MnDOT 99007 – ***Evaluation of Guide Sign Fonts***

04/09/2013

**Project Status Update**

**Task 3: Closed Course Testing**

*NOTE:* We plan to combine our closed course testing with another ongoing TTI study in order to capitalize on TTI assets. The studies will be conducted one immediately following the other, but separately and on different runways so that one study run (a study looking at driveway delineation) is completed prior to beginning the next study run (guide sign fonts). The studies will in no way infringe on one another in either roadway signs/markings presented or instructions given. Combining the test runs will allow our study to be conducted at a reduced cost through shared staffing, vehicle and other equipment costs, as well as participant compensation expenses.

***3A: Experimental Design***

* No changes

***3B: Equipment Setup***

* Forklifts
  + We will be using 3 forklifts to support the overhead guide signs rather than the original 2 that were planned. This will greatly simplify the logistics by allowing for 1 font to be used for each forklift, thus minimizing the chance of presentation errors.
  + Forklift operator training has been completed. A total of 5 TTI employees involved in this study have received operator certification.
* Signs / Panels / Overlays
  + We ordered an additional back panel (8 ft x 10 ft) to accommodate the third forklift position.
  + The following full-scale roadway test signs (panels and overlays) have been received:
    - 3 overhead back panels (8 ft x 10 ft)
    - 54 letter legend overlays – 3 fonts, 18 words/font (2.5 ft x 8 ft)
    - 18 number legend panels – 3 fonts, 6 number combinations/font (2.5 ft x 4 ft)

***3C: Data Collection***

* Study Forms
  + All forms have been completed including:
    - Recruiting forms
    - Consent forms
    - Instructions for researchers
    - Instructions for participants
    - Data sheets
* Instrumented Vehicles
  + Two TTI minivans have been equipped with GPS measurement systems for data collection.
* Participants
  + Participant recruiting is beginning this week
* Pilot Study
  + Pilot tests (daytime and nighttime) will be conducted April 10-11
* Run Study
  + April 14–30 (Riverside reservations extend through May 12, in event of rain, etc.)
  + Plan to run 4-6 participants per night