



Radar-Based Vehicle Detection for Four-Quadrant Gate Crossing Warning Systems

Tom Hilleary, Island Radar Company, LLC

Radar-Based Vehicle Detection - History

Rail Safety Section | Transportation Bureau Illinois Commerce Commission

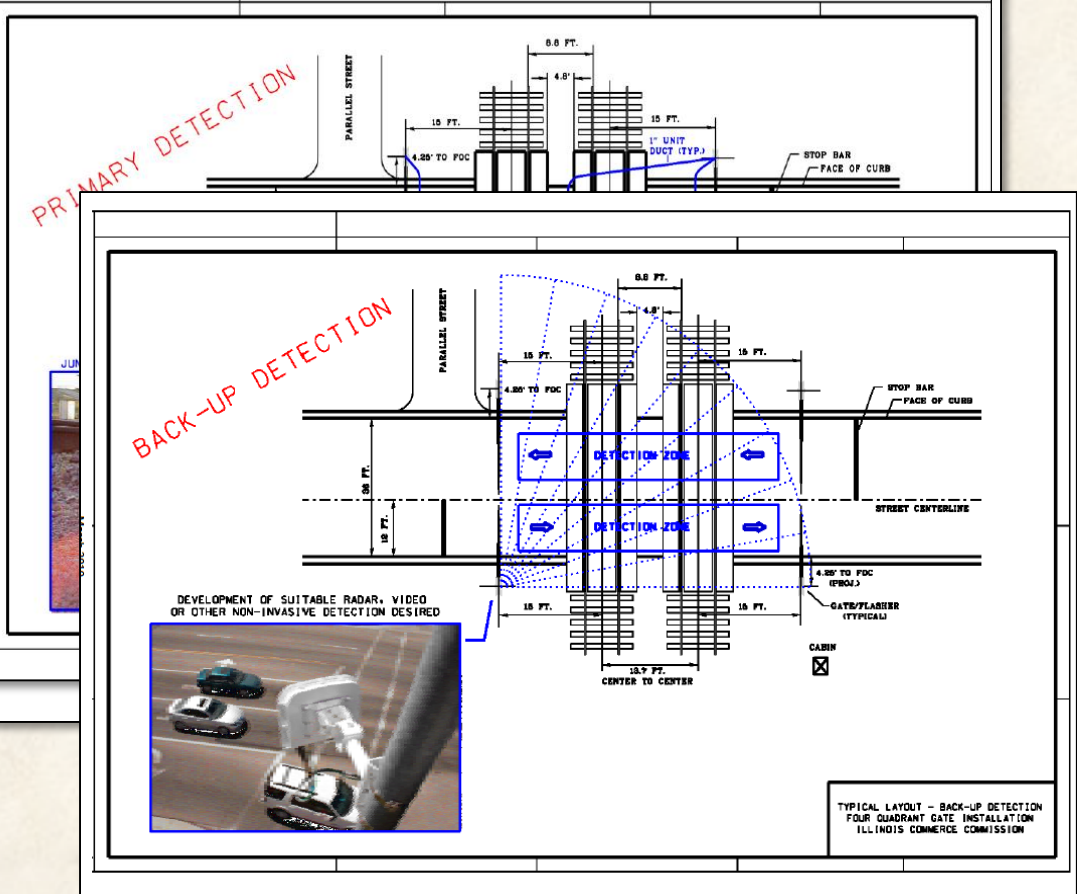
Release v1.0

Four Quadrant Gates in Illinois



History

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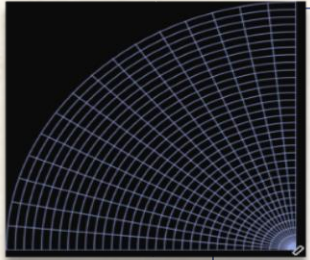
Expected Benefits

- Ease of Installation
- Work Crew Safety
- Maximize Coverage
- Longer Life
- Immunity to Elements
- Reliability
- Potential Redundancy

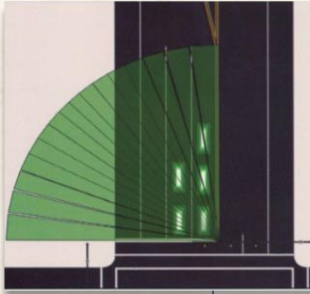
SmartSensor Matrix



Wavetronix® SmartSensor Matrix



16 separate radars in each sensor, no scanning
90° x 140-foot detection pattern – 15,386ft²
MTBF>10 years, MTTR<6 hours, 99.99% Availability

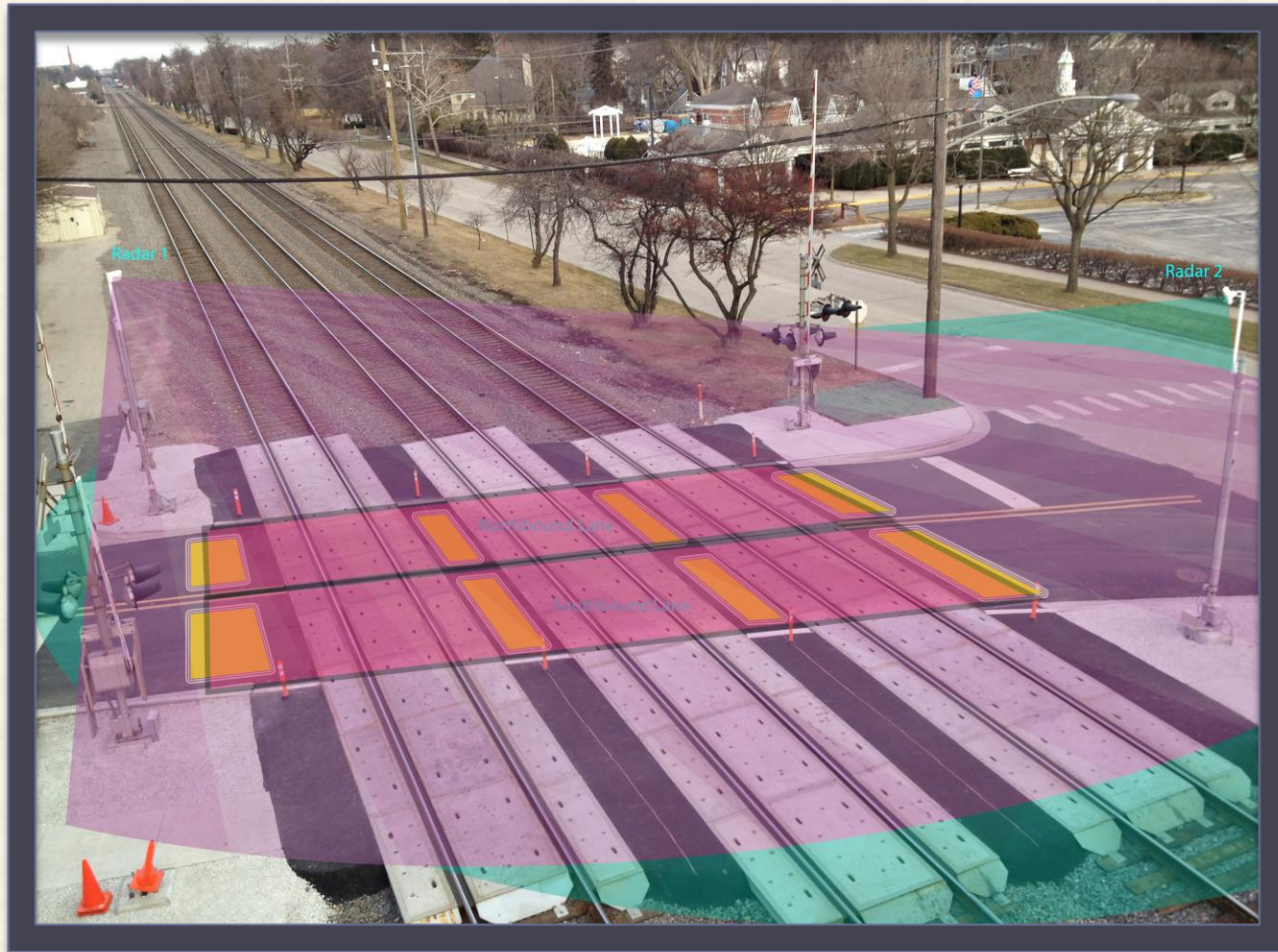


Proven in ITS traffic intersection control
Moving and stationary vehicle detection
Multiple radars (up to 8) can be used together

Proposed Dual Radar Implementation



Proposed Dual Radar Implementation



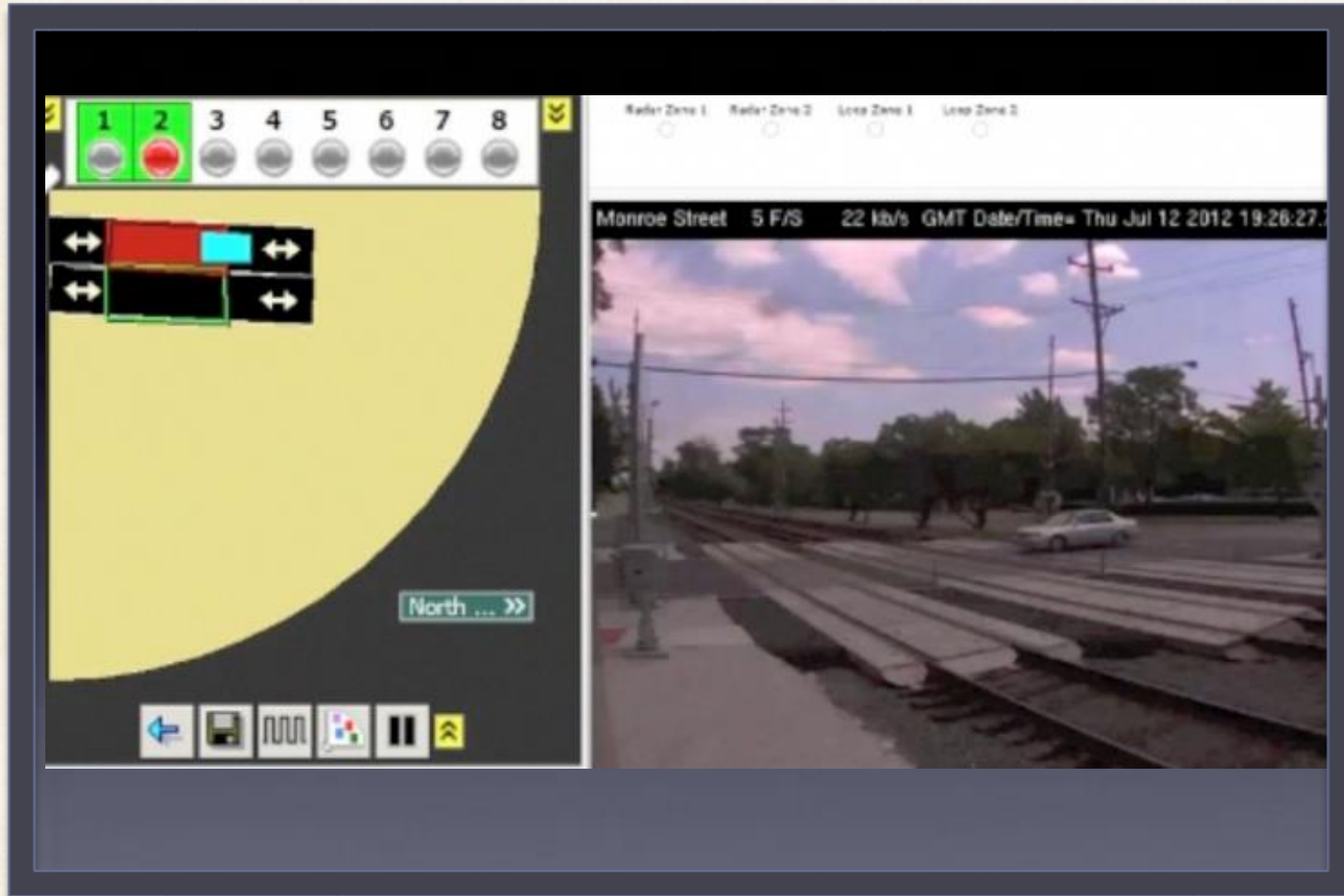
Radar, Controller, and Functional Changes

| | |
|--|--|
| AREMA Compliance per Class C Equipment | Environmental - Temperature, Humidity, Mechanical, EMI/RFI, Surge, & EFT |
| | Channel-to-Channel and Earth Ground Isolation |
| Vital Architecture | “No Single Point of Failure” |
| | Independent Radar Processors with Supervisory Processor |
| | Independent Radar Channel Health Outputs |
| Additional Configuration Options and Functions | Add USB and Ethernet Embedded Server |
| | Add Radar Response Detail (Trackers) to Configuration Application |
| | Add Dual Radar Tracking Metrics |
| Reliability Enhancements | Accelerate Message Rates |
| | Add Bi-Directional Vehicle Detection |
| | Add Sensor Movement Detection ² |
| | Add Heavy Weather Optimization Features ¹ |
| | Provision for Vital Implementation ² |
| General | Eliminate Queue Forming Feature ¹ |
| | Failsafe State Reversal |
| | Single, Application-Specific Enclosure vs. Open Frame Architecture |

¹ Current systems under 3rd party long-term testing, still in process or results not yet reported

² Version 3 VDR24 hardware

Configuring/Verifying Detection Zones



Recent Additions and Feature Enhancements As A Result of Railroad Implementation

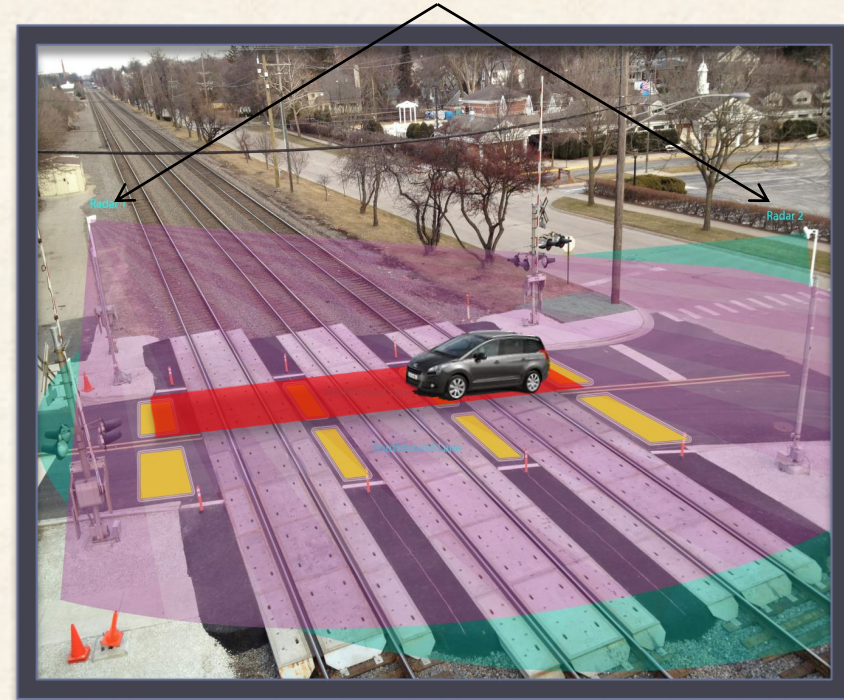
▶ Vital Applications

- Uses redundant radars' individual detection zone outputs
- A vital processor verifies radar correspondence

▶ Sensor Movement Detection

- FRA suggestion
- Supervisory processor senses abrupt changes in correspondence
- Provided through a separate health output

Both radars detect vehicle in zone

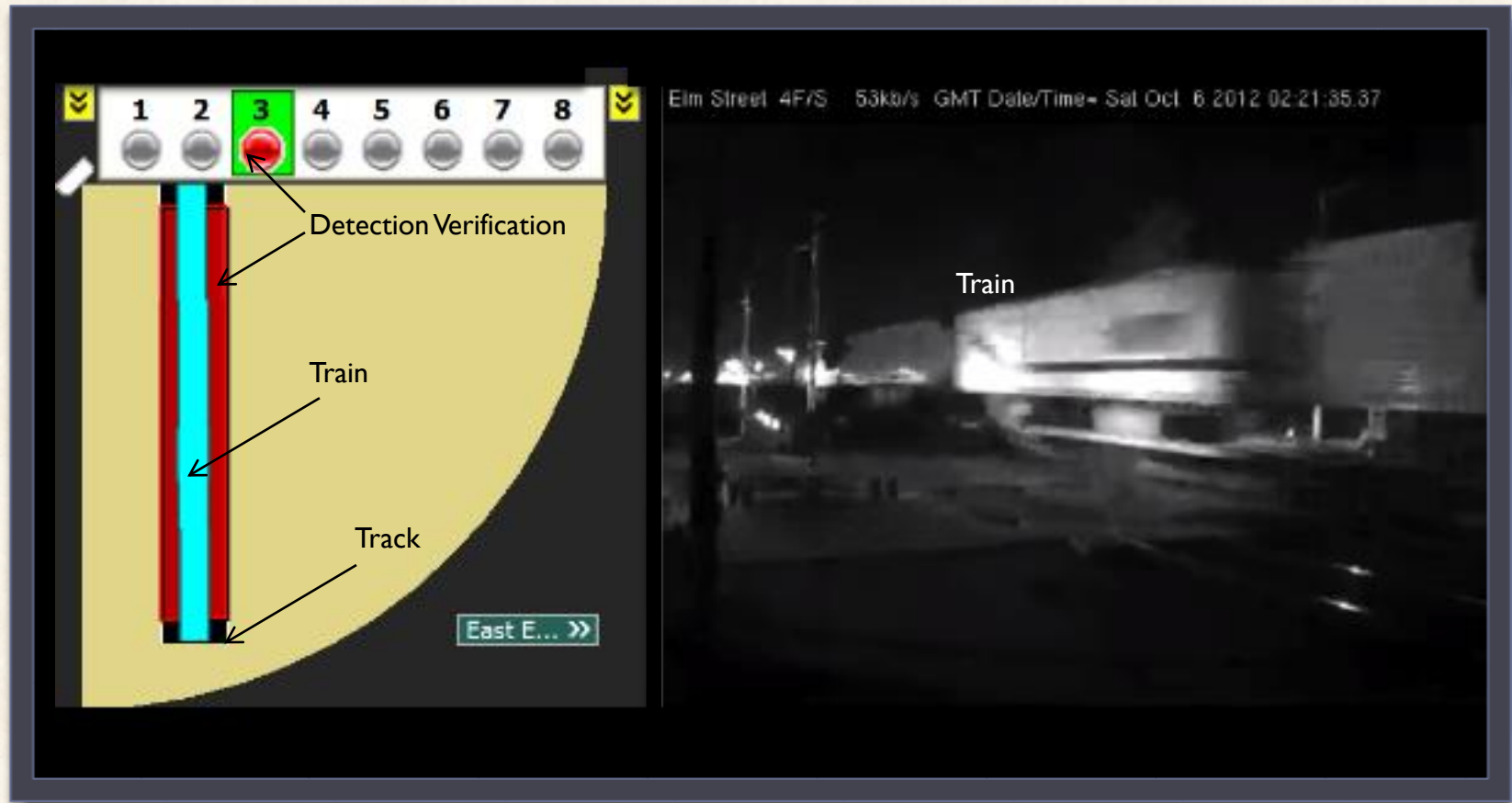


Additional Railroad Applications



- ▶ Blocked Hwy-Rail Crossing Detection and Notification
- ▶ Train Detection for Hwy-Rail Crossing Activation
- ▶ Train Detection at Rail Crossovers
- ▶ Switch Fouling Prevention in Classification Yards

Train Detection at Highway-Rail Crossings



Train Detection for Crossing Activation



Train Detection at Diamond Railroad Crossings



Train Detection in Classification Yards



Current Status

- ▶ Mature technology in the ITS sector
- ▶ Two years of development and testing for railroad
- ▶ Multiple railroad applications deployed
- ▶ Several third party validation studies in process

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