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PRESS RELEASE

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AUSTIN - The Texas Association of State Systems for Computing and Communication (TASSCC) held its annual conference in Arlington, Texas from August 12th through the 15th. Over 350 members and associate members were in attendance. During the conference, TASSCC bestowed awards to recognize excellence and innovation in Texas public sector IT services.

The TASSCC Excellence Award recognizes a project, or projects, that showcase innovative application of leading-edge computing and/or communications technologies. Nominated projects must result in demonstrated improvements to internal operations, customer service or communication. Projects must be fully implemented and deliver the services described.

TASSCC is pleased to announce the selection of three Excellence Award recipients for 2012 as follows:

- **InSight Departmental Technology Management System, University of Texas at San Antonio, Office of Information Technology**
- **Cash Credit Law Compliance System, Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission**
- **Crash Reporting and Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH), Texas Department of Transportation**

InSight is a new Technology Management Dashboard that synthesizes information from multiple sources into a single, easy-to-use interface available to nearly all university employees based on their role. Leaders now make informed management decisions regarding information technology resources. Clients can access information relating to computer management including inventory, computer age, and laptop encryption. InSight is a new Technology Management Dashboard that synthesizes information from multiple sources into a single, easy-to-use interface available to nearly all university employees based on their role. Leaders now make informed management decisions regarding information technology resources. Clients can access information relating to computer management including inventory, computer age, laptop encryption status, domain membership, antivirus presence, and computer reporting statistics.

InSight is the cornerstone for advancing UTSA's paradigm shift of managing technology resources versus attempting to control them from a central organization. The innovation behind InSight lies in its ability to electronically gather configuration data from computers to identify information security risks and to provide pathways for departments to reduce those risks. Department heads or delegates can assess the overall risk of equipment based on what is reported in InSight without having to request various reports from other departments.

Departments can easily determine compliance status related to university standards. Insight gathers data from endpoints as opposed to relying on departments to accurately self-report. We know of no other agency able to accomplish these capabilities.

InSight was built by the Office of Information Technology at UTSA under the direction of Kenneth Pierce(CIO), Cindy Espinoza(PMO Director), and Jerry Smith(Project Manager). InSight is the cornerstone for advancing UTSA s paradigm shift of managing technology resources versus attempting to control them from a central organization.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission has the responsibility to monitor financial transactions between alcohol distributors and retailers. For example, if a retailer fails to pay the distributor (supplier), then other distributors are prohibited from selling to that retailer until the debt is paid. This is referred to as Cash Credit Law. The State of Texas also has a Priority Goal to provide an attractive economic climate. As a result of the Cash Credit Law system, the alcoholic beverage industry is stable.

TABC developed the online, real-time system, so distributors could report failures to pay. Meanwhile, distributors can monitor the system to verify a retailer can purchase alcohol. The system was developed on a .NET platform using Visual Basic. The server hardware is hosted at the State Data Center in San Angelo. The total development and implementation cost was less that \$150,0000. The system was implemented in February 2009, with a nine-month transition period. FY 2011 was the first full year of the new system.

The Crash Reporting and Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH) Project Team of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Traffic Operations Division, (TRF) launched an innovative internet-based application that allows law enforcement officers to enter crash information electronically from the field or their office via the secure, public internet. The CRASH application effectively streamlines the crash reporting process, saving time and money, and eliminates the need for law enforcement to generate and mail paper crash reports to TxDOT. CRASH guides officers through a series of panels, requesting more than 300 pieces of information, and makes entering crash data faster and easier because of an automated validation feature based on 800+ business rules and edits.

Texas law enforcement agencies submit, on average, 550,000 crash reports to TxDOT annually. Since the implementation of CRASH, TxDOT has realized cost avoidance in processing paper crash reports of \$277,497 annually with the 30 pilot agencies currently using CRASH, and TxDOT expects this figure to rise significantly as more and more agencies use the application. In addition to savings on report processing, CRASH gives law enforcement agencies, the public, and other crash data stakeholders faster access to crash data for vital traffic safety and planning initiatives that save lives, including local transportation project planning and prioritizing, highway and railroad crossing safety evaluation, identification of target areas for enhanced traffic law enforcement, and TxDOT and private traffic safety studies.

The TASSCC mission is partnering to advance education and networking among Texas public sector IT professionals. TASSCC's full members include state agencies and state institutions of higher education, while associate members are primarily companies involved in computing and communications. TASSCC produces three education conferences and participates in numerous community service events throughout the year.