

## **NCPass Issues Over 200,000 Signals: North Carolina - January 2010**

International Road Dynamics Inc. (IRD) is pleased to announce the successful issuance of over 200,000 signals by the North Carolina NCPass System with 80% of the signals being green lights to bypass the weigh station. IRD supplied the NCPass System to the North Carolina Department of Transportation to reduce congestion in weigh stations, monitor truck safety compliance and decrease green house emissions. The system has been fully functional and successfully operating since 2007. The North Carolina Highway Patrol has reported that “they are pleased to offer this program to motor carriers as an advocate of highway safety and look forward to continued growth of the program”.

NCPass is a weigh station pre-clearance program that allows participants the opportunity to bypass fixed weigh stations across the state of North Carolina. Under this voluntary program, companies pay an annual fee and place electronic identification transponders in their vehicles for in-cab notification if the drivers are able to bypass. The enrollment of the carriers and the collection of fees is the responsibility of IRD, while the North Carolina State Highway Patrol verifies and authorizes their participation. IRD has developed a website [www.ncpass.net](http://www.ncpass.net) which simplifies the enrollment process for all carriers.

Unifi , Inc. of North Carolina is one of the carriers participating in NCPass. As part of their corporate sustainability commitment Unifi is continually looking for ways to help reduce their environmental footprint. NCPass is a solution which helps them to reduce idling time at weigh stations, further decreasing greenhouse gas emissions.

Mr. Terry Bergan, President and CEO of IRD notes, “This contract is an example of how we have extended our market presence through innovative partnerships with our customers. We are very pleased with the progress of the program and look forward to continued growth. The success of the program is seen in the high percentage of bypasses, each bypass is considered significant as they cumulatively result in fuel savings and emission reductions helping to protect our environment”.

For more information about IRD’s NCPass System including enrollment information visit [www.ncpass.net](http://www.ncpass.net) or contact Eric Hooks at tel: (336)214-2076 or email: [eric.hooks@irdinc.com](mailto:eric.hooks@irdinc.com). IRD’s complete line of products and systems can be found at [www.irdinc.com](http://www.irdinc.com).

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**NCDOT ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF NEW TRANSPONDER  
SYSTEM TO ELECTRONICALLY MONITOR TRUCK COMPLIANCE**  
*System Operating at 11 Weigh Stations in North Carolina*

**RALEIGH** — State Transportation Secretary Lyndo Tippettt today announced that a new program to electronically monitor truck compliance on North Carolina's interstates has become operational. The transponder system allows truckers with strong safety and weight compliance records to sign up for transponders that transmit their information to the state's weigh stations, allowing them to bypass the facilities.

"Transponders are a win-win," Tippettt said. "They not only reward trucks with good compliance histories, but they also improve the efficiency and safety of our weigh stations by reducing long lines and back ups. With this program in place, our enforcement officials are also able to better focus their attention on those trucks that are not complying with the state's weight restrictions and provide more of an incentive for trucking companies to abide by regulations."

State officials will use transponders to electronically screen weight compliance history, safety information, motor fuels tax data, and insurance and registration information while a truck is traveling at highway speed. Truck drivers or companies with a good history of compliance and up-to-date credentials can enroll in the program and bypass the state's weigh stations. Continued participation is contingent upon the driver and/or company maintaining compliance with state and federal rules and regulations.

The transponder program is a joint effort of the N.C. Department of Transportation and N.C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, which oversees the Motor Carrier Enforcement Section of the State Highway Patrol. The program expands a pilot system at the eastbound I-40/85 Hillsborough weigh station.

The program includes 11 weigh stations across the state:

- I-40 East in Asheville;
- I-26 West in Hendersonville;

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**LOCATION:**  
TRANSPORTATION BUILDING  
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET  
RALEIGH NC

- I-85 North in Charlotte;
- I-85 South in Charlotte;
- I-77 South in Mount Airy;
- I-95 South in Halifax County;
- I-95 North in Lumberton;
- I-40 East in Statesville;
- I-40 West in Statesville;
- I-40/85 East in Hillsborough; and
- I-40/85 West in Hillsborough.

As a truck approaches a weigh station, an electronic roadside reader uses identification information from the transponder to verify the vehicle's compliance history against a database. The roadside reader then sends a signal to the transponder, alerting the driver to bypass the weigh station or pull into the station for inspection. Trucks with a good compliance history are still subject to occasional spot safety and compliance checks.

International Road Dynamics Inc. of Spring Grove, Ill. is responsible for operation and maintenance of the system for the next seven years. The \$4 million contract may be reduced as revenue from the sale of transponders offsets operation costs.

Annual enrollment costs per truck vary from \$44 to \$95, depending on whether the carrier already has a transponder, how many vehicles the company is enrolling in the program and how long they sign up to participate.

Transponders are used successfully in many states, including Virginia, Kentucky and Oregon. North Carolina's system will be compatible with other state and federal databases used for credential screening, and the state's transponder devices will be marketed to eligible motor carriers.

Information about NCDOT's transponder system can be found online at [www.ncdot.org/programs/transponder/](http://www.ncdot.org/programs/transponder/).

**\*\*\*NCDOT\*\*\***