PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER:
99463

PROJECT TITLE:
Problem Identification and Evaluation of Restraint, Alcohol and Corridor Projects

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS:
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PROJECT OBJECTIVE:
This project will continue to advance the Critical Analysis Reporting Environment (CARE) software and its applications efforts.

PROJECT ABSTRACT:
Although crash fatality rates in Alabama declined in 1998, they are still quite high and have held steady during the past five years. Consequently, Alabama’s fatality rate is falling well behind that of the rest of the county. This illustrates the pressing need to continue to develop better tools for analysis of crash data and for allocation of scarce safety funds.
CARE has been recognized as one of the most advanced software packages for traffic safety problem identification and evaluation. This project will make it easier to use at the local levels through both WWW and Windows-based technologies. Greater visualization and additional information mining capabilities will also be added. These will be tested by performing a variety of problem identification and evaluation studies over the range of countermeasures being investigated at the state and local levels.

PROJECT TASK DESCRIPTIONS:
1. Develop additional CARE capabilities.
2. Develop CARE/WWW Visualization.
4. Train personnel.

MILESTONES AND DATES:
• Apr-Sep 2000: Task 4.
• May-Sep 2000: Task 5.

TOTAL BUDGET:
One-year project: Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs $228,036.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:
One undergraduate and one graduate student will be employed on this project.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS:
This project is not directly related to any other UTCA project.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:
CARE training will occur throughout the project. There will be two or more full-day, formal training sessions, at least 10 CARE tutorial self-paced sessions, and three or more CARE tutorial sessions at state level conferences.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:
The direct benefits of this project will be hard to predict, but there will be improvements in the software, it will be easier to gain access to the software, and more people will be trained in its use. Consequently, the number of safety studies and the quality of studies should improve.

TRB KEYWORDS:
CARE, traffic safety software, crash data analysis, visualization, information mining, safety optimization