HIGHWAYS AGENCY

Better Road Services *for the future*

Highways Agency helping deliver Transport 2010: The 10 Year Plan

Automatic Incident Detection

Aim

- To improve safety by automatically protecting the back of queues following a motorway incident.

What it means for motorists

- Cantilever signals upstream of very slow or stationary traffic automatically give messages about congestion ahead and provide advisory speed limits.
- Reduction in secondary accidents at the back of queues.
- Reduced delays: fewer accidents occur and messages are automatically removed as soon as traffic flows are restored.
- Reduced stress, as problem is explained.

Main features

- System requires loop detectors in each carriageway at regular intervals to sense slow or stationary traffic.
- Cantilever signals on the verge are also required at regular intervals.
- Reduced number and severity of accidents provides sound economic justification for the system
- Development work has been completed
- At present the system is operational on parts of M25 and M60.

Plans for the future

- Installation works are ongoing or imminent on motorways around Birmingham and in the counties of Cheshire, Lancashire, West Yorkshire, Staffordshire and Leicestershire.
- Regional roll-out programmes are being developed with priority for the most congested lengths of motorways, eg London, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds boxes and the links between them.
- By the end of 10 years all congested parts of the motorway network should be completed.

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

Graphic Services L000425.p65