



OFFICE OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

2012 **R&D**
REVIEW

Train Control & Communication (TC&C) Research Division



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Railroad
Administration

SAM ALIBRAHIM, P.E.

Chief, Train Control and Communications
Office of Research and Development
Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Program Area & Risk Matrix

Train Control & Communication (TC&C) Research Division

Program Areas	Risk Factors	Trespass	Grade Crossing	Derailment	Train Collision	All Other Safety Hazards
Railroad Systems Issues						
Human Factors						
Track & Structures						
Track & Train Interaction						
Facilities & Equipment						
Rolling Stock & Components						
Hazardous Materials						
Train Occupant Protection						
Train Control & Communications				X	X	X
Grade Crossings & Trespass		X	X			

TC&C Research Team



Sam Alibrahim, P.E.
Train Control &
Communication Research
Division Chief



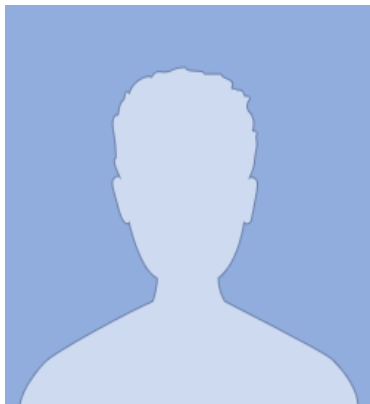
Jared Withers
Intelligent Transportation
Systems Program Manager



Tarek Omar
Grade Crossing Protection &
Trespass Prevention Program
Manager



Kenneth Orr
Train Control &
Communication Program
Manager



FRA.RPD-2012-0034 (Gov Wide)
FRA.RPD-2012-0035 (CATRAT)
GS-12 General Engineer
Open May 18th Close June 7th

TC&C Research Division's Major Programs and Projects

Train Control

Positive Train Control

- Freight Advanced Enforcement Algorithm
- Passenger Brake Model
- Employee-In-Charge Remote Terminal
- Locomotive Interface Gateway
- Alternative Broken Rail Detection
- Positive Train Location/Train Consist Integrity
- High Accuracy GPS Test Site Upgrade
- Positive Train Control Test Bed
- Caltarin PTC/CBOSS
- Loss of Shunt Prevention Study

Communication

220 MHz Development

- Railway Cognitive Radio
- Interoperability Protocol Development

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

- Proof of Concept
- Highway-Rail Feasibility Analysis

High Frequency Communication

- WiFi/WiMax Development

Modeling & Simulation

Simulation

- Generalized Train Movement Model

Modeling

- GradeDec.Net grade crossing online tool

Grade Crossing Protection

Crossing Technology Research

- PTC-based Train Detection & Warning
- Automated Lidar Grade Crossing Data Extraction
- Radar-Based Vehicle Detection at Grade Crossing

Technology Evaluation

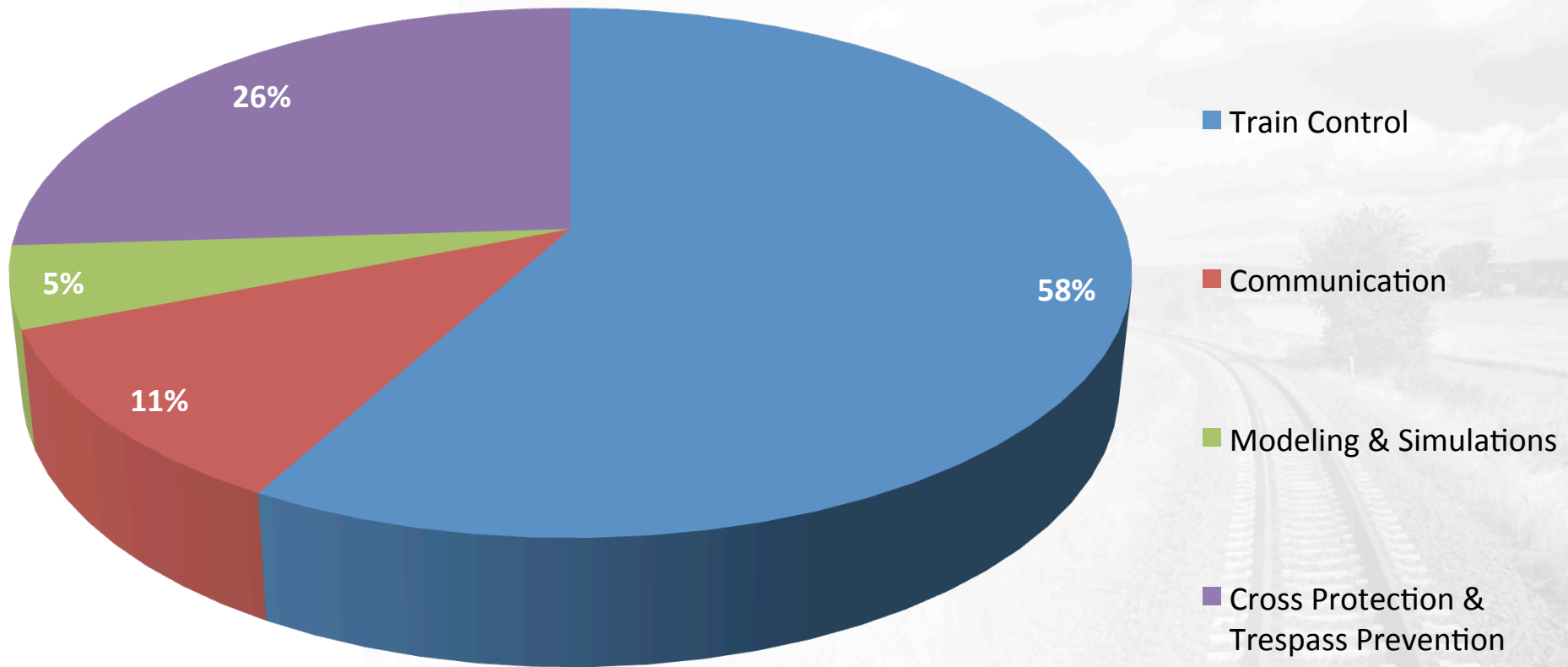
- Second Train Warning
- Anti-Trespass technology

Trespass Prevention

Human Factors Studies

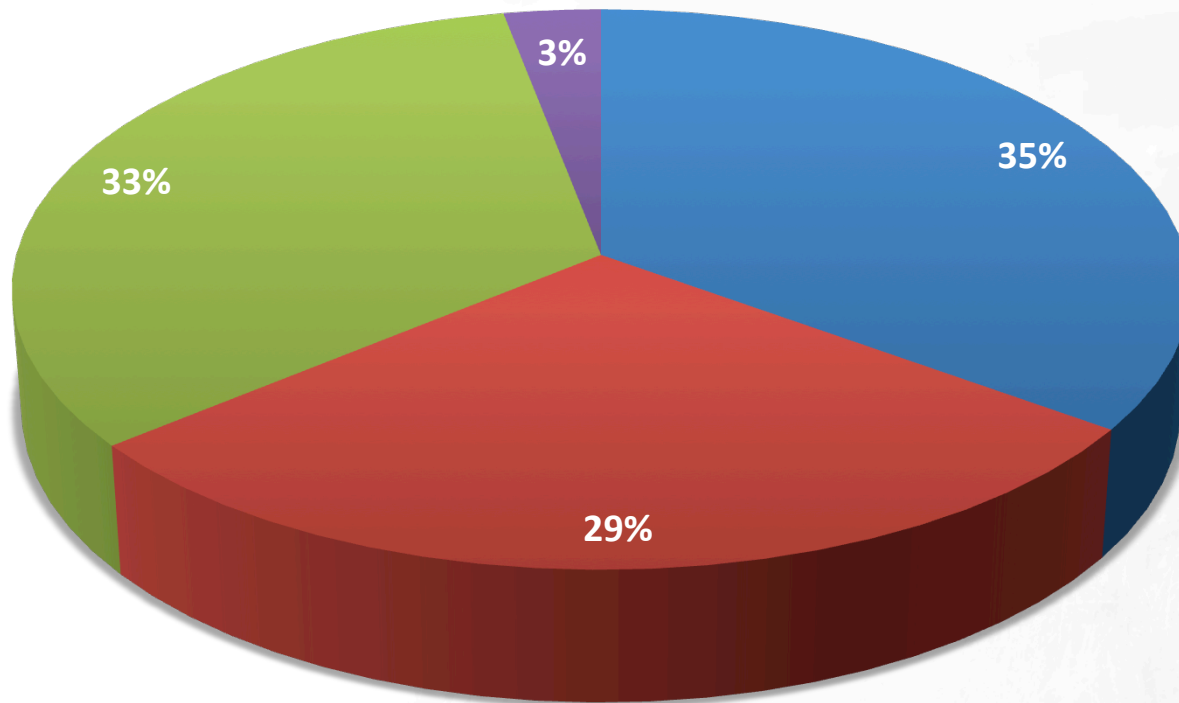
- Driver Behavior Analysis

TC&C Research Division Program Budget Allocation



Current Program Funding \$15,900,000

TC&C Research Partners with Current Active Projects



■ Transportation Technology Center Institute (TTCI)

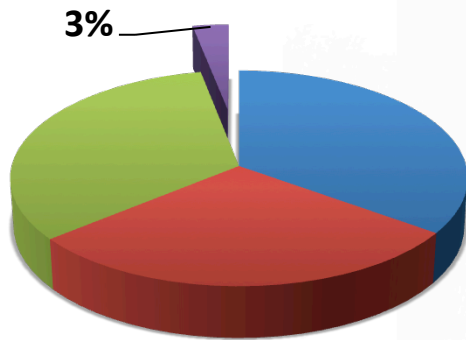
■ VOLPE Center

■ Industry

■ Universities

FRA-Funded University Projects under TC&C Research Division

Percentage of TC&C Research Resources

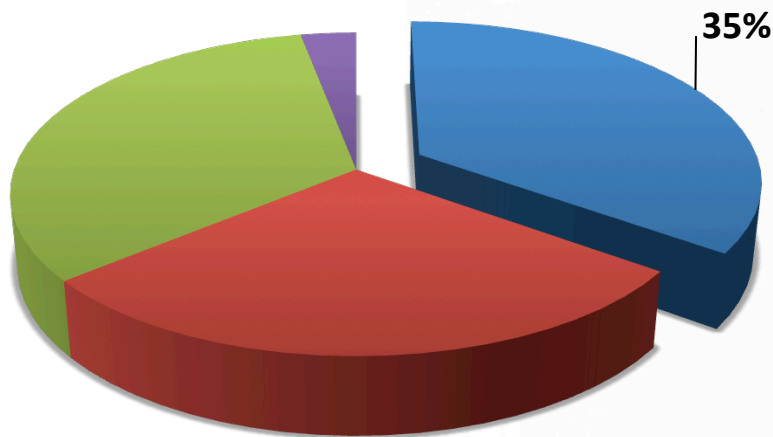


- **University of Nebraska, Lincoln**
 - WiFi/WiMax Development
- **Virginia Tech**
 - Railway Cognitive Radio
- **George Mason & Howard University**
 - Evaluation of PTC Security Mechanism
- **University of Michigan**
 - Automated Extraction of Lidar Data



FRA-Funded TTCI Projects under TC&C Research Division

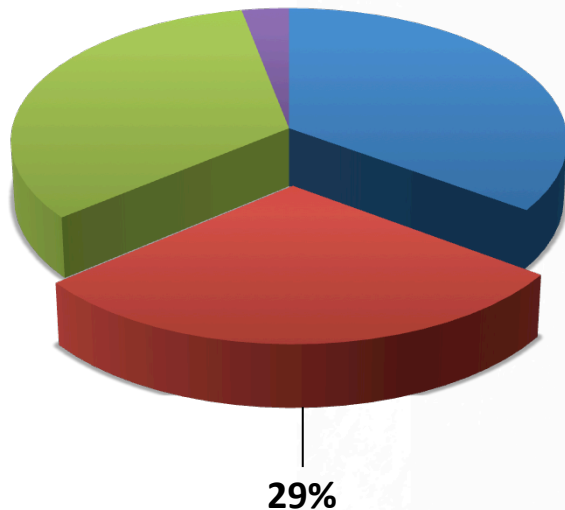
Percentage of TC&C Research Resources



- Advanced Enforcement Algorithm
- Employee-in-charge Portable Terminal
- Vital Consist determination/Positive Train Location
- PTC/Communication test Bed Upgrade
- High-Accuracy NDGPS site upgrade

FRA-Funded VOLPE Projects under TC&C Research Division

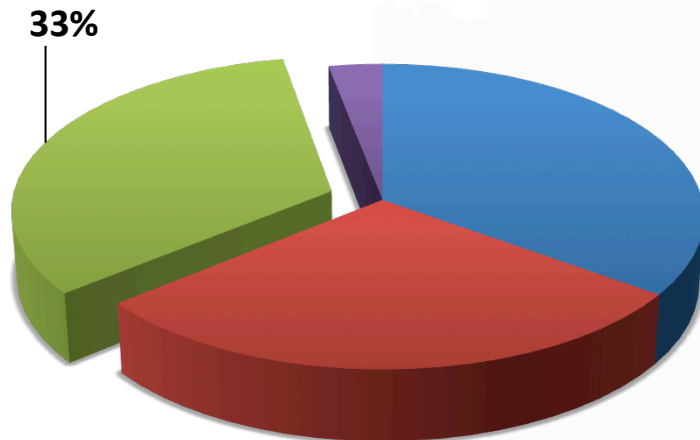
Percentage of TC&C Research Sources



- Trespass Prevention Research Study
- Second Train Warning for Motor Vehicle Drivers
- PTC-Based Grade Crossing Train Detection and Warning System
- Program Management, Quick Response, and Special Studies
- Evaluation of Education and Outreach Strategies and Methods
- Driver Behavior Analysis Using Field Operational Test Data
- Anti-Trespass Technology Demonstrations

FRA-Funded Industry Projects under TC&C Research Division

Percentage of TC&C Research Resources



- Interoperability Protocol Development (RRF/ITC)
- Locomotive Interface Gateway (GE, EMD)
- Higher Performance Digital Radio (RRF/TTCI)
- Alternative Broken Rail Detection (ENSCO)
- Generalized Train Movement Model (DecisionTec)
- PTC System Development (Earmark CalTrain, Metrolink)

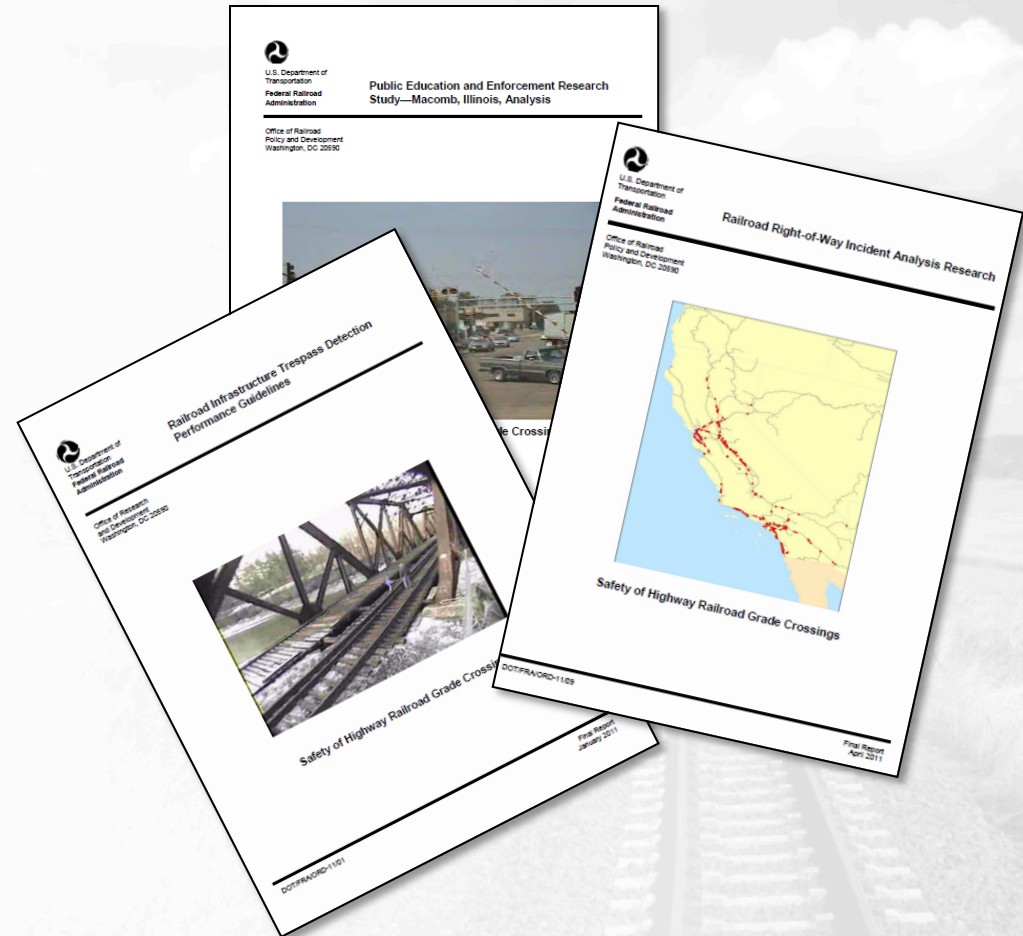
Dissemination of Research Results

Publications

- Final Reports
 - ✓ Public Education and Enforcement Research Study—Macomb, Illinois, Analysis
 - ✓ Railroad Right-of-Way Incident Analysis Research
 - ✓ Vital Positive Train Control Research and Development
 - ✓ Passenger Train Braking Model Development—Phase I
- Research Results
 - ✓ Testing Algorithms for a Passenger Train Braking Performance Model
 - ✓ Evaluation of Education and Outreach Programs
 - ✓ Low-Cost Warning Device Industry Assessment
 - ✓ Data Analysis of Grade Crossing Incidents
 - ✓ Success Factors in the Reduction of Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Incidents

Conferences

- Joint Rail Conference (JRC)
- AREMA Annual Conference & Expo
- Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Conference
- FRA Research & Development Research Review



Summary

- R&D funding has been essential for advancement of rail safety technologies, particularly during initial phases of development.
- Office of R&D with contractor support has successfully introduced a number of new technologies that are widely used by FRA Office of Safety and throughout the industry for safety inspection and safety assurance/analysis.
- Transition and implementation of technology relies heavily on partnership between stakeholders from governments, railroads and technology providers.

