

Business from technology

Better winter road weather information saves money, time, lives and environment

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Bio of Pekka

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VTT in brief

Customer sectors

- Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and food industries
- Electronics
- Energy
- ICT
- Real estate and construction
- Machines and vehicles
- Services and logistics
- Forest industry
- Process industry and environment

Personnel 2700 ■ Turnover 245 M€

Focus areas of research

- Applied materials
- Bio- and chemical processes
- Energy
- Information and communication technologies
- Industrial systems management
- Microtechnologies and electronics

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- Technology in the community
- Business research







VTT's operations

Research and Development Strategic Research Business Solutions Ventures Expert Services Corporate Services VTT TECHNICAL RESEARCH CENTRE OF FINLAND

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VTT on the map





Outline

- Background
- Method & goals
- The "market"
- The "goodness" measurement
- The research review map
- Observations & conclusions



Background

- Adverse winter weather conditions cause loss of life, well-being and material property
- Weather information services can mitigate these losses
 - Free publicly available forecasts and warnings
 - Tailored services
 - 24/7 road weather centres
 - Decision Support Systems (DSS)
 - Assist decision makers and maintenance operators
- Weather information services can improve efficiency
 - Optimising the use of materials (e.g. salt)
 - Better utilisation of personnel
 - More rapid response to changing conditions



Approach

- Benefits of winter road weather information in road transport
- Literature review of existing research results starting from the year 2000
- Segmentation of positive impacts by user groups and types of benefits
- Goals:
 - To identify what benefits have been studied the most and where more research might be needed
 - Where are the biggest benefits found?
- Result: a summary framework of identified benefits

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The "market" Extreme weather accident risk indicators for EU-27 road system



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	Present costs due to extreme weather, including all phenomena (ca. 2010									
	Accidents	Time costs	Infrastru Physical infra	Freight & logistics						
Road	>10 bill.	0.5-1.0 bill.	ca. 1 bill.	ca. 0.2 bill.	1 – 6 bill.					
Rail	>0.1 bill.	>10 mill.		>0.1 bill.	5 – 24 mill.					
IWT	ca. 2 mill.	na	na	na	0.1 - 0.3 mill.					
Short sea	>10 mill.	na	na	na	0.2 - 1 mill.					
Aviation	na	>0.6 bill.	na	na	0.5 – 2.3 mill.					
Light traffic	>2 bill.) -	na	na	-					
TOTAL	>12 bill.	>1 bill.	ca. 1 bill.	>0.3 bill.	1-6 bill.					
The EU-27 grand total more than 15 bill. €p.a.										



		Function				Societal benefits		
User groups		Road use	Road maint	Traffic mamt.	Asset	Safety	Environment	Economy (saved
		0.00		g	l'''g'''''			time)
Road users	Private drivers & travelers	5						
	Pedestrians & bicyclists	1						
	Professional drivers	2						
Fleet managers	Passenger					5	2	3
	Freight							
	Maintenance				1			
	Emergency services	1						
Infrastructure service providers	Maintenance contractors		5					
Authorities	Road authority							



Observations

- The "market" is changing from socio-economics to business economics?
- There can be a shift from safety to reliability? From *traffic* to logistics?
- Some "holes" in the recent research coverage



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Conclusions

- Summary framework on weather information impacts:
 - Safety impacts have been studied and identified extensively
 - Studies on benefits to fleet management and logistics are lacking
 - Studies on benefits to pedestrians and bicyclists are few
- Across the board, qualitative studies outnumber quantitative studies



VTT - 70 years of technology

Thank you!