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## **BUSINESS UPDATE ONLY - NON-MATERIAL INFORMATION**

### **IRD SYSTEMS REDUCE BRIDGE LOADING AND ENHANCE SAFETY**

**August 21, 2007** - Good traffic volume and vehicle load information are essential for authorities to optimize their maintenance programs for bridge infrastructure. Once a bridge is deemed to be in distress then other steps can be implemented to ensure that overloads do not occur, thereby reducing the potential for additional stress caused by heavily loaded vehicles.

IRD's WIM (Weigh-In-Motion) technology can play a vital role in this respect by monitoring bridge loading. WIM has been an accepted instrument for traffic data collection and load monitoring for truck enforcement screening for more than 25 years.

As a first step, the system can collect data on the traffic which is traveling across the bridge. From this data, authorities can determine the loadings on the bridge and take the appropriate counter-measures to protect the bridge structure.

A further step is for IRD's Bridge Weight Monitoring Systems to be deployed in advance of the bridge to advise the vehicle operators of overloading. As vehicles approach the bridge, the WIM System automatically determines the size and weight classification of the vehicle and compares this information with the allowable loads for the upcoming bridge. If the vehicle exceeds the allowable weight limits, an advisory sign will be illuminated advising the driver that the vehicle should not travel across the bridge. The truck operator can then stop the vehicle and exit prior to crossing the bridge.

Additionally, the WIM can be integrated with a video tracking and monitoring system to ensure that vehicles obey the signals and warnings when advised to not cross the bridge. In the event a driver does not obey the message, an image of the vehicle, with the corresponding size and weight information is generated and stored and/or communicated to a central office location for further action. The compliance and enforcement aspect of the system will deter drivers from purposely driving overloaded vehicles on a load sensitive bridge structure. Over-height vehicle detection can also be incorporated into this warning system.

For further information about IRD Bridge Monitoring Systems, please click [http://www.irdinc.com/its\\_solutions/safety/bridge\\_protection.php](http://www.irdinc.com/its_solutions/safety/bridge_protection.php) or contact Mr. Rod Klashinsky at phone: 306-653-6600 or at e-mail: [rod.klashinsky@irdinc.com](mailto:rod.klashinsky@irdinc.com).

IRD is a highway traffic management technology company specializing in supplying products and systems to the global Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) industry. IRD is a North American company based in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan with sales and service offices throughout the United States and overseas. Private corporations, transportation agencies and highway authorities around the world use IRD's products and advanced systems to manage and protect their highway infrastructures.

IRD is listed on the TSX – trading symbol – IRD  
[www.irdinc.com](http://www.irdinc.com)