

The Travel Information Highway (TIH)



Aims

To provide:

- a 'one-stop-shop' for travel information service providers, with instant access to information on present and future travel conditions
- an open communication mechanism allowing network operators to exchange operational information on the performance of their networks

What it means for motorists

- Improved quality of digital travel information services
- Up-to-the-minute travel advice
- Better targeted services from an integrated approach by network operators

Main features

- Open communications standards will facilitate the exchange of information directly between systems.
- The use of emerging internet technology will ensure connection costs are kept to a minimum and hardware and software are readily available.
- A charging mechanism will encourage new information sources to be made available by generating a market for travel information.
- TIH will encourage research and development, resulting in a better understanding of the network operation.
- A pilot implementation of the TIH has been developed to make information available from Highways Agency systems in Police Control Offices to travel information providers like the BBC, AA and RAC. Further information on this can be found on the TIH web site www.tih.org.uk

Plans for the future

- As part of the development of the Traffic Control Centre facility the Highways Agency will be using the Travel Information Highway as one of the main channels for the exchange of real-time travel information from motorways and trunk roads. All organisations requiring this information will be given equal access.
- The TIH will also provide high-quality road information for Transport Direct, the new comprehensive national service for the travelling public due to start in 2003.

**For more information please contact the Highways Agency Press Office
on 020 7921 4323/4389/4029.**