



EMS SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRAUMA

MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 2, 2010
Scheduled: 10:00 am until 11:00 am
GTRI Conference Center
(Georgia Tech Research Institute)
250 14th St. NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30318
Meeting Room 119B

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ben Hinson called the November monthly meeting of the EMS Subcommittee on Trauma to order at the GTRI Conference Center at 10:15 a.m.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Ben Hinson, Chair Subcommittee & GA Trauma Commission Member Ralph McDaniel – EMS Region One Chad Black – EMS Region Two Richard Lee – Region Four Lee Oliver – Region Five (via tele-conference call) Blake Thompson – Region Six Jimmy Carver – EMS Region Seven Craig Grace-Region Eight (via tele-conference call) David Moore – Region Nine Huey Atkins – Region Ten	Dr. Pat O'Neal - SOEMS Pete Quinones-Region Three Rich Bias - GA Trauma Commission Member Courtney Terwilliger – EMSAC

OTHERS SIGNING IN	REPRESENTING
Ryan Goodson Marty Billings Mark Chapman David Borghelli Regina Medeiros Lawanna Mercer-Cobb Russ McGee Michelle Archer Scott Sherrill Kirk Pennywitt	Georgia Trauma Commission, Communications Lead Metro Atlanta Ambulance Service Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Houston Healthcare/Houston County EMS Medical College of Georgia Region 6 EMS Region 5 EMS Region 5 EMS GTRI GTRI

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Hinson welcomed all present at the meeting. Mr. Hinson recognized a quorum of the voting members were present.

Approval of Minutes from October 5 Meeting

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the 5 October 2010 subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Ralph McDaniel stated that on page 6 in the first paragraph that the name of Mr. Russ Honeycutt was incorrect as to the person he was referring to was Mr. Russ McGee.

MOTION #1 EMS Subcommittee 2010-11-02:

I make the motion to approve the minutes from the 5 October 2010 meeting as written with the above changes being noted.

MOTION BY:

Ralph McDaniel

SECOND:

Jimmy Carver

ACTION:

The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.

AVLS PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Ryan Goodson presented an update on the AVLS Program. As of the last committee meeting we have reached out to more services in Regions 5 and 6 who were slow in responding by pushing more information out to the directors of the services in these areas. Region 5 has full participation from all agencies with the exception of one service. We are in the process of talking with Augusta Fire Department and bringing them on board in Region 6.

Mr. Kirk Pennywitt was introduced and provided a presentation for the AVLS Program Overview. (*PowerPoint presentation attached to minutes.*)

Some of the noted highlights are:

- Total of 27 of 30 providers and 193 of 239 vehicles in Regions 5 & 6 are expected to participate
- 146 AVLS units across 17 EMS organizations distributed to-date, with an additional 25 units and 3 organizations to be delivered this week. Seven more agencies with 22 vehicles are anticipated to join soon.
- Of the first 146 systems, 70 units across 14 agencies are either on-line or in the process of activation as of 1 November 2010. At least 10 agencies are fully operational.
- 8 of 11 organizations in Region 6 are participating with all units currently on-line. 1 more agency in this region is expected to join.
- 12 of 19 organizations in Region 5 are currently participating with up to 6 more anticipated shortly.
- Six organizations (all in Region 6) have submitted and been approved for reimbursement requests, at an average installation cost of \$300 per vehicle.

Gold Cross EMS and Jefferson County EMS were not interested in participating because they already have AVLS units installed and are pleased with what they have.

Minutes Approved on 07 December 2010

It is noted that Treutlen County EMS stated they are not interested in participating. Mr. Ryan Goodson visited with them many times and they just do not want to participate.

Mr. Ben Hinson stated that he knows these folks in Treutlen County and they are working hard to keep their doors open. They have many economic challenges and he had heard they were afraid it would cost them more money down the road.

Mr. Chad Black questioned "is the reason they are unwilling to participate due to the possibility of the program costing them more money down the road and is this the number one reason people didn't want to participate?"

Mr. Ryan Goodson confirmed the number one reason is the cost factor. After re-visiting with the services and giving them a more definitive definition of the grant process and taking the time to show them what it involved, we got a better response for participation.

Mr. Ben Hinson thanked Mr. Russ McGee for his help in turning Region 5 around.

Mr. Kirk Pennywitt stated that additional logins are also available for \$120 per year per seat extra cost or In Motion has stated that they would upgrade all agencies to five logins per agency for \$180 if everyone participated.

Mr. Ben Hinson requested clarification on the \$180 for the additional five logins and feels that this is something that needs to be discussed with the possibility of the Trauma Commission funding this.

There were no questions or comments and Mr. Hinson thanked Mr. Kirk Pennywitt for his presentation. It was noted that 90% participation was outstanding.

Discussion:

Mr. Pennywitt also referenced a map which shows the display of all the vehicle locations that are active with AVLS and online.

Mr. Huey Atkins questioned who had access to this display which shows all of the vehicles and their locations. Mr. Pennywitt responded that he was the only one who had access to this map. When questioned if he would supply that to others, Mr. Pennywitt stated he would have to get approval. Mr. Ben Hinson responded that no one would be allowed access to obtain this information.

Mr. Pennywitt stated that the information could be made available but it was agreed that this information would not be shared. Vehicle tracking and information is sensitive data and all the information is purged after 14 days with information being wiped off the server after the 14 day period. Mr. Hinson further stated that the only time the information would be shared would be in a disaster situation and that it would be in violation of the contract if the map was shown. Mr. Ben Hinson also asked Mr. Pennywitt, in the future, that no map be made available during meetings.

Mr. Huey Atkins feels if we have a system that is tracking on call/off call vehicles, then he has no problem with that but, if someone asked him where and what, then he would have a problem. Mr. Ben Hinson suggested that a letter be sent to the participating services to see if they would be okay with a map (snapshot) showing vehicles be made available at meetings.

Mr. Lee Oliver asked for a repeat of what Mr. Huey Atkins and Mr. Kirk Pennywitt stated. He feels that services within Region 5 bought in with the understanding that this information would not be shared and it may look like something else is going on. He agrees with Mr. Hinson and wonders what would happen if someone would not agree to showing this map. Mr. Hinson feels that everyone would understand that a snapshot once a month to show the progress would be okay.

Mr. David Moore questions if one service responds with a "no" would that cancel the whole thing for everyone. Mr. Ben Hinson responds that all have to agree.

Mr. David Moore stated there is a difference with a snapshot and a moving vehicle.

Mr. Ben Hinson recommends that a letter be sent out stating that for deployment planning purposes, etc. a snapshot is produced on a monthly basis to the EMS Subcommittee. The letter should state that if they have a problem with this being done, they need to notify the EMS Subcommittee. Mr. Richard Lee asks is this a statewide snapshot? Mr. Hinson requested that Mr. Kirk Pennywitt send this letter out to the services. Mr. Huey Atkins states that they need to be directed to contact their region representative if they have any questions.

Mr. Ralph McDaniel stated that he didn't know of anyone that would not agree to it but we need to ask permission and if they don't respond have someone contact them. Mr. Ben Hinson then agrees that we need to ask for permission and if they don't respond someone should contact them. This will be sent out in e-mail format.

Consensus of the group is agreeable with everyone of the subcommittee.

Mr. Chad Black questioned what are the plans if there is a disaster, would the incident command be able to log-in and see everyone? Mr. Ben Hinson replied that GEMA would be doing this and it would be visible in the GEMA command center. Mr. Ben Hinson stated there had never been a disaster where there was never enough EMS.

Mr. Ben Hinson reported that the Trauma Commission has not yet voted as to what a disaster is and cannot be turned on until this is done. He feels that this EMS Subcommittee should address this and make a recommendation to the Trauma Commission.

Mr. Chad Black feels it should be the director of the service involved to declare a disaster. Mr. Jimmy Carver agrees with this. Mr. Hinson questioned, "That if it is just a disaster for one area should the system be turned on for the whole statewide system?"

Mr. Kirk Pennywitt states that GEMA intends to address these issues with their AVLS Steering Committee/working group that they are in the process of assembling. They will be dealing with these issues as the new agencies come on-board in the future and grandfathering the agencies that are already on board. At this time, GEMA has no log-in and cannot access the information. Mr. Pennywitt and In-motion are the only ones at this time that can see this information.

Mr. Pennywitt has asked In Motion to provide a version of the software for GEMA that would display a real-time view but disable the tracking and they said this could be done. Mr. Chad Black questioned whether or not you could just turn on one region if needed instead of the whole state. Mr. Kirk Pennywitt stated it could be done.

Mr. Ben Hinson states he feels there could be a downside to pushing this too fast. We need to wait and do it right and we need to be sure as GEMA develops this that the subcommittee be involved. Is it right to appoint a subcommittee from this group? It is noted that GEMA is meeting November 22 and we need to be fully involved.

Mr. Chad Black states he feels that someone needs to go to GEMA and see how this is going to look.

Mr. Craig Grace wanted to know what the timeline is on the test program. When will everybody be on line and when will the test program actually begin and how long will it last? Mr. Ben Hinson stated we are awaiting the TCC to come online. Mr. Hinson reported that GEMA will take over January 1, 2011, with the deployment and they have agreed to follow the recommendations of the committee. We are working to get it completed as soon as we can.

Mr. Lee Oliver questioned had the contracts been signed in the two pilot areas for the hospitals participating in the TCC work. Ms. Regina Medieros stated they have not been.

Mr. Ben Hinson stated again that we need to hold off and see how Amendment 2 goes before we pursue the additional \$180 for five log-ins.

EMS UNCOMPENSATED CARE PROGRAM CRITERIA RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Huey Atkins reported that after discussion regarding the uncompensated care reimbursement, it was noted that everyone agreed to go with the Medicare reimbursement rate factor. Mr. Huey Atkins states whatever process is easiest for Ms. Regina Medeiros would be the way to handle this. If there is any money left over, what happens with this money? Ms. Regina Medeiros responded that there were more funds than claims and that the remainder was pro-rated and divided with emphasize that year being on trauma education. Ms. Regina Medeiros also stated that we could look at other alternatives, and there was a mechanism in place to handle this.

Mr. Atkins stated that he recommends that we go with the Medicare rate and use the rural modifier for those areas and keep it as simple as we can.

Mr. Ben Hinson presented a worksheet on the projector that would be emailed out to everyone. This spreadsheet allows everyone to input the data necessary but will keep certain areas locked down so certain items cannot be changed. Names, pick-up points and destinations would not be shown. The trauma center destination and trauma registry number will be shown and this is to try to make it as simple as we can, trying to get around HIPPA, etc. There will also be a certification form to be signed so that if there is ever an audit, we would be covered. This form will be provided to Ms. Regina Medeiros and it will give her the total approved charges with all claims on one sheet and will give her the amount to be paid for each claim. The sheet we want to come up will be simpler than the one we have presented today.

Mr. Huey Atkins states that the main purpose of this uncompensated care was to help the rural counties. However, Grady Hospital got 1/3 of the uncompensated care money last year and this is not going to the heart of the matter when the rural counties are the ones that are struggling with trauma care and this is what the money should have been going to.

Mr. Ralph McDaniel stated that not everyone applied, and if they did, then Grady would not have gotten 1/3 and CHOA 12%.

Mr. Huey Atkins states he wants to find a way to lean towards the rural sides and it needs to be a simple solution. What counties are considered to be rural? This process needs to be simple.

Mr. Ben Hinson suggested that if the agency is zoned primarily rural that they would receive the additional 50% increase for mileage only.

Mr. Ben Hinson states we can create this and it will be emailed to Ms. Regina Medeiros for processing and we can add whatever policy we need. The spreadsheet will include the trauma registry number, rural/non-rural, trauma center destination, number of miles, etc. and the form will be forwarded to Ms. Regina Medeiros for processing. The agencies will keep their original documents in house. The main purpose is to get this to Ms. Regina Medeiros for processing.

Mr. Huey Atkins feels that if the EMS Subcommittee can agree on the process then we can worry about the nuts and bolts.

MOTION #2 EMS Subcommittee 2010-11-02:

I make the motion to move forward with the uncompensated reimbursement using the Medicare rate and mileage and if they are considered to be rural they would get a 50% increase for mileage. All will be paid at the Medicare ALS rate.

MOTION BY:
SECOND:
ACTION:

Huey Atkins
Chad Black

The motion ***PASSED*** with no objections, nor abstentions.

Future Meeting Schedule Discussion:

Mr. Ben Hinson stated that when Amendment 2 passes that we would need to have a full-day or two-day meeting after the first of the year. If we get funding, we will do a two-day event because we will have a lot of work to do.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Meeting adjourned: 11:20 p.m.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, 07 December, 2010, in Macon, Georgia. Location will be determined at a later date.

Georgia EMS Automatic Vehicle Location System (AVLS) Program Overview

2 Nov 2010

AVLS Unit Distribution by Organization

Provider	AVLS Units Delivered	Delivery Date	AVLS Units Online as of 11/1/10	Notes
Region 5				
Heartland EMS, Inc.	20	pending		Order received 10/18/10; delivery planned for week of 1Nov10.
Houston	14	8/4/10	0	Per email of 10/8/10, they plan to perform installations 10/25 - 11/8/10.
Jasper	3	9/29/10	2	2 of 3 oMGs configured Oct 13; 3rd of 3 Oct 19.
Johnson	3	9/29/10	0	Units delivered on 9/29/10.
Laurens	9	8/4/10	9	Completed.
MCCG	24	10/8/10	9	all 24 oMGs configured by Oct 26.
MidGeorgia	39	9/1/10	1	Large complex installation, will require some time.
Putnam	5	8/4/10	5	Completed.
Telfair	4	8/4/10	1	Beginning dialogue with Jennifer of Telfair (4 oMGs).
Washington	4	9/29/10	0	Units delivered on 9/29/10.
Wheeler	2	pending		Order received 10/18/10; delivery planned for week of 1Nov10.
Wilkinson	3	pending		Order received 10/18/10; delivery planned for week of 1Nov10.
Region 5 Totals	130		27	12 Participating Region 5 Providers, 20 % of vehicles online.
Region 6				
Burke	12	8/4/10	12	Completed. Reimbursed \$2,418 on 10/19/10.
Emanuel	5	8/4/10	5	Completed.
Jenkins	3	8/4/10	3	Completed. Reimbursed \$989.95 on 9/30/10.
Lincoln	3	8/4/10	3	Completed. Reimbursed \$897 on 9/16/10.
McDuffie	6	8/4/10	6	Completed. Reimbursed \$1,770 on 9/30/10.
Screven	4	8/4/10	4	Completed (4 oMGs)
Warren	3	8/4/10	3	Completed. Reimbursed \$885 on 9/15/10.
Wilkes	5	8/4/10	5	Completed. Reimbursed \$1,475 on 10/12/10.
Region 6 Totals	41		41	8 Participating Region 6 Providers, 100 % of vehicles online.
Total Participating Vehicles	171		68	20 Total Participating Region 5 & 6 Providers, 39 % of vehicles online.

Regions 5 & 6 Non-Participating Organizations

Non-Participants to-date	# of Vehicles	Notes	Tentative cutoff date of 1Nov2010 for final participation decisions
Region 5			
Dodge County EMS	4		sending the MOA today to sign.
Hancock County EMS	3		Have MOA and in process of signing it and returning it back to Jim.
Monroe Co. EMS	5		Have MOA, expecting a signed copy in the office soon.
Peach Co EMS	5		Have agreed to go with TC AVL program over their system; agreement in progress.
Taylor Regional Hospital EMS	3		Discussed program with Mr. Britt 11/1/10. Awaiting answer.
Treutlen Co. EMS	2	Won't participate.	Is there a reason given for their non-participation?
Wilcox Co. EMS	4		Agreement sent and waiting for it to return.
Region 5 Non-Participating Vehicles	26	2 Vehicles are Definite No's	
Region 6			
Augusta Fire Department	2		May reconsider, per 13Oct conversation w/ Ryan Goodson of GTCNC.
Gold Cross EMS, Inc.	39	Won't participate.	Already have IMT AVLS units installed.
Jefferson Co. EMS	1	Won't participate.	Covered by Gold Cross, already have IMT AVLS units installed.
Region 6 Non-Participating Vehicles	42	40 Vehicles are Definite No's	
Total Non-Participating Vehicles	68	10 Providers	3 Definite Non-Participating Providers

Current Status (as of 1 Nov 2010)

- Total of 27 of 30 providers and 193 of 239 vehicles in Regions 5 & 6 are expected to ultimately participate. = 90% Agency Participation Rate, 81% vehicle coverage.
- 146 AVLS units across 17 EMS organizations distributed to-date, with an additional 25 units and 3 organizations to be delivered this week. 7 more agencies with 22 vehicles are anticipated to join soon.
- Of the first 146 systems, ~70 AVLS units across 14 agencies were either online or in the process of activation as of 1 Nov 2010. At least 10 agencies are fully operational (i.e., installation & configuration fully completed).
- The remaining units are (or will be) distributed across 6 agencies and are awaiting activation.
- 8 of 11 Region 6 agencies are participating with all units currently online. 1 more Region 6 agency is expected to join.
- 12 of 19 Region 5 agencies are currently participating, with up to 6 more Region 5 agencies anticipated shortly.
- Six agencies (all in Region 6) have submitted and been approved for reimbursement requests, at an average installation cost of \$300 per vehicle.

Viewing Vehicle Status using oMM & GTVC

- Users may view their vehicle location using either In Motion's Onboard Mobility Manager (oMM) web software or the GTVC client software.
- In Motion provides two oMM user logins to each organization – one for the IT POC and one for the Dispatch user. **Additional logins available at \$120/yr per seat extra cost, or \$180/yr per agency for five (5) logins per agency.**

GTVVC Display of Vehicle Locations

The screenshot displays the GTVC Client Version 2.2 interface. The main map shows the state of Georgia with various cities and roads. Numerous vehicle icons are overlaid on the map, each labeled with a unique identifier such as 'MED 1 43', 'M-6', 'M-7', 'M-2', 'M-11', 'M-10', 'M-5', 'M-9', 'M-8', 'M-9', '82-M2', '124 M4', 'M5', 'M8 Squad 2', '53-M5', '53-M1', '53-M3', 'M1 Squad 3', 'M4', 'M1 Squad 3', '111 M 05', '111 M 08', '111 M 01', 'Spare #03826', 'Medic 4', 'Medic 1', 'Med 3 #01480', 'M0001-D0153', and 'M7'. The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, Navigate, My Places, Plug-Ins, View, Preferences, Help), a toolbar, and a status bar at the bottom showing coordinates: Lat/Lon: N 33° 57.969', W 084° 46.230' (WGS84).

On the right side, there are several panels:

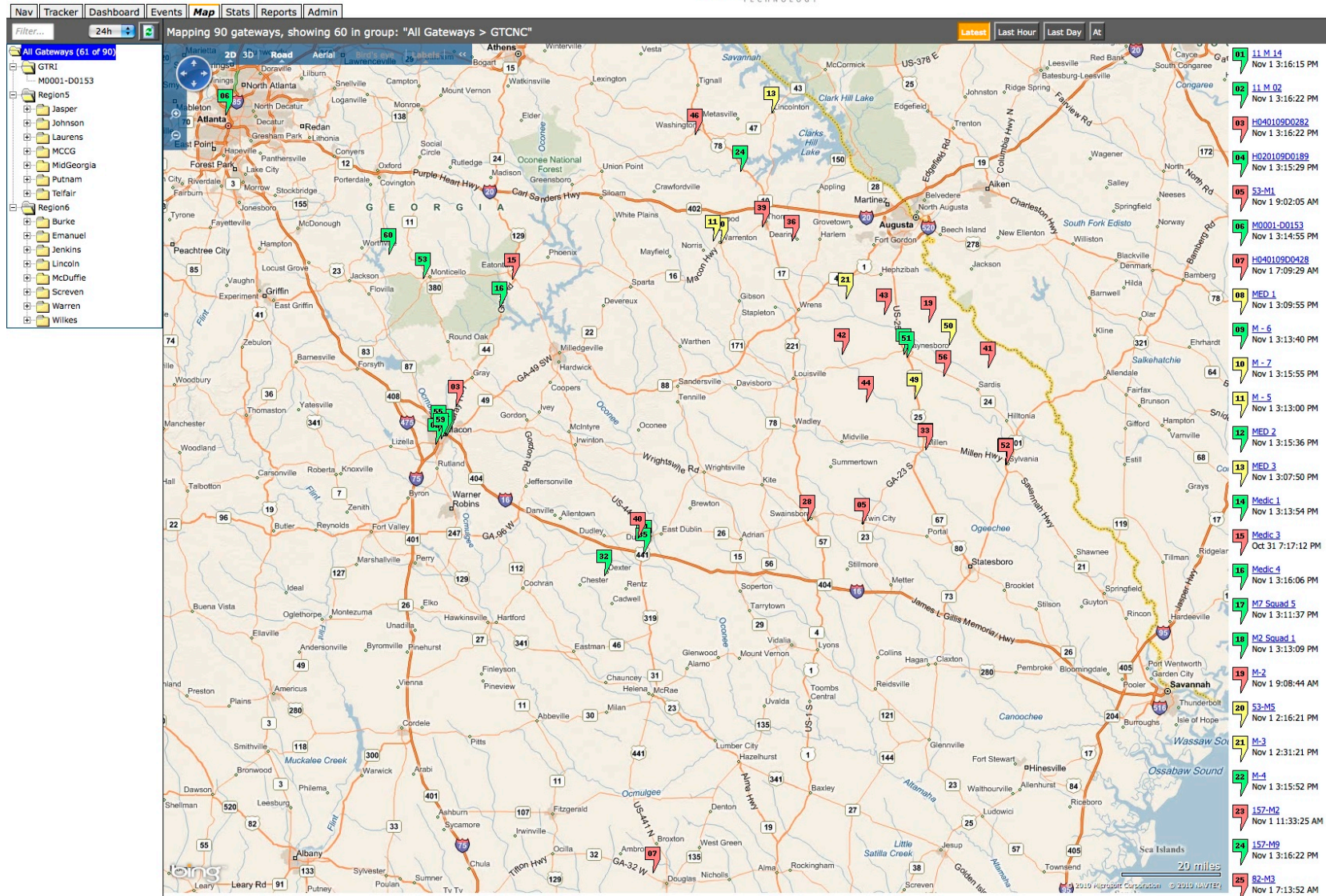
- Overview Map:** A small inset map of Georgia with a red box indicating the current view area.
- Layers:** A list of layers for the current session. It includes a 'default' layer and a 'Session: Persistent Ambulance Session' layer containing multiple EMS tracks:
 - Burke EMS's Avl Track
 - Emanuel EMS's Avl Track
 - Jenkins EMS's Avl Track
 - Laurens EMS's Avl Track
 - Lincoln EMS's Avl Track
 - McDuffie EMS's Avl Track
 - MidGeorgia EMS's Avl Track
 - Public's Avl Track
 - Putnam EMS's Avl Track
 - Screven EMS's Avl Track
 - Warren EMS's Avl Track
 - Wilkes EMS's Avl Track
- Users:** A panel showing the current user, 'Kirk Pennywrt(Putnam EMS, Burke ...)', with a red square icon.

At the bottom left, there is a 'Session Explorer' panel with a tree view of vehicle locations:

- 53-M1 (Ambulance)
- 53-M3 (Ambulance)
- 53-M2 (Ambulance)
- 53-M6 (Ambulance)
- Jenkins EMS's Avl Track
- 82-M2 (Ambulance)
- 82-M1 (Ambulance)
- 82-M3 (Ambulance)
- Laurens EMS's Avl Track
- M7 Squad 5 (Ambulance)
- M4 (Ambulance)
- M1 Squad 3 (Ambulance)

InMotion oMM Display of Vehicle Locations

onBoard™ Mobility Manager



Additional Questions?