



Inland Navigation Appointment System

Start Date: Oct 2003

POC:

Projected

[POC](#)

End Date: Sep 2005

Problem Addressed:

Delays caused by congestion on the inland waterway system are costly for shippers and have a negative impact on the economy and the environment. Appointment systems are one proposed solution to dealing with the problem.

Objective:

This study examines the potential use of an appointment systems to reduce wait times and congestion. Under such a system barges would be assigned times to pass through a lock and dam system. The researchers intend to develop a robust simulation tool to measure the effects of a variety of appointment strategies and to prepare the groundwork for additional operational testing of an appointment system. The study also will examine the economic benefits and costs of an appointment system.

Benefits:

The development of a workable appointment system would be a cost-effective way to reduce congestion and wait times, and could potentially lead to a positive economic impact due to more efficient movement of commodities and lower fuel costs. A more efficient system could also reduce pollution and environmental damage.

Status:

Completed

Contract Data:

120171, A1010

Progress:

[Summary of Presentation by Don Sweeney](#)
(22 KB, pdf)

[Presentation by Ray Mundy](#) (659 KB, ppt)

[Paper by Ray Mundy, June 2005](#) (3.92 MB, pdf)

Products (Bookshelf/Toolbox):

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Revised 15 Sep 2008