

# Urban Truck Platooning:

## The Future of Freight Mobility in Cities and Urban Regions

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**CDM  
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# Marwan Madi

## National Technology Practice Lead, CDM Smith

- CDM Smith's national technology practice leader
- Planning, design, testing, evaluation, and deployment of ITS & technology
- Leading CDM Smith's R&D to identify, model, and measure "alternative futures" in urban mobility
  - Developing adapt analytical tools to assess technology impacts and help with preparedness
- Managing landmark projects:
  - Smart Columbus Truck Platooning Deployment
  - Florida DOT CV Technologies for Truck Size and Weight Enforcement and Permitting
  - Assessment of Freight Advanced Traveler Information System (FRATIS) in Los Angeles, Dallas, and Southeast Florida
  - Ohio DOT Modeling Impacts of CV/AV on Travel Behavior and Highway Capacity
  - Port of Los Angeles Deployment of FRATIS Technology for Port Operations



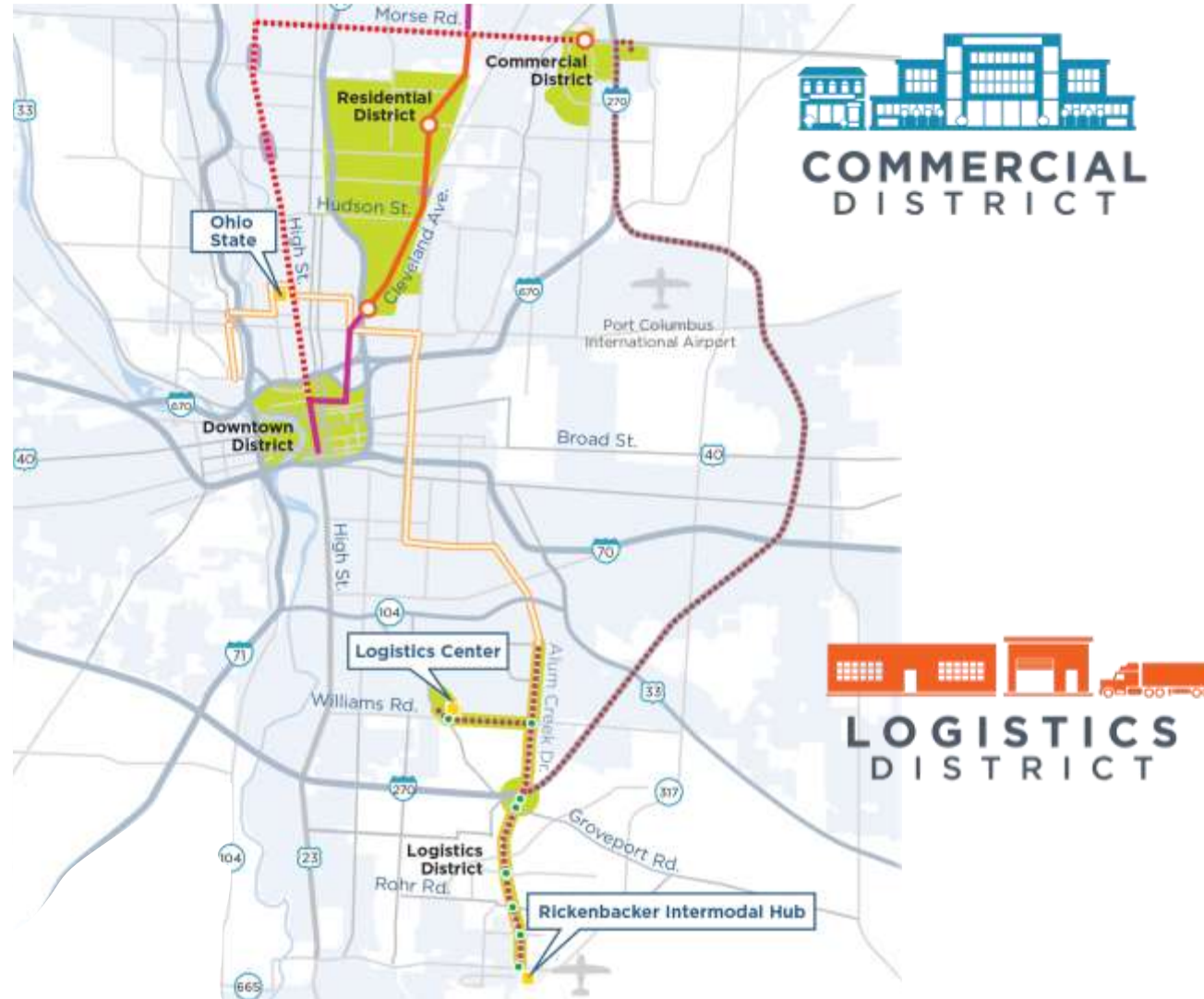
# Driver Assistive Truck Platooning (DATP)

## Overview

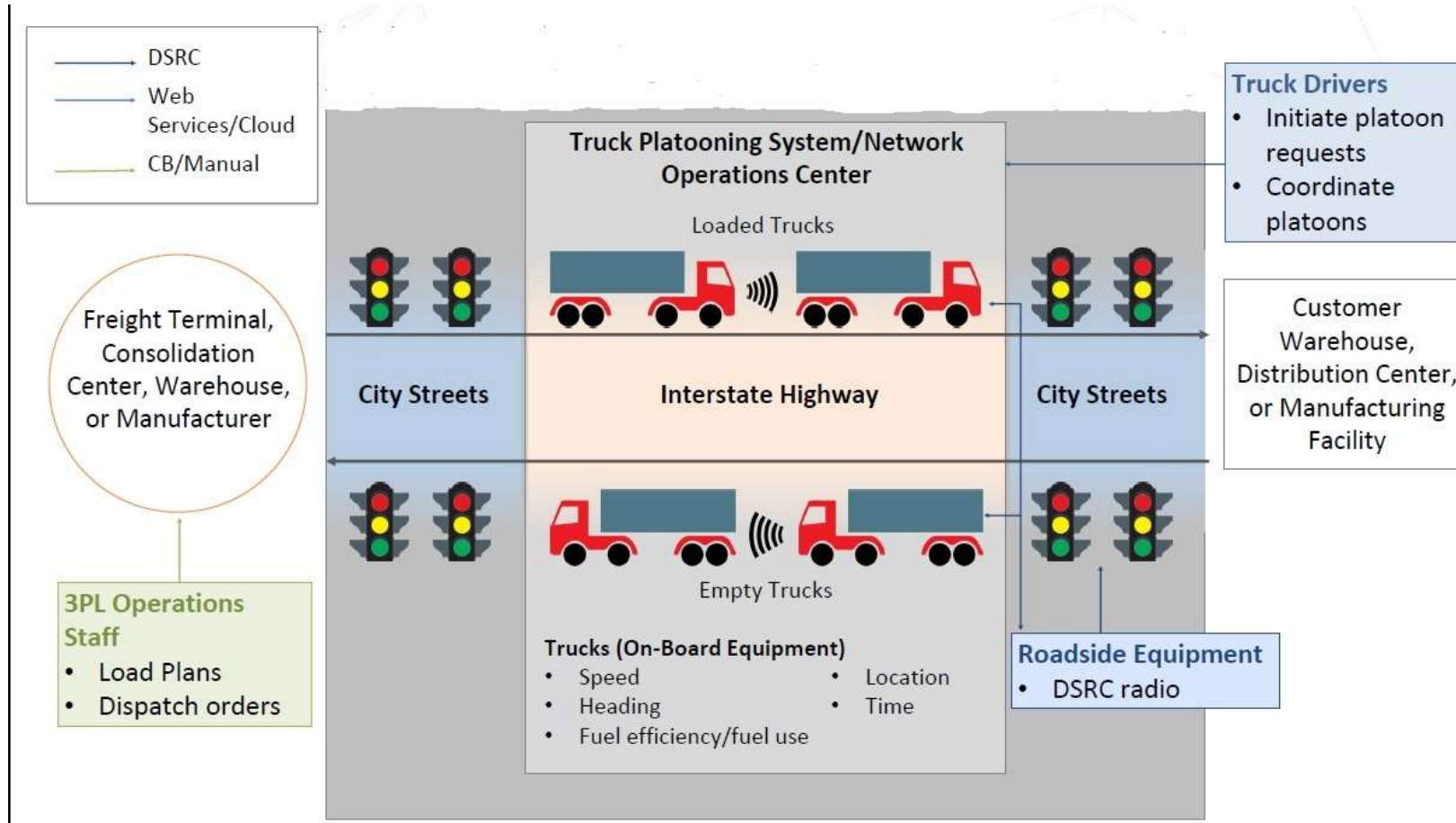
- DATP is a wireless technology that links trucks together such that the following truck mirrors the lead truck's braking and acceleration, thus allowing for shorter following distances.
- One of 9 projects in USDOT-sponsored [Smart Columbus](#) effort
- Builds on past truck platooning technology tests and demonstrations
- Deploy two-truck platooning with two participating logistics companies (ODW and FST Logistics)

# Driver Assistive Truck Platooning (DATP)

## Map of Columbus



# Columbus DATP Truck Platooning Concept



# Driver Assistive Truck Platooning (DATP)

## Expected Benefits

- Reduce fuel consumption and emissions
- Improve logistics operational efficiencies to reduce freight costs
- Improve freight traffic flow and operational efficiency along a freight-intensive highway corridor.
- Potential performance measures identified in Smart Columbus truck platooning concept study

# Driver Assistive Truck Platooning (DATP)

## Potential Performance Measures

1. Platoon frequency
2. Truck travel time
3. Freight induced congestion
4. Truck queuing
5. Efficiency/volume of goods moved
6. Truck accidents/safety
7. Fuel savings
8. Emissions/air quality
9. Training
10. Adoption

# Driver Assistive Truck Platooning (DATP)

## Current Status

- Concept defined in Columbus including truck platooning user needs.
- Platooning technology being acquired for implementation at the two Columbus carriers.
- Project working out deployment and performance measurement details.
- Provide a testbed for the potential efficiency benefits and advance the state of practice in truck platooning.



# Key Truck Platooning Tests and Demonstrations

- NACFE and Peloton tests - 2013 and 2014
- NREL, TxDOT, TTI Uvalde, Texas - 2014
- USDOT, ATRI, Auburn University - 2014-15
- TNO Europe Platooning Challenge, Scandinavian countries - 2015-16
- FHWA, Caltrans, and PATH - March 2017

# NACFE and Peloton

- 2013 and 2014, North American Council on Freight Efficiency
- 2-truck platoons on highways in Utah, Nevada, and Michigan
- Peloton Technology and CR England motor carrier
- 10% fuel savings following truck; 4.5% lead truck
- Produced advances in Peloton's technology



# NREL, TxDOT, TTI

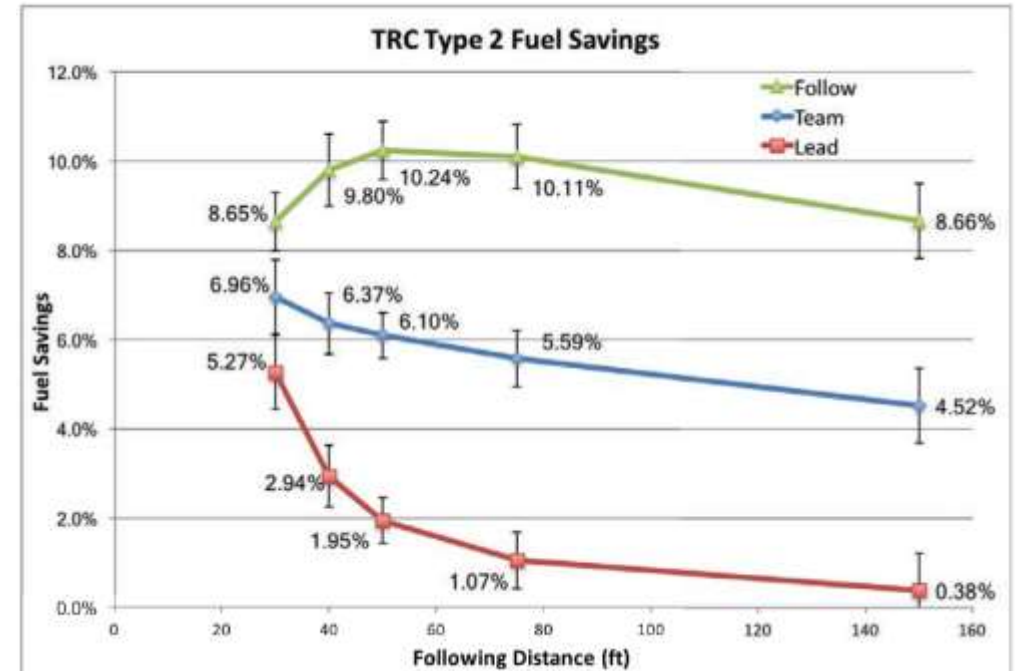
- 2014, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- 2-truck platoons at Continental Tire test track at Uvalde, Texas
- Peloton Technology on Peterbilt trucks at various following distances (best was 50 ft)
- Detailed measurements of fuel savings



# USDOT, ATRI, Auburn University

- 2014-15
- 2-truck platoons on test tracks in AL and OH
- Peloton Technology on Peterbilt trucks at various following distances
- Included trucking industry and driver surveys

Helped confirm appropriate following distance (50 ft) and fuels savings (10.24% following, 1.95% leading)



# TNO Europe Platooning Challenge

- 2015-16
- 2-truck and 3-truck platoons on Europe's highways across country boundaries
- Consortium of governments and truck manufacturers
- Successful platooning of different brands of trucks



# FHWA, Caltrans, and PATH

- 2017, Partners for Advanced Transportation Technology
- 3-truck platoons on Freeways near Port of LA
- PATH technology on Volvo trucks
- Confirmed following-truck fuel savings for third truck



# Integrating Truck Platooning – Key Players

- **Truck drivers** need notification of platooning opportunities while driving
- **Logistics operations staff and dispatchers** need to be able to coordinate daily truck movements and plan daily operations to enable platoons
- **City or state traffic agencies and planners** may wish to monitor platooning operations to facilitate traffic control and measure benefits of platooning
- A **network operating center**, within a company or run by a third party for multiple trucking companies, may help get the most out of truck platooning

# Safe Truck Platooning Deployment Considerations

- Legislation to allow truck platooning
- Operational considerations to support future deployment
- Consensus on vehicle markings
- Weather
- Time of day
- Training, education, and awareness
- Equipment on each truck to implement truck platooning



# Implications for State/Local Agencies

- Legislative changes for following distance
- Traffic planning on corridors
- Law enforcement cooperation
- Freight planning
- Public awareness

# Conclusions

- Truck platooning has been proven to save fuel and reduce emissions
- There are potential efficiency benefits to truck platooning if widely used and integrated with the supply chain planning process
- Thought needs to be given to network control of platooning to help ensure smooth operation and benefits
- State and local agencies need to be involved in both facilitating platooning and assuring its safe use on highways



# Questions

# Thank You

**Marwan Madi**

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