# Innovative Intelligent Warning Systems (IWS)

ITS GA 2021



### **Our Agenda**

- 1 BlinkerChevron™ Dynamic Curve Warning Systems
- 2 Overheight Warning Solutions
- 3 Wrong-Way Solutions
- **4** LegendViz™
- **5** Questions



#### The TAPCO Difference

Our Mission



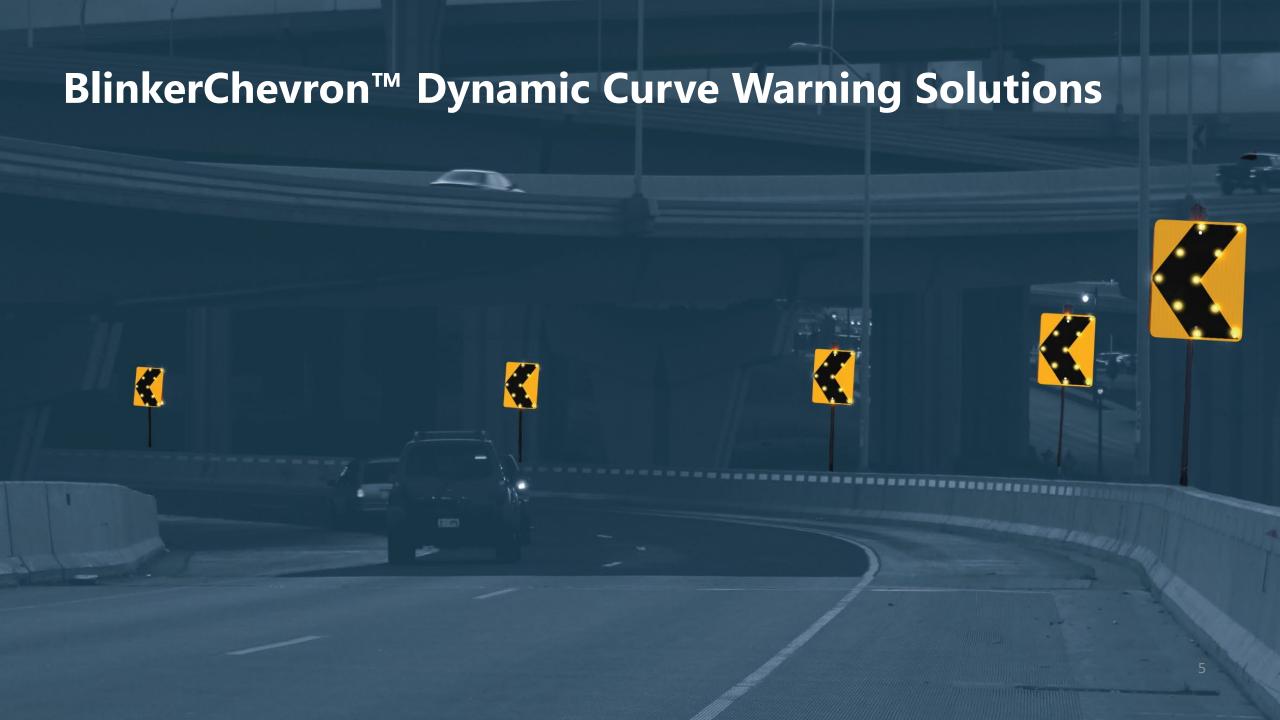
The TAPCO family is driven to save lives by going the extra mile to enhance transportation and personal safety in our communities through innovative solutions and quality products.

#### **Your Presenters**



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# **System Components**

- Top-of-pole self-contained and side-of-pole options
- Detection Sensor Device: multiple options based on curve design, number of lanes and site geometries
- MUTCD-compliant BlinkerChevron<sup>™</sup>
  - Optional ruggedized versions available
  - High power and efficient 100,000 hour LEDs
- Control cabinet, sign post and breakaway anchor





# **BlinkerChevron™ Dynamice Curve Warning System**

- More than 200 installations nationwide
- System features:
  - Detect offenders
  - Warn embarking motorists
  - Guide through duration of curve
  - Collect tangible and actionable data







# **BlinkerChevron™ Dynamice Curve Warning System**

System Enhancements

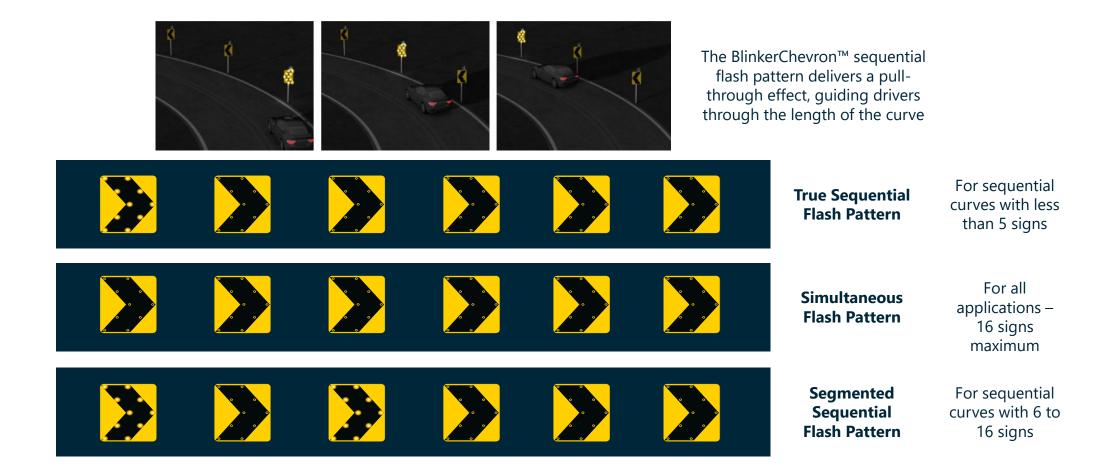
- Detect
  - Houston radar side fire
    - Vehicle presence
    - Vehicle speed
  - ADEC sensor overhead
    - Vehicle speed and classification
- Warn
- Guide
- Collect
  - BlinkLink®
  - Sensor software





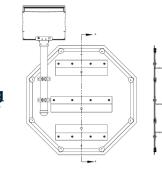


#### **Standard Flash Patterns**





# **TAPCO BlinkerSign® Solutions**



Standard Sign Sheeting .080" \*.100" and .125" available



#### **GOOD**

LED Enhanced Regulatory or Warning Signs

Standard .080" grade aluminum w/ Premium 3M DG3 reflective sheeting & anti-graffiti overlay film

Enclosed aluminum channels protect wiring against inclement weather & vandalism



#### BETTER Z-Bar

Improved LED BlinkerSign Wind Performance

Z-Bar bracketry increases surface area engagement for added bracing

Optional .125" aluminum substrate also available



#### BEST Ruggedized with Z-Bar

Premium LED BlinkerSign Wind, Snow & Impact Performance

Ruggedized multilayer design

Extra thick .750" HDPE core routed for improved weight ergonomics & LED wiring protection

Anti-Vandal fasteners

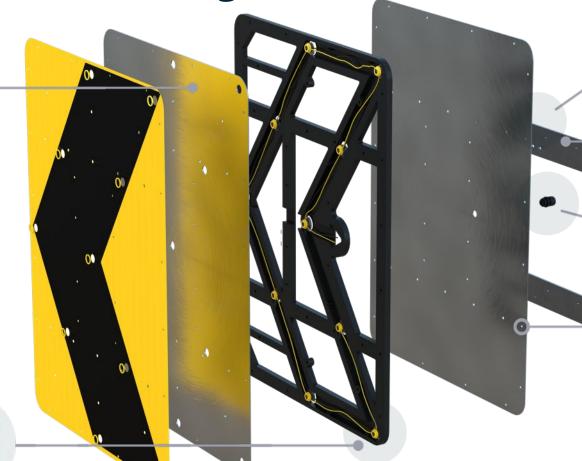
Quick install weathertight wiring harness



Ruggedized BlinkerSign®

Extra thick 0.10" aluminum front plate prevents wiring exposure and provides extra durability

Extra thick 0.750"
High Density
Polyethylene (HDPE)
substrate increases
stiffness and is routed
with enclosed
channels to protect
LEDs and wiring



Pin-in security screws fasten sign assembly and prevent tampering

Z-bar sign mounting brackets evenly distribute sign weight and increase rigidity

Weather-tight wiring harness impedes entry from surrounding environment and makes installation quick and easy

Back plate bracket mounting holes accommodate various bracket options including single post, double post and Z-bar



# **System Enhancements**

- Curve ahead Blinkersign®/BlinkerBeacon™
  - Advanced detection and driver notification
- Variable Message Board or Blank-Out signs
  - Lane specific communication
- Smart Weather Pavement Moisture RWIS
  - Precipitation presence and curve activation
- In-Road Warning Lights (IRWL)
  - Outline and emphasize curved route of travel
- Connected Vehicle Interface (CVI)
  - In-vehicle alerting

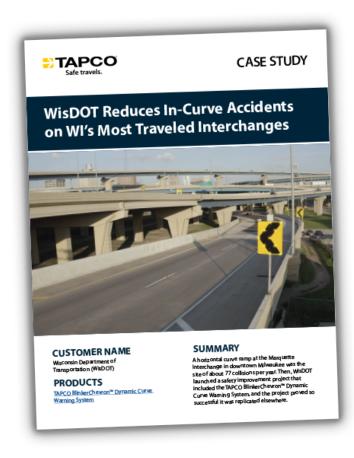






#### **Case Studies**

- WisDOT Marquette Interchange
  - About 77 collisions per year before the installation of Dynamic Curve Warning System
  - 97% decrease in accidents since the system was installed
  - This system is now installed in several other locations in the Milwaukee area and around Wisconsin as well





# **Overheight Warning Solutions**

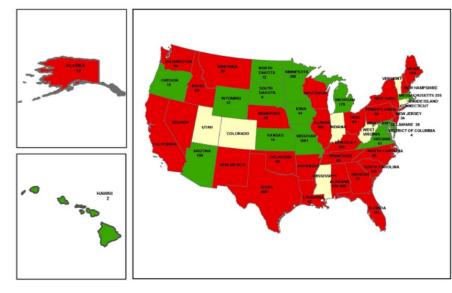
#### What's The Problem?





- 10,000+ annual bridge impacts nationally
- Over 600,000 bridges currently registered in the U.S.
  - 10% are structurally deficient
- 30 states have recognized bridge impacts as a problem
- Overheight impacts are a global issue
- An average repair costs \$300,000 \$500,000

#### **Bridge Vehicle Impact Assessment**



Red = Major problem. Green = Minor problem. Yellow = No response.



#### What's The Reason?

- Roughly 40% of truck drivers have admitted to not knowing the specific height of their load
- Truckers using passenger based off-the-shelf navigation systems
- Lack of route planning
- Oversized loads and equipment that weren't properly secured and shifted during travel
- Distracted drivers who aren't paying attention to height limit warning signs and devices
- Unfamiliar with roue geography and structures







#### **Preventative Measure:**

Flashing BlinkerSigns or BlinkerBeacons

- 73% of states that have installed an overheight detection system have seen a reduction in the frequency of infrastructure strikes
  - Replaces existing static signage
  - Enhances conspicuity
  - Directs and delivers an alternative route of safe travel

"From a safety and effectiveness point of view, the laser or infrared system seems most effective, especially when combined with an active sign and warning system."

Alaska Department of Transportation: Evaluation of Overheight Vehicle Warning Devices







# **Overheight Warning Solutions Portfolio**

# 24/7 or Dusk 'til Dawn

- LED enhanced treatment
- Limited deterrent capabilities
- No offender interaction
- Not BlinkLink® connected



#### **Activated Alert System**

- Entry level overheight detection solution
- Dual beam infrared sensor technology
- Activated warning elements
- Not BlinkLink® connected



#### Best

# BlinkLink® Connected System

- Premium overheight vehicle detection solution
- Visual event alerting
- BlinkLink® connected # Overheight Detection
  - Vehicle details
  - Route correction confirmation
  - Time and location of event
  - System health and diagnostics



# **TAPCO Overheight Warning Solutions**

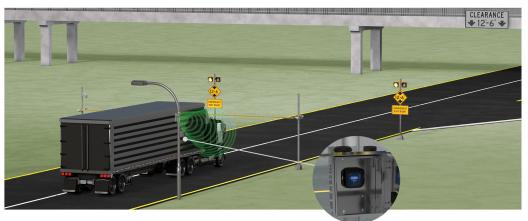
Typical 3 Zone Configuration

- Alert Activation Zone:
  - Overheight detection triggers alerts to flash
- Correction Zone:
  - Opportunity for driver to deviate route of travel avoiding collision
- Confirmation Zone Notification:
  - BlinkLink® delivers event photos of course correction or structural impact



# **System Enhancements**

- Connected Vehicle Interface (CVI)
  - In-vehicle alerts to inform of low clearance ahead
- Overview camera(s)
  - Monitor path corrections or continued travel/impacts
- License Plate Recognition (LPR)
  - Registered vehicle owner details
- Dynamic message boards/blank out signs
  - Targeted communication to identified "offender"
- Audible sirens
  - Additional warning and awareness



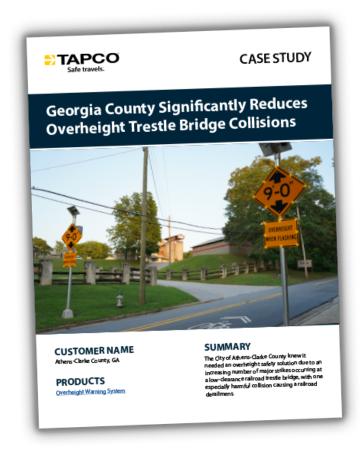






#### **Case Studies**

- Athens-Clarke County, GA
  - A railroad trestle bridge on a two-lane road was the site of many major overheight collisons, one even causing a railroad derailment
  - Since installing the overheight system there has not been one collision



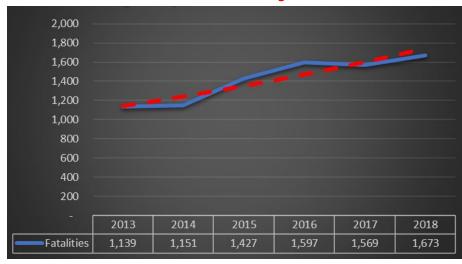


#### What's The Problem?

Wrong-Way Fatalities 2013-2018

- 1,673 fatalities in 2018
- Largest number since 2010
- Upward trend of wrong-way driver fatalities
- 46% increase over the last 6 years

#### **Nationally**

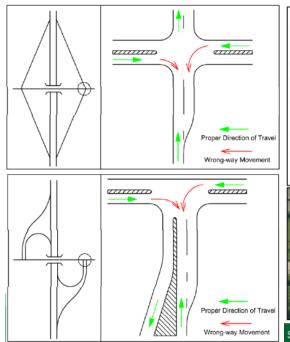


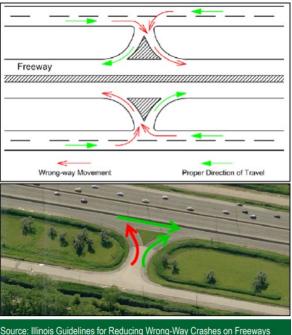
(Source) NHTSA Fatality Analysis Reporting System



# Where Do Wrong-Way Events Start?

At an Exit Ramp







Drafting, Designing, and Deploying WWD Initiative in Florida (Source) Raj Ponnaluri , et al, 2019

# **Corrective/Responsive Measure:**

TAPCO Wrong-Way Alert System

- System Components
  - 1. Thermal or radar sensor
  - 2. Supporting white LED illuminator
  - 3. High-speed high-definition camera
  - 4. LED enhanced warning device
  - 5. Cellular modem or fiber connection





# **Wrong-Way System Detection Portfolio**



LED enhanced treatment

- Susceptible to "white noise" phenomena
- Not BlinkLink® connected

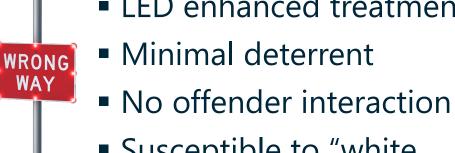


#### **Radar Detection**

WRONG

WAY

- Entry level vehicle activated solution
- Complex ramps/install locations and severe weather may cause false detections
- BlinkLink® connected
  - Event and vehicle details
  - Directional overlay
  - Online and operating validation
  - Data capture





# **Wrong-Way System Detection Portfolio**

Best

#### **Thermal Detection**

- Premium vehicle activated solution
- ~90% reduction in false detections
- Ideal for interconnected ITS systems
- Required for CVI systems
- BlinkLink® connected
  - Event and vehicle details
  - Directional overlay
  - Online and operating validation



Wrong Way Vehicle Thermal Sensor





#### **BlinkLink® Software**

User-friendly, cloud based software







- Collects real-time data and relays event details
- Notifies designated parties with actionable event based information
  - Transmits images in 5 seconds or less!
- Ability to integrate with local TMS's ATMs software
- Secure API integration available for ITS device interconnectivity (DMS, PTZ cameras, etc.)
- Hi-res 1080P color images include directional overlay for situational clarity
  - Now offering 2 minute event video!
- System health and diagnostics for optimal and reliable operation







# **TAPCO Wrong-Way Solutions**

Wrong-Way Driver (WWD) Leaders since 2011 with 1,000+ installations in the U.S. and Canada

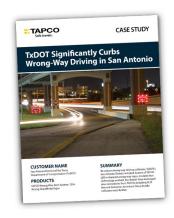
- Exclusive detection sensor offering
- Superior accuracy and precision
- Reduction in false calls and maintenance, improving system reliability
- Secure, user-friendly BlinkLink® system management software
- Ability to integrate with various communication network architectures
- Connected vehicle capability
- 387 wrong-way detections in 2019 improved public safety!



#### **Case Studies**



- Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority
  - Rather than wait for disaster to strike on a new three-mile stretch of toll road, the Mobility Authority installed wrong-way RRFBs along with FLIR and CVI
  - 9 months after installation there has only been 14 wrong-way drivers with a 100% correction rate



#### TxDOT

- When an on-duty officer was struck and killed by a wrong-way driver, TxDot installed wrong-way
   BlinkerSigns
- Since installing the Wrong-Way System, TxDOT had seen about a 30% reduction in reports of wrong-way calls plus an annual savings in





# **LegendViz™ BlinkerSign® Project Overview**

- Strategic legend-only illumination to maximize legend to background contrast
- Standard 0.80 highway grade aluminum
- 3M DG3 translucent reflective sheeting
- Nighttime only legend illumination
- Legend steady-illumination (no flashing)





# **LegendViz™ BlinkerSign® Project Overview**

- Legend and/or perimeter activation options
- Solar and AC power options available
  - 7+ days (13W TOP) minimum autonomy
- Made in the USA
- MUTCD compliant design





# **Preliminary LegendViz® Portfolio**

#### 30" (Solar and AC Options Available)



#### 30" x 42" (Solar and AC Options Available)



LegendViz ™ Traffic Sign



LegendViz ™ BlinkerSign®

#### 30" (Solar and AC Options Available)



LegendViz ™ Traffic Sign



LegendViz ™ BlinkerSign®

# **30**" LegendViz™ LED STOP Sign (R1-1)

LegendViz™ Variations

**LegendViz™ Traffic Sign** 

- Legend illumination
  - White LEDs
  - Steady illumination
  - Offset legible
  - 300′ readability
  - 500′ visible
  - Enhanced legibility



#### **LegendViz™ BlinkerSign®**

- Perimeter illumination
  - Red LEDs
  - Flashing illumination
  - Linear awareness
  - 1-2 miles of visibility
  - Enhanced conspicuity



# **Illumination Activation Options**

- Dual sources of illumination affords new, enhanced logic not previously available
- Legend and perimeter LEDs are independently controllable with the IWS Controller
- Activation made feasible via thirdparty sensors (thermal, radar, loops, etc.)



ACTIVATION OPTIONS		
LegendViz™ BlinkerSign® Activations	Legend LEDs	Perimeter LEDs
Standard	Steady nighttime illumination from dusk 'til dawn	Flashing 24/7 or from dusk 'til dawn
Perimeter Activated	Steady nighttime illumination from dusk 'til dawn	Activated
Legend Activated	Vehicle-activated nighttime illumination	Flashing 24/7 or from dusk 'til dawn
Both Activated	Vehicle-activated nighttime illumination	Activated



# **LegendViz™ Traffic Sign Illumination**

Marketing Video





# Questions

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#### **Contact**



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