

New technology offers help for busy drivers

Internet-based routing service gives alternatives to areas with high traffic in rush hour

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Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

Researchers at the University are on the road to meeting their goal of creating technology to improve life, from conserving energy to helping people get out of a jam — traffic jams, that is.

University Research Professor Matt Ginsberg and colleague David

Etherington created a Web site, Traffic Dodger, that allows drivers to avoid traffic jams in five Southern California counties — Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside and San Bernardino. Traffic Dodger is an Internet-based personalized routing service that tells drivers the best way to get to their destination and how long the drive is likely to take.

Ginsberg and Etherington, who is director of the University's Computational Intelligence Research Laboratory, pioneered the product as part

of their research on technology optimization at the University.

"For years, the University has wanted to market technology and get research that is done here out in the world," Etherington said. "Traffic Dodger is just one example of technology that can improve life."

Ginsberg said he came up with the idea for Traffic Dodger in 2000, while sitting on an airplane.

"It was during the time of the dot-com foolishness, and I was talking with the person next to me about it. He was also interested in the computer madness, and that is when I thought of it."

Ginsberg's idea sparked out of another project on which he had been working.

He said researchers from the University had just finished a project for routing non-combat Air Force flights to reduce about 20 to 30 million gallons of jet fuel in the upper atmosphere. For the project, researchers looked at weather maps of the world and determined the best routes for planes.

Ginsberg figured the Air Force application could also be used to help reduce time spent in a car. When Ginsberg brought his ideas to his peers, they were excited about it.

On-Time Systems, a company started and managed by Ginsberg, Etherington, Research Professor Brian Drabble, and CIRL worked together for the next couple of years on the Web site.

The group decided to make the product for California because the state's police and highway depart-

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Crime watch

Theft and Recoveries

Monday, Sept. 30, 10:02 a.m.: Bike stolen from Bean Complex.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 8:49 a.m.: Checkbook found at DPS.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 4:56 p.m.: Bike stolen from EMU.

Thursday, Oct. 3, 12:00 p.m.: Bike stolen from H.P. Barnhart.

Thursday, Oct. 3, 4:59 p.m.: Bike stolen from Walton Complex.

Thursday, Oct. 3, 5:05 p.m.: Bike stolen from Garfield Street.

Friday, Oct. 4, 8:53 a.m.: Bike stolen from 18th Avenue.

Saturday, Oct. 5, 7:40 p.m.: DPS received a report of a stolen wallet.

Sunday, Oct. 6, 7:16 p.m.: Bike stolen from Oregon Hall.

Disorderly Conduct

Thursday, Oct. 3, 11:16 p.m.: DPS received a report of male creating disturbance at H.P. Barnhart.

Thursday, Oct. 3, 11:47 p.m.: DPS received a report of two uncooperative subjects at Walton Complex.

Saturday, Oct. 5, 8:58 p.m.: DPS received a report of a disorderly subject at the EMU.

Saturday, Oct. 5, 11:23 p.m.: DPS received a report of telephone harassment at Hamilton Complex.

Drugs and Alcohol

Monday, Sept. 30, 12:08 a.m.: DPS received a report of four subjects smoking marijuana in Hamilton Complex.

Monday, Sept. 30, 10:14 p.m.: DPS received a report of three subjects with alcohol at the EMU.

Sunday, Oct. 6, 12:14 a.m.: DPS received a report of several subjects with marijuana at Walton Complex.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 12:43 a.m.: DPS received a report of subjects with marijuana at Hamilton Complex.

Thursday, Oct. 3, 12:33 a.m.: DPS received a report of several subjects with marijuana at Bean Complex.

Other

Monday, Sept. 30, 11:23 p.m.: DPS received a report of graffiti in the bathroom at the EMU.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 11:58 a.m.: DPS received a report of vendors taking pictures of students' ID cards.

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 3:15 p.m.: DPS received a report of subject yelling at traffic near Pacific Hall.

Friday, Oct. 4, 8:40 p.m.: DPS received a report of subject urinating in public.

Sunday, Oct. 6, 5:20 p.m.: DPS received a report of female subject following females around the EMU.

For more criminal activity, go to www.dailymerald.com.

Depo-Provera®

Contraceptive Injection

medroxyprogesterone acetate injectable suspension

Birth control you think about just 4 x a year.

DEPO-PROVERA® Contraceptive Injection
(medroxyprogesterone acetate injectable suspension, USP)

This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against HIV infection (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases.

What is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is a form of birth control that is given as an intramuscular injection (a shot) in the buttock or upper arm once every 3 months (13 weeks). To continue your contraceptive protection, you must return for your next injection promptly at the end of 3 months (13 weeks). DEPO-PROVERA contains medroxyprogesterone acetate, a chemical similar to (but not the same as) the natural hormone progesterone, which is produced by your ovaries during the second half of your menstrual cycle. DEPO-PROVERA acts by preventing your egg cells from ripening. If an egg is not released from the ovaries during your menstrual cycle, it cannot become fertilized by sperm and result in pregnancy. DEPO-PROVERA also causes changes in the lining of your uterus that make it less likely for pregnancy to occur.

How effective is DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

The efficacy of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection depends on following the recommended dosage schedule exactly (see "How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?"). To make sure you are not pregnant when you first get DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection, your first injection must be given **ONLY** during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual period; **ONLY** within the first 5 days after childbirth if not breast-feeding; and, if exclusively breast-feeding, **ONLY** at the sixth week after childbirth. It is a long-term injectable contraceptive when administered at 3-month (13-week) intervals. DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection is over 99% effective, making it one of the most reliable methods of birth control available. This means that the average annual pregnancy rate is less than one for every 100 women who use DEPO-PROVERA. The effectiveness of most contraceptive methods depends in part on how reliably each woman uses the method. The effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA depends only on the patient returning every 3 months (13 weeks) for her next injection. Your health-care provider will help you compare DEPO-PROVERA with other contraceptive methods and give you the information you need in order to decide which contraceptive method is the right choice for you.

The following table shows the percent of women who got pregnant while using different kinds of contraceptive methods. It gives both the lowest expected rate of pregnancy (the rate expected in women who use each method exactly as it should be used) and the typical rate of pregnancy (which includes women who became pregnant because they forgot to use their birth control or because they did not follow the directions exactly).

Percent of Women Experiencing an Accidental Pregnancy in the First Year of Continuous Use

Method	Lowest Expected	Typical
DEPO-PROVERA	0.3	0.3
Implants (Norplant)	0.2*	0.2*
Female sterilization	0.2	0.4
Male sterilization	0.1	0.15
Oral contraceptive (pill)		3
Combined	0.1	-
Progestogen only	0.5	-
IUD		3
Progestasert	2.0	-
Copper T 380A	0.8	-
Condom (without spermicide)	2	12
Diaphragm (with spermicide)	6	18
Cervical cap	6	18
Withdrawal	4	18
Periodic abstinence	1.9	20
Spermicide alone	3	21
Vaginal Sponge		
used before childbirth	6	18
used after childbirth	9	28
No method	85	85

Source: Trussell et al. *Obstet Gynecol* 1990;76:558-567.

*From Norplant® package insert.

Who should not use DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

Not all women should use DEPO-PROVERA. You should not use DEPO-PROVERA if you have any of the following conditions:

- * if you think you might be pregnant
- ** if you have any vaginal bleeding without a known reason

- * if you have had cancer of the breast
 - * if you have had a stroke
 - * if you have or have had blood clots (phlebitis) in your legs
 - * if you have problems with your liver or liver disease
 - * if you are allergic to DEPO-PROVERA (medroxyprogesterone acetate or any of its other ingredients)
- What other things should I consider before using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?**
- You will have a physical examination before your doctor prescribes DEPO-PROVERA. It is important to tell your health-care provider if you have any of the following:
- * a family history of breast cancer
 - * an abnormal mammogram (breast x-ray), fibrocystic breast disease, breast nodules or lumps, or bleeding from your nipples
 - * kidney disease
 - * irregular or scanty menstrual periods
 - * high blood pressure
 - * migraine headaches
 - * asthma
 - * epilepsy (convulsions or seizures)
 - * diabetes or a family history of diabetes
 - * a history of depression
 - * if you are taking any prescription or over-the-counter medications
- This product is intended to prevent pregnancy. It does not protect against transmission of HIV (AIDS) and other sexually transmitted diseases such as chlamydia, genital herpes, genital warts, gonorrhea, hepatitis B, and syphilis.**

What if I want to become pregnant after using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

Because DEPO-PROVERA is a long-acting birth control method, it takes some time after your last injection for its effect to wear off. Based on the results from a large study done in the United States, for women who stop using DEPO-PROVERA in order to become pregnant, it is expected that about half of those who become pregnant will do so in about 10 months after their last injection; about two thirds of those who become pregnant will do so in about 12 months; about 83% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 15 months; and about 93% of those who become pregnant will do so in about 18 months after their last injection. The length of time you use DEPO-PROVERA has no effect on how long it takes you to become pregnant after you stop using it.

What are the risks of using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

1. Irregular Menstrual Bleeding
The side effect reported most frequently by women who use DEPO-PROVERA for contraception is a change in their normal menstrual cycle. During the first year of using DEPO-PROVERA, you might have one or more of the following changes: irregular or unpredictable bleeding or spotting, an increase or decrease in menstrual bleeding, or no bleeding at all. Unusually heavy or continuous bleeding, however, is not a usual effect of DEPO-PROVERA; and if this happens, you should see your health-care provider right away. With continued use of DEPO-PROVERA, bleeding usually decreases, and many women stop having periods completely. In clinical studies of DEPO-PROVERA, 55% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding (amenorrhea) after 1 year of use, and 68% of the women studied reported no menstrual bleeding after 2 years of use. The reason that your periods stop is because DEPO-PROVERA causes a resting state in your ovaries. When your ovaries do not release an egg monthly, the regular monthly growth of the lining of your uterus does not occur and, therefore, the bleeding that comes with your normal menstruation does not take place. When you stop using DEPO-PROVERA your menstrual period will usually, in time, return to its normal cycle.

2. Bone Mineral Changes
Use of DEPO-PROVERA may be associated with a decrease in the amount of mineral stored in your bones. This could increase your risk of developing bone fractures. The rate of bone mineral loss is greatest in the early years of DEPO-PROVERA use, but after that, it begins to resemble the normal rate of age-related bone mineral loss.

3. Cancer
Studies of women who have used different forms of contraception found that women who used DEPO-PROVERA for contraception had no increased overall risk of developing cancer of the breast, ovary, uterus, cervix, or liver. However, women under 35 years of age whose first exposure to DEPO-PROVERA was within the previous 4 to 5 years may have a slightly increased risk of developing breast cancer similar to that seen with oral contraceptives. You should discuss this with your health-care provider.

4. Unexpected Pregnancy
Because DEPO-PROVERA is such an effective contraceptive method, the risk of accidental pregnancy for women who get their shots regularly (every 3 months [13 weeks]) is very low. While there have been reports of an increased risk of low birth weight and neonatal infant death or other health problems in infants conceived close to the time of injection, such pregnancies are uncommon. If you think you may have become pregnant while using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, see your health-care provider as soon as possible.

5. Allergic Reactions
Some women using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection have reported severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reactions known as anaphylaxis and anaphylactoid reactions. Symptoms include the sudden onset of hives or swelling and itching of the skin, breathing difficulties, and a drop in blood pressure.

6. Other Risks

Women who use hormone-based contraceptives may have an increased risk of blood clots or stroke. Also, if a contraceptive method fails, there is a possibility that the fertilized egg will begin to develop outside of the uterus (ectopic pregnancy). While these events are rare, you should tell your health-care provider if you have any of the problems listed in the next section.

What symptoms may signal problems while using DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

Call your health-care provider immediately if any of these problems occur following an injection of DEPO-PROVERA:

- * sharp chest pain, coughing up of blood, or sudden shortness of breath (indicating a possible clot in the lung)
- * sudden severe headache or vomiting, dizziness or fainting, problems with your eyesight or speech, weakness, or numbness in an arm or leg (indicating a possible stroke)
- * severe pain or swelling in the calf (indicating a possible clot in the leg)
- * unusually heavy vaginal bleeding
- * severe pain or tenderness in the lower abdominal area
- * persistent pain, pus, or bleeding at the injection site

What are the possible side effects of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

1. Weight Gain
You may experience a weight gain while you are using DEPO-PROVERA. About two thirds of the women who used DEPO-PROVERA in clinical trials reported a weight gain of about 5 pounds during the first year of use. You may continue to gain weight after the first year. Women in one large study who used DEPO-PROVERA for 2 years gained an average total of 8.1 pounds over those 2 years, or approximately 4 pounds per year. Women who continued for 4 years gained an average total of 13.8 pounds over those 4 years, or approximately 3.5 pounds per year. Women who continued for 6 years gained an average total of 16.5 pounds over those 6 years, or approximately 2.75 pounds per year.

2. Other Side Effects
In a clinical study of over 3,900 women who used DEPO-PROVERA for up to 7 years, some women reported the following effects that may or may not have been related to their use of DEPO-PROVERA: Irregular menstrual bleeding, amenorrhea, nervousness, abdominal cramps, dizziness, weakness or fatigue, decreased sexual desire, leg cramps, nausea, vaginal discharge or irritation, breast swelling and tenderness, bloating, swelling of the hands or feet, backache, depression, insomnia, acne, pelvic pain, no hair growth or excessive hair loss, rash, hot flashes, and joint pain. Other problems were reported by very few of the women in the clinical trials, but some of these could be serious. These include convulsions, jaundice, urinary tract infections, allergic reactions, fainting, paralysis, osteoporosis, lack of return to fertility, deep vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, breast cancer, or cervical cancer. If these or any other problems occur during your use of DEPO-PROVERA, discuss them with your health-care provider.

Should any precautions be followed during use of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?

1. Missed Periods
During the time you are using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception, you may skip a period, or your periods may stop completely. If you have been receiving your DEPO-PROVERA injections regularly every 3 months (13 weeks), then you are probably not pregnant. However, if you think that you may be pregnant, see your health-care provider.

2. Laboratory Test Interactions
If you are scheduled for any laboratory tests, tell your health-care provider that you are using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception. Certain blood tests are affected by hormones such as DEPO-PROVERA.

3. Drug Interactions
Cytadren (aminoglutethimide) is an anticancer drug that may significantly decrease the effectiveness of DEPO-PROVERA if the two drugs are given during the same time.

4. Nursing Mothers
Although DEPO-PROVERA can be passed to the nursing infant in the breast milk, no harmful effects have been found in these children. DEPO-PROVERA does not prevent the breasts from producing milk, so it can be used by nursing mothers. However, to minimize the amount of DEPO-PROVERA that is passed to the infant in the first weeks after birth, you should wait until 6 weeks after childbirth before you start using DEPO-PROVERA for contraception.

How often do I get my shot of DEPO-PROVERA Contraceptive Injection?
The recommended dose of DEPO-PROVERA is 150 mg every 3 months (13 weeks) given in a single intramuscular injection in the buttock or upper arm. To make sure that you are not pregnant at the time of the first injection, it is essential that the injection be given **ONLY** during the first 5 days of a normal menstrual period. If used following the delivery of a child, the first injection of DEPO-PROVERA **MUST** be given within 5 days after childbirth if you are not breast-feeding or 6 weeks after childbirth if you are exclusively breast-feeding. If you wait longer than 3 months (13 weeks) between injections, or longer than 6 weeks after delivery, your health-care provider should determine that you are not pregnant before giving you your injection of DEPO-PROVERA.

Rx only

CB-7-5

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