BERKELEY (CBS 5 / KCBS) – UC Berkeley and Nokia tested technology Friday that could soon transform the way drivers get information about road conditions.

100 cars equipped with the GPS-enabled Nokia N95 cell phones, and driven by students from the University of California, traveled a 10-mile stretch of Interstate 880 between Hayward and Fremont to show how real-time traffic information can be collected from the GPS feed, while preserving the privacy of the devices' owners.

The software collecting data from a GPS feed immediately disassociates that information from an individual device and combines it with the general stream of traffic data, said Nokia Chief Technical Officer Bob Iannucci.

Caltrans officials who were on hand for the test said the new technology is a leap beyond road sensors and cameras currently in use.

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