

Wi-Fi Cell Phones

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Mobile Millennium - GPS Traffic Mapping

November 18, 2008 by [moto](#)

Mobile Millennium is a partnership between Nokia, NAVTEQ, and UC Berkeley, based at the California Center for Innovative Transportation (CCIT), a deployment-focused research center at Berkeley's Institute of Transportation Studies. It is supported by the U.S. Department of Transportation's SafeTrip-21 Initiative and the California Department of Transportation.



Researchers from Nokia and Berkeley have constructed an unprecedented traffic monitoring system capable of fusing GPS data from cell phones with data from existing traffic sensors. The research and development phase of this project was dubbed Mobile Millennium for the potential thousands of early adopters who will participate in the pilot deployment, launching in early November, 2008.

Mobile Millennium will cover not only highways, but also the arterial network, where there is currently almost no sensing infrastructure. The software will work on Nokia and non-Nokia phones, and the public will be able to register and download it free of charge.

It gathers data in a privacy preserving environment, relying on the Virtual Trip Lines technology, a data sampling paradigm that anonymizes the GPS-based position information and aggregates it into a single data stream. The aggregated data is then encrypted and sent to a computer system, which blends it with other sources of traffic data and broadcasts this real-time, data rich information back to the phones and to the internet through a user friendly interface.

Launching the system

The launch of Mobile Millennium, including free software for the public, will be announced at a special preview event at UC Berkeley in November. Leaders from transportation, government, academia will present information about the technology and how it works. See the live webcast at mms://media.citris.berkeley.edu/webcast.

The initial launch will focus on users with compatible smart phone who drive between the San Francisco Bay Area and the Lake Tahoe ski area, though all Bay Area residents with smart phones or internet access will be able to receive traffic information that includes probe data.

The first phase of the system launch will include traffic data for highways. Information on arterial routes will be introduced as more and more users come online and sufficient probe data becomes available. By April 2009, researchers expect to reach the estimated pilot system capacity of 10,000 users.

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