments, and ramps. FHWA would provide this interface at no charge to any SafetyAnalyst user who requested it, but the user would need to purchase and install your company's software in order to generate a collision diagram. The second option involves your company, at no cost to FHWA, providing a scaled-down version of your collision diagramming software within SafetyAnalyst with limited capabilities. Your company would decide what capabilities it would want to provide. For example, you might wish to provide an expanded interface that included a static collision diagram display for the location of interest that users would be able to view, but not modify. FHWA would provide this expanded interface at no charge to any SafetyAnalyst user who requested it, but the user would need to purchase and install your company's software to obtain interactive capabilities to modify the collision diagram.

→ Please let me know by October 30th if your company would like to participate in the project according to the first option and/or the second option as outlined above. Even if your company is not interested in pursuing this opportunity, I would still appreciate a response back.

If you need to contact me, please feel free to do so at (202) 493-3316 or mike.griffith@fhwa.dot.gov.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Griffith
Technical Director, Office of Safety R&D