



TAMPA ELECTRIC

Driver speeds kept in check and visitors enjoy nearby sanctuary in safety

Vehicles speeding near power plant sites posed safety risk and noise level concerns.

The Challenge

For Tampa Electric Company, maintaining a safe work environment and looking out for the safety and well-being of employees, customers and the community is an important part of the corporate culture. Back in 2011 when Tampa Electric first needed a flexible traffic calming solution to address speeding violations at some of their sites, they made the decision to deploy portable, web-enabled radar speed displays from All Traffic Solutions.

Speed Calming Near the Manatee Viewing Center

Across the canal from Tampa Electric's power plant in Apollo Beach, is the Manatee Viewing Center, a state and federally designated manatee sanctuary and museum where visitors come in large numbers. Because of its proximity to the power plant, visitors to the Viewing Center were often startled by the sudden, loud banging sound of trucks driving over the metal bridge at the power plant just 50 yards away.

According to Senior Safety and Health Security Technician for Tampa Electric, Joe Tuzzolino Jr., trucks often ignored the 10-mph speed limit and would drive as fast as 30 mph, causing a racket and scaring visitors who were there to enjoy the manatees and butterfly gardens. In addition to the frequent excessive noise level, with many people walking or riding on bicycles or



in golf carts, it was even more essential that drivers adhere to the speed limit.

A Shield 15 radar speed sign was deployed at the location to slow the trucks down by displaying their speed as they passed the sign. It took about a week, but drivers got the message and peace was restored.

"We started moving the sign around to different locations," said Mr. Tuzzolino. "We got lots of hits but, like at the first location, after the first week traffic slows down."

IMAGE TAKEN BY SPEEDALERT 18 WITH DATE AND TIME PASTED ONTO PHOTO BY TAMPA ELECTRIC SAFETY AND SECURITY PERSONNEL



SPEEDALERT 18



Portable Traffic Calming with SpeedAlert 18

At three Tampa Electric power plant locations, the number of contractors on site increases by 200 to 300 people whenever there is an outage. Two SpeedAlert 18 radar speed displays were purchased and deployed when and where they are needed. Different personnel are coming and going at any given time, and often they don't realize how fast they're going. "We rotate the signs throughout the sites for a week to ten days at each location. We have four signs on the energy supply side and two more at the data center. One sign is wheeled around on a dolly, and the others are mounted on poles at each location," said Mr. Tuzzolino.

When a vehicle passes the SpeedAlert 18 at or below the speed limit, the sign tells them their speed and displays the message HAVE A NICE DAY. When a vehicle exceeds the limit, the sign flashes their speed and tells them their photo has been taken.

Real-time Email Alert Notification

At the facility entrance is a sign notifying vehicles that if they travel at six or more miles an hour over the speed limit, their photo will be taken, and if they drive at double the speed limit they will not be allowed back on the site.

When vehicles ignore the warning and speed past one of the signs, the sign takes their photo and uploads it to the TraffiCloud remote traffic management service, which generates an email alert to the safety and security team. The alert includes the vehicle photo, location of the sign that generated the image, and the date and time the photo was taken. Tuzzolino cuts and pastes the vehicle speed, date and time onto the photo, prints it out, places it in a plastic bag, locates the vehicle in the parking lot and places the photo on the windshield.

Results

The system has drastically reduced speeding incidents at every site where it has been deployed, and Tuzzolino frequently receives requests to have one of his signs moved to a new location.