

A STUDY ON TRAFFIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

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Sincerely:

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ABSTRACT

In the information age, information is very useful to human beings, even the traffics nowadays need the assistance of information through the system called Traffic Information System (TIS). Generally, the concept of TIS is to help road users or travelers to obtain information from various channels of the traffic information system such as internet, radio & television, variable message sign (VMS), traffic information kiosk, hotline services and others, in order for them to know about the level of congestion, accidents, weather and the availability of public transport services. This system will guide them to choose their alternative routes and arrived at their destination on time and smoothly. TIS has already been used and become a common thing to the citizens of developed countries such as U.S.A., Japan and U.K and their government, in collaboration with private agencies have funded all the costs in implementing this system and the implication by using this system was absolutely magnificent to their social life and their economy. In developing countries, for instance Malaysia especially Kuala Lumpur City, the growth of TIS is still moderate and was left far behind the developed countries in terms of their expertise, technologies, behavior of road users and budgets.

1.0 Introduction

There is a growing need for the improvement of the efficiency of urban traffic in order to ensure the sustainability of modern cities. It is now recognized that this objective requires not only the improvement of traffic monitoring and management schemes in traffic control centres but also the provision of information services for ordinary road users.

From the statement by **Smith Hilary (2000)**, keeping traffic moving is the big challenge that all levels of government are facing worldwide. Freeway stakeholders (private travelers, commercial highway users, and the public sector) are continually searching for new and faster travel routes. Without quality and dynamic data, route selection is often a hit and miss guessing game. The old adage, 'knowledge is power' is the obvious solution to the traffic problem. Customers want real-time information to help them select the best route to take at any given time. They need to know traffic speeds, incidents (accidents or lane closures), and road conditions.

With TIS, drivers make informed decisions and are better equipped to plan their route and estimate their travel time. Fast and accurate information translates into several benefits for TIS customers such as reduction in travel time, reduction in stress levels, the avoidance of congestion, and perhaps the most important benefit, the avoidance of unsafe driving conditions. (**Cheryl Ajluni, 1996**).