IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FISCAL YEAR 2003

REPORT OF SAVINGS BY USING VIDEOCONFERENCING

THROUGH IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

TO THE IOWA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Pursuant to Chapter II 84

Acts and Joint Resolutions

enacted at the

1994 Regular Session

of the 75th General Assembly

of the State of Iowa

**Code section 8D.10**

**Report of Savings by State Agencies**

December 2003

**Introduction and Summary**

Iowa Code Section 8D.10 requires that certain state agencies prepare an annual report to the

General Assembly certifying the identified savings associated with that state agency’s use of the Iowa Communications Network (ICN).

This report covers estimated cost savings related to video conferencing via ICN for the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT).

In FY 2003, the DOT conducted two training sessions utilizing the ICN video conferencing system which resulted in $7,589 in estimated savings to the DOT.

**DOT Video Conferences**

The DOT has seven small videoconference sites, located at five of the six DOT district offices, the DOT administration building in Ames, and the Des Moines Park Fair DOT office. DOT staff each year also utilizes the ICN classroom video sites or utilize the ICN network for videoconferences requiring more space or for conferences at locations where the DOT does not have video facilities.

In FY 2003, the DOT established two (2) videoconferenced training sessions with the ICN. The estimated cost savings from use of the ICN results from applying estimates to savings in staff time and travel expenses (meals and mileage). The following are other benefits of videoconferencing not included in the cost estimates:

* broader participation by more people allowing for enhanced input and discussion;
* more timely information-sharing;
* fuller, more productive participation through visual sharing not offered by telephone conferences;
* closer, more productive relationship between central office and geographically dispersed work units; and
* ability to videotape meetings to share with others or keep as historical record.

**Video Conferencing Costs**

The DOT reimburses the ICN for a videoconference session when the DOT is the scheduling agency, or if there are special requirements such as the use of an ICN classroom. DOT is not billed for ICN videoconference sessions if the session was scheduled by another agency.

**DOT Cost Savings in FY 2003**

The following chart details the cost savings estimated for DOT use of ICN video conferencing in FY 2003:

Number of videoconferences held 2

Number of non-DOT participants 450

Number of DOT participants 1 (trainer conducted 2 sessions

via ICN to 44 locations)

Travel miles avoided 5,610

(estimated using map mileage)

Vehicle cost savings $ 2,468.00

(@ 22 cents per mile)

Meal cost savings $ 451.00

Travel time savings $ 6,120.00

(@ $30 per hour)

Total estimated savings $ 9,038.00

Less direct cost of using ICN $ 1,449.00

Net savings for FY 2003 $ 7,589.00

This savings applies only to the DOT staff who conducted the training sessions. Conferences included non-DOT staff. Cost savings accrued to non-DOT staff is not included in these estimates.

**Assumptions used for cost savings computation**

Estimate amounts are based on the following:

* meetings would be held at the DOT host site, or in the case of training sessions, the DOT trainer would travel to multiple sites to provide the training;
* at least one participant from each site would have traveled to the meeting site;
* DOT cost savings for mileage are based on travel miles avoided, times the state car rate of 22 cents per mile;
* distances are calculated using Iowa Transportation Map distances between cities; and
* productivity gain is calculated on travel time avoided (miles driven divided by 55 miles per hour) multiplied by an hourly rate, excluding fringe cost of $30 which is a rounded amount for transportation engineers at a pay grade 32 in FY 2003.

Appendix A

DOT video conferencing via ICN in FY 2003

Cost computation in whole dollars

|  |  | DOT Staff | DOT Map Miles | Vehicle Saving ($.22/m) | Meal Saving | Time Saving ($30/hr) | Total Saving |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12/17/2003 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | CEDAR RAPIDS-CSD-ADM | 1 | 102 | $ 45 | $ 11 | $ 111 | $ 167 |
|  | DAVENPORT-CC2 | 1 | 171 | $ 75 | $ 11 | $ 187 | $ 273 |
|  | DECORAH-N WINNESHIEK | 1 | 176 | $ 77 | $ 11 | $ 192 | $ 280 |
|  | FORT DODGE-CC | 1 | 93 | $ 41 | $ 11 | $ 101 | $ 153 |
|  | MASON CITY-HS | 1 | 120 | $ 53 | $ 11 | $ 131 | $ 195 |
|  | MT PLEASANT-IA WESLE | 1 | 131 | $ 58 | $ 11 | $ 143 | $ 212 |
|  | MUSCATINE-CC | 1 | 152 | $ 67 | $ 11 | $ 166 | $ 244 |
|  | OSCEOLA-CC1 | 1 | 59 | $ 26 | $ 11 | $ 64 | $ 101 |
|  | SIOUX CITY-WEST-HS | 1 | 194 | $ 85 | $ 11 | $ 212 | $ 308 |
|  | SPENCER | 1 | 179 | $ 79 | $ 11 | $ 195 | $ 285 |
|  | DES MOINES-STATE HISTORICAL | 1 | 0 | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11/12/2003 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ALGONA (NG) | 1 | 129 | $ 57 | $ 11 | $ 141 | $ 209 |
|  | BURLINGTON-PUB LIB (CART) | 1 | 155 | $ 68 | $ 11 | $ 169 | $ 248 |
|  | CEDAR FALLS-HS | 1 | 102 | $ 45 | $ 11 | $ 111 | $ 167 |
|  | CEDAR RAPIDS-AEA | 1 | 114 | $ 50 | $ 11 | $ 124 | $ 185 |
|  | CHARLES CITY-CC | 1 | 135 | $ 59 | $ 11 | $ 147 | $ 217 |
|  | COUNCIL BLUFFS-AEA | 1 | 131 | $ 58 | $ 11 | $ 143 | $ 212 |
|  | CRESTON-AEA | 1 | 79 | $ 35 | $ 11 | $ 86 | $ 132 |
|  | DAVENPORT-CCl | 1 | 171 | $ 75 | $ 11 | $ 187 | $ 273 |
|  | DECORAH-HS | 1 | 176 | $ 77 | $ 11 | $ 192 | $ 280 |
|  | DENISON-HS | 1 | 121 | $ 53 | $ 11 | $ 132 | $ 196 |
|  | DES MOINES-STATE LIBRARY3 | 1 | 0 | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
|  | DUBUQUE-AEA | 1 | 185 | $ 81 | $ 11 | $ 202 | $ 294 |
|  | ELKADER-AEA | 1 | 204 | $ 90 | $ 11 | $ 223 | $ 324 |
|  | FAIRFIELD (NG) | 1 | 108 | $ 48 | $ 11 | $ 118 | $ 177 |
|  | FORT DODGE (NG) | 1 | 93 | $ 41 | $ 11 | $ 101 | $ 153 |
|  | HUDSON-PUB LIB | 1 | 102 | $ 45 | $ 11 | $ 111 | $ 167 |
|  | IOWA FALLS (NG) | 1 | 73 | $ 32 | $ 11 | $ 80 | $ 123 |
|  | KEOKUK-HS | 1 | 169 | $ 74 | $ 11 | $ 184 | $ 269 |
|  | MARSHALLTOWN-AEA | 1 | 49 | $ 22 | $ 11 | $ 53 | $ 86 |
|  | MASON CITY-CC3 | 1 | 120 | $ 53 | $ 11 | $ 131 | $ 195 |
|  | MT PLEASANT (NG) | 1 | 131 | $ 58 | $ 11 | $ 143 | $ 212 |
|  | MUSCATINE (NG) | 1 | 152 | $ 67 | $ 11 | $ 166 | $ 244 |
|  | ORANGE CITY-PUB LIB | 1 | 210 | $ 92 | $ 11 | $ 229 | $ 332 |
|  | OSCEOLA-PUB LIB | 1 | 59 | $ 26 | $ 11 | $ 64 | $ 101 |
|  | OSKALOOSA (NG) | 1 | 59 | $ 26 | $ 11 | $ 64 | $ 101 |
|  | SHELDON (NG) | 1 | 219 | $ 96 | $ 11 | $ 239 | $ 346 |
|  | SHENANDOAH (NG) | 1 | 143 | $ 63 | $ 11 | $ 156 | $ 230 |
|  | SIOUX CITY-COURTHOUSE | 1 | 194 | $ 85 | $ 11 | $ 212 | $ 308 |
|  | SPENCER-CC | 1 | 179 | $ 79 | $ 11 | $ 195 | $ 285 |
|  | STORM LAKE (NG) | 1 | 150 | $ 66 | $ 11 | $ 164 | $ 241 |
|  | TIPTON-HS | 1 | 144 | $ 63 | $ 11 | $ 157 | $ 231 |
|  | WAVERLY-PUB LIB | 1 | 177 | $ 78 | $ 11 | $ 193 | $ 282 |
|  | DES MOINES-STATE HISTORICAL | 1 | 0 | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Total | 5,610 | $ 2,468 | $ 451 | $ 6,119 | $ 9,038 |
| Less ICN Direct Charges | | | | | | | $ 1,449 |
| DOT Savings Resulting from Use of ICN | | | | | | | $ 7,589 |