

NEWS & REVIEWS | VIDEOS | FORUMS | DOWNLOADS | CHECK PRICES | MUSIC CENTRE

Join CNET.com.au | Login

Car Tech »

Uni students get stuck in traffic for Nokia

By Kevin Massy on 12 February 2008

Tags: [berkeley](#) | [nokia](#) | [traffic monitoring](#)

[E-mail to a friend](#) | [Printer friendly version](#) | [Increase font size](#)

It's not often that you get people volunteering to get stuck in traffic. However, that's exactly what happened last week in Northern California.

About 150 students from the University of California at Berkeley participated a project devised to test the potential of using GPS-enabled, internet-connected mobile phones as aids for reporting real-time information on traffic congestion. The test by the university was done in collaboration with Nokia, and the California Transportation Department.

Real-time traffic services are nothing new in the United States and Europe. In America, services from satellite radio companies, such as XM and Sirius, as well as maps from Google and Yahoo provide colour-coded estimates of traffic flow and congestion in certain major urban areas. The trouble is these data feeds rely on a complex infrastructure of roadside and pavement-mounted sensors and cameras, which cost a lot of money to install and maintain. As our colleagues in the States found in recent field test, they're also not always completely accurate. This project, known as "Mobile Century", was designed to test the accuracy and viability of using a network of specially programmed Nokia N95 smartphones as anonymously-reporting probes in a real-world traffic environment.



© 2008 CNET Networks, Inc.

In the driver's seat

UC Berkeley provided a supply of test drivers who were sent out in three teams with different assigned routes. Cars were sent out in waves of three vehicles per minute. About 150 people in 100 cars participated in this event.

News | Features | Oil | Popular | Must read

- Production Toyota iQ uses intelligent design to get Smart
- Whaddyareckon?: Dodgy technology
- Lancer evolves to take on WRX and STI
- Safest of the safe: Volvo XC60
- New VW Scirocco takes a bow
- Rinspeed sQuba, the submersible car, debuts in Geneva
- BMW's X5 shows its vision for Efficient Dynamics
- Morgan's zero emissions, zero-chance-of-production LifeCar
- Nissan GT-R to terrorise Australian roads from 2009

[More news »](#)

Product finder

--- Search for a product by brand

▼ sponsored content

The Explain Series

[NETGEAR Explains Home Networking](#)



E-mail to a friend Share this... Printer friendly version

Join CNET.com.au Free newsletters, post to forums and win prizes. [Join now - it's free and easy!](#)

Related links

Design concepts at 2008 Geneva Auto Show

The Geneva Auto Show may be the catwalk of the automotive world, but it is also the test lab for future design concepts. As usual, this year's show had plenty of blue-sky projects on display.

Production Toyota iQ uses intelligent design to get Smart

When Toyota brought the iQ concept car to Frankfurt last year, we knew that a production version of car was on its way. Proving our crystal ball correct, Toyota unveiled the showroom-bound version at this year's Geneva Auto Show.

Lancer evolves to take on WRX and STI

Mitsubishi is taking full aim at Subaru's road-going rally car hegemony, announcing specifications of its Lancer Evolution models, and the unveiling of the Lancer Ralliart in Australia for the first time.

Safest of the safe: Volvo XC60

Volvo is making bold claims about its new XC60 crossover. The small 4WD was touted as "the safest Volvo ever" as it was driven out to make its world debut at the 2008 Geneva Auto Show.



User comments Leave a comment

Be the first to comment on this article!

Leave a comment

All fields marked with * are required

What do you think

*Comments:

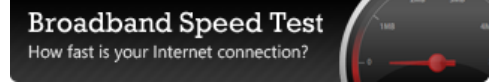
*Username:

Email address:

Won't be displayed.

*Security code:

You must read and type the 6 chars.



Latest reviews Popular Editors' choice

Smart fortwo coupe (2008)
 We've taken the second-gen Smart fortwo for a quick spin and, although the diminutive city runabout has grown up, expanding in all directions, it's surprisingly peppy around town.

[More reviews &»](#)

What's hot on CNET.com.au

aurion bmw concept cars
 connecteddrive coupe 60 evolution x
 falcon fg ford fortwo fox
 fuel cell gadgets geneva auto show
 gps gt-r holden honda
 hybrid internet access iq lifecar
 mapping
 melbourne motor show
 mitchell morgan navteq nissan r35
 rinspeed scirocco smart
 smartphone squba submersible
 toyota vision efficientdynamics
 volvo vw x5

Membership benefits

Create wishlists
 See a product on CNET.com.au that you want? Add it to your wishlist and send a hint to your friends and family. [Sign up for a free CNET.com.au membership now!](#)



Online threats are everywhere - Get your FREE 30 Day Trial of McAfee Virus Scan Plus.

Seagate Sports and Fitness Promotion is NOW on! - Purchase any Seagate or Maxtor product now and receive a free sports & fitness voucher til stocks last!

Bing Lee Special 1/2 4 Years Interest Free on min. purchase of \$1500 for all of March.

News & reviews

- Broadband
- Camcorders
- Car Tech
- DVD & PVR
- Desktops
- Digital Cameras
- Games
- Home Theatre
- Laptops
- MP3 Players
- Mobile Phones
- Printers
- Projectors
- Software
- TVs
- Wireless

Latest forum posts

- F/S:Toshiba Satellite M45-S311 Laptop,NEW DELL Inspiron 600M Notebook
Posted in: Forums > Laptops
- F/S: Acer Ferrari 5000, Acer TravelMate C203ETCi,
Posted in: Forums > Laptops
- F/S:Sony KDE-61XBR950 Television, Sony FWD-50PX2 Plasma Display,
Posted in: Forums > TVs

Subscribe to CNET.com.au

Keep up-to-date with CNET.com.au through our free newsletters, RSS feeds or add us to your favourite news reader.



Services

- Membership
- Newsletters
- Site map
- About us
- Contact
- Advertise

CNET Networks Australia: [CNET.com.au](#) | [ZDNet Australia](#) | [Builder AU](#) | [GameSpot AU](#) | [AppleSource](#) | [CNETTV Australia](#)
CNET Networks International: [CNET.com](#) | [CNET Asia](#) | [CNET.de](#) | [CNET France](#) | [CNET Japan](#) | [CNET Taiwan](#) | [CNET.co.uk](#) |
[ZOL.com.cn](#) | [Fengniao.com](#) | [Download.com](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [MP3.com](#) | [goosto.fr](#)

Copyright © 2008 CNET Networks, Inc. All rights reserved. [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)