



COMPUTERWORLD

Mobile & Wireless

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Blogs](#) | [White Papers](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [IT Careers](#)

Google™ Custom Search

SEARCH


[on Mobile
ss Problems](#)
[Mobile Device Management
for Dummies](#)
[Managing Mobility in the Enterprise -
a Jack Gold Whitepaper](#)
[How to Future-
and Security St](#)

News

- + [Blogs](#)
- + [Shark Bait](#)
- [Knowledge Centers](#)
 - + [Operating Systems](#)
 - + [Networking & Internet](#)
 - [Mobile & Wireless](#)
 - [Mobile Devices](#)
 - [Laptops](#)
 - [Mobile Access](#)
 - [Mobile Applications & RFID](#)
 - [Wireless Networking](#)
 - [Wireless Trends & Technologies](#)
 - [Personal Technology](#)
- + [Security](#)
- + [Storage](#)
- + [Business Intelligence](#)
- + [Servers & Data Center](#)
- + [Hardware](#)
- + [Software](#)
- + [Development](#)
- + [Careers](#)
- + [Management](#)
- + [Government](#)

- [Opinion](#)
 - [Columnists](#)
 - [SharkTank](#)

Webcasts

Video

Podcasts

White Papers

Computerworld Reports

+ Zones

Case Study Library

RSS Feeds

- Events

- + [Face to Face](#)
- + [Virtual](#)

+ Industry

This Week in Print

Print Subscriptions

Project turns GPS phones into traffic reporters

Opens to the public on Monday

By Robert McMillan

[Comments \(1\)](#) [Recommended \(8\)](#) [Digg](#) [Twitter](#) [ShareThis](#)

November 6, 2008 (IDG News Service) Researchers from [Nokia Corp.](#) and the [University of California, Berkeley](#), will go live with a new project next week that aims to cull GPS data from thousands of mobile phones in order to tell drivers which San Francisco Bay Area roads are backed up and which are moving along.

Called [Mobile Millennium](#), the project will be opened to the public on Monday.

Researchers hope that thousands of volunteers will download a free Java program that figures out by their movement and location when they are driving and then transmits that information to the project's servers, which then crunch it into a Bay Area traffic map. The software uses algorithms to determine when people are moving, stuck in traffic or stopped by the roadside, for example.

Top Stories

- [Windows 7 RC1 adds speed, better UI](#)
- [15 easy fixes for Mac security risks](#)
- [Is Verizon attempting an end run around AT&T with iPhone-like devices?](#)
- [Mozilla delivers Firefox 3.5 Beta 4, boosts speed](#)
- [Swine flu at Phase 4: What did we learn from bird flu planning?](#)
- [IT Blogwatch: The swines! Flu panic blamed on Twitter and blogs](#)

California has already invested heavily in sensors that help monitor traffic conditions on major roadways, but they're not everywhere. By collecting traffic information from GPS phones on roads that don't have sensors, the team hopes to gain insight into places that are now blind spots for most commuters.

Researchers will start by looking for data on heavily trafficked commutes such as Page Mill Road and the Oregon Expressway, which cut through the heart of Palo Alto, Calif. If enough volunteers download the software, the researchers could eventually build a comprehensive picture of Bay Area traffic conditions.

"The whole concept here is that if everyone shares just a little bit of what they're seeing ... then everyone can benefit by seeing the conditions ahead of them," said Quinn Jacobson, a research leader at Nokia in Palo Alto.

The system doesn't require many users, but it helps if they're spread out, as researchers will need the right concentration of reports. The Mobile Millennium team expects to have 10,000 participants by April. "At that rate, we'll see many of these arterial roads with accurate, real-time data," Jacobson said.

While the idea of streaming data about their whereabouts may make some people uneasy, researchers say they've taken steps to keep the system anonymous. None of the data in the system can be tied to a particular mobile phone, they said.

The researchers have been testing the traffic reporting system every few weeks over the past year, including a large [field test](#) in February.

Mobile Millennium's data will be available on the Web, but users who want the best data will have to download the Java software, Jacobson said. The software will eventually work on most GPS-enabled phones

White Papers & Webcasts

802.11n Drives an Architectural Evolution

(Source: HP) This paper examines both the centralized WLAN switch architecture and the optimized WLAN architecture, so that the wireless network... [Read More](#)

How to Future-proof for Mobility: An Integrated Management and Security Strategy

(Source: Sybase) This on-demand video webcast features John Girard, Gartner VP and distinguished Analyst, discussing the value of an integrated management... [Read More](#)

BlackBerry ROI Calculator

(Source: RIM) This ROI calculator will help you work through the components of calculating an estimated ROI for the deployment of BlackBerry® in... [Read More](#)

IT Strategies for Remotely Supporting a Distributed Workforce

(Source: Citrix Online) Today's workforce is a distributed one - workers across industries are telecommuting, working out of satellite offices and connecting into... [Read More](#)

JJ Barnicke Limited Case Study

(Source: RIM) JJ Barnicke's sales people needed instant access to corporate property information and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) data to better serve clients... [Read More](#)

Boost your CAE productivity, and break-away from the pack

(Source: Sun) Join Clemson University as they present their groundbreaking engineering simulations research at their Computational Center for Mobility Systems. Dr. James Leyleik... [Read More](#)

ChoicePoint Case Study

(Source: RIM) ChoicePoint wanted to offer a mobile version of Salesforce.com, a key sales application, to improve sales effectiveness. Force.com Mobile was deployed... [Read More](#)

Bigger Savings through Greater Server Virtualization

(Source: Brocade) Tune into this informative Webcast to find [Read More](#)

that run on GSM (Global System for Mobile communications) networks, such as those from [T-Mobile](#) and AT&T. On Monday, the software will run on Nokia and BlackBerry phones, but the team expects to add many other devices to the list.

The team is discussing an [iPhone](#) port as well, although this will not be available on Monday, Jacobson said.

Because Mobile Millennium phones do a lot of traffic reporting, only users with unlimited data plans are advised to sign up.

Sign up for the [Computerworld Daily](#) newsletter. ▶

Reprinted with permission from



IDG.net

Story copyright 2009 International Data Group. All rights reserved.

[Make a Comment](#) [Recommend This](#) [Share This](#)

[Print This](#) [Send Feedback](#) [Reprints](#)

Additional Resources



WHITE PAPER

Virtualization Guide: Seven Key Challenges You Can't Ignore

By planning for your migration to virtual machine platforms, and recognizing the inherent challenges, you can optimize your virtual network and storage environment. [Download now!](#)



WHITE PAPER

Best Practices in Lifecycle Management

Learn the key best practices in Systems Management and directly compares the KBOX with leading software-only competitors Altiris, LANDesk, and Microsoft, in this white paper. [Download now!](#)



WHITE PAPER

IDC White Paper: Optimizing Infrastructure Control

Discover how an investment in configuration assessment and change auditing solutions can steady IT operations, lowering the operational costs associated with the IT infrastructure and provide a solid foundation that increases the effectiveness of the investment in information security. [Download now!](#)

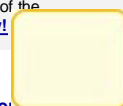
What People Are Saying

1 comment

various european countries, see e.g. <http://lifestyle.hexus.net/content/item.php?item=15251>, initiated by Tomtom. It will give a decent coverage from day 1, and do not depend on data-connectivity between mobile phones and a service. But needs a cooperation with operators, of course.

[...Read the entire comment](#)

[reply](#) | [report this comment](#)



Rated 0
0 Votes

[See all comments \(1\)](#) | [Add new](#)

out how it can be done....

BlackBerry and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Guidelines

(Source: RIM) Wireless solutions should be evaluated on the basis of how the solution's available security features and functionality enable the organization to... [Read more](#)

Interactive Guide: Getting Started with Data Governance

(Source: Kalido) In this online interactive guide, Andrew White, Research VP with lead analyst firm Gartner, answers these questions to help get you... [Read more](#)

[All White Papers](#) | [All Webcasts](#)

Computerworld Reports

[Computerworld Technology Briefing: Intelligent Users Use Business Intelligence](#)

[Computerworld Technology Briefing: Application Consolidation](#)

[An Apple for Your Enterprise?](#)

[All Computerworld Reports](#)

Resource Alerts

Sign up to receive updates on the latest Mobile and Wireless resources

[SIGN-UP](#)

[Visit the BlackBerry Mobility Zone](#)

Research from ITwhitepapers.com

Survey Tips To Maximize ROI From Your Data

If you are currently involved in survey research, then you need to read this report now!

Vulnerability Management for Dummies: How to Implement a Successful Vulnerability Management Program

As a business owner, or someone responsible for network security within your organization, you need to...

The Modern Virtualized Data Center

Storage virtualization has been a positive evolutionary step in the data center, driving the consolidation of...

[More from ITwhitepapers.com](#)

IT Jobs

Sr Java Engineer

Fremont, CA (94539) Sharkstrike

[Technical Lead - PHP](#)