

Updated Crash Data Available

Proper analysis of crash data is an essential part of making traffic safety improvements, especially when applying for federal safety programs. RoadSoft offers users the ability to examine detailed Michigan crash data from the last ten years to make this process easier. Recently, the State of Michigan released the latest crash data for 2010. This information is available to download and view for RoadSoft users free of charge.

Downloading and Viewing 2010 Crash Data

To view the 2010 crash data, you will need to download it and import it into RoadSoft. Unlike previous crash data updates, you will not need to manually import the data. Instead, simply choose “Download and Import 2010 Crash Data” from the Safety Analysis menu. The data will be imported automatically.

The new crash data will show up on the crash layer the next time you make it visible. The new 2010 crashes are combined with any crash data from previous years that you have imported. If you have a large amount of crashes that display on the map, you may not immediately notice that the new data has been integrated. In this instance, you can create a filter that displays only crashes from the year 2010 to verify that the new crash data has loaded.

UD-10 Viewer Updates

In addition to crash data, UD-10 forms are also available for 2010 within RoadSoft. The process for viewing UD-10s has been updated to make viewing the files easier.

The new process for viewing UD-10 forms is similar to the old method. However, instead of UD-10 images being opened with the crash module, they are now delivered as a PDF via a web service provided by the State of Michigan. These PDFs can be downloaded on an as needed basis. “We wanted to give users

the option of managing where their UD-10s are stored on their computer themselves,” says programmer Christopher Pinnow.

Accessing the new web service is simple, but it requires that you have the latest version of RoadSoft installed on your computer. To update your copy of RoadSoft to the newest version, download and run the latest update at roadsoft.org/releases. If you have any issues updating to the latest version, please contact the CTT.

Once you have updated to the latest version of RoadSoft, you can view UD-10 forms by performing the following steps:

- Make the crash layer visible and active
- Select a crash that you want to view a UD-10 form for
- Open the crash module
- Select the UD-10 Tab
- Click the “Download UD-10” button
- Select a folder to save a PDF copy of the UD-10 to your computer

RoadSoft will automatically open the folder containing the file once it has been saved so that you can view the PDF.

Safety Analysis Menu Changes

The Safety Analysis menu has also been updated with a new option to make it easy for users to download UD-10 forms for multiple crashes at once. By selecting “Download UD-10s for Selection,” from the menu, you can download UD-10 PDFs for all crashes selected on the RoadSoft map.

Utilizing this data can help your agency to identify and improve high-risk roadways within your jurisdiction. You can also use crash data and UD-10 forms as a resource when applying for federal grant programs to clearly present your needs.

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