

AdvanTEC TALK



CVAG Receives APA Excellence in Transportation Award for the CV Sync Smart Region Project

By Carlos Ortiz, PE, TE, PTOE, COO

On May 4th 2022 ADVANTEC was honored to join CVAG in accepting the Transportation Excellence Award for the CV Sync project, which is creating a smart region across the Coachella Valley. This project was selected by the APA Inland Empire Section as the top transportation project and will go on to represent the Inland Empire at the State level.

This is CVAG's major effort to advance the development and implementation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and Smart Region Programs (extending beyond the smart city) with an emphasis in the development of multi-jurisdictional and regional smart intersections, smart corridors, and a broadband communication. CVAG is estimated to serve over 700,000 people in the 300 square mile area of the Coachella Valley. It is governed by a 75-member General Assembly with an 18-member executive committee comprised of 10 cities, the County of Riverside and 4 Tribal Nations.

The primary project goal is improved quality of life for residents and visitors to the region. The project involves hundreds of critical transportation elements to lessen adverse traffic impacts throughout the Coachella Valley. Transportation planners and engineers working on the project approached the situation with high-technology solutions, which played a critical role in the process of developing the program.

This project connects to both environment (emissions) and the economy (providing better goods movement and easier travel). CVAG is committed to following the Vision Zero strategy by preventing fatal and severe crashes through a systems approach. In addition, reducing roadway congestion will reduce the greenhouse gases emitted by vehicles, which will address climate change in the area. These outcomes go hand in hand with CVAG's CV Link project, which is the active transportation system that provides a non-motor vehicle alternative allowing residents and tourists the ability to bike, run, walk or take a low-speed electric vehicles for transportation to shopping, work, restaurants, golf, tennis and other activities. It also provides a safer route for kids to go to school and serve as a meeting place for community activities and events.

ADVANTEC has been honored to help guide CVAG through the many advanced technology aspects this multi-faceted project and looks forward to continuing to assist the Coachella Valley in streamlining and improving the transportation experience for the citizens, visitors and all travelers to the region.

**ADVANTEC is Pleased to Announce the Appointment of
Carlos Ortiz, PE, TE, PTOE**

as the new
CEO of the Company



Carlos Ortiz, ADVANTEC Principal and current Chief Operating Officer, will be appointed as ADVANTEC Chief Executive Officer on July 1, 2022. Carlos has served as ADVANTEC's COO since July of 2015. After graduating from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Carlos began his career in Transportation Engineering. Carlos is a Licensed Professional Engineer, Professional Traffic Engineer and a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer. He is a past ITE International Director and Board member and was formerly the ITE Southern California Section Chair and President of the Western District. He is currently serving as a Board Member for ITS CA. Carlos will continue to bring the highest level of knowledge and over 33 years of experience to ADVANTEC's clients, while serving the company in this important leadership role. He will be involved in developing high quality business strategies and plans and ensuring their alignment with the short-term and long-term objectives of the company and the clients we serve.

ADVANTEC is Pleased to Announce the Promotion of
Armando Solis, PE, TE to
Director of the Diamond Bar Office
and
Mario Gillespie to
Assistant Director of the Diamond Bar office



Armando Solis, PE, TE, Director
Diamond Bar Office

Armando Solis will lead the ADVANTEC Diamond Bar Office as the new Director. He has over 23 years of experience ranging from PS&E of Caltrans Electrical Design such as fiber optic communications systems, CCTV, traffic signal design and traffic signal synchronization. His work includes SR-91, SR-57, SR-241/Weir Canyon Interchange, and projects along the I-5, SR-22, SR-210, I-15 and many more of California's key transportation corridors.



Mario Gillespie, EIT, Assistant Director
Diamond Bar Office

Mario Garcia-Gillespie will assist Armando Solis in leading the ADVANTEC Diamond Bar Office as the new Assistant Director. He has over 5 years of experience in project management and transportation engineering including, contract management, Claim support, interdisciplinary coordination, civil site design, construction phasing, and visual rendering. His experience includes the Western Extension of LA Metro's Purple Line Project.



ADVANTEC's Board of Directors have made a historic move on June 10, 2022 to approve the appointment of Carlos Ortiz as the CEO effective July 1, 2022. This is historic because this represents the first time ADVANTEC has had a new CEO in the past 24 years. It is also historic because it signifies that ADVANTEC has grown from a small firm to a mid-size firm, with clear accountabilities of every level. This change of leadership is intended to develop the corporate accountability structure to allow us to grow further.

Carlos is a prominent member in the engineering industry. In the past 30 years, he has been an industry leader, having served as District Director of Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and Board Member of ITS-CA. Through his career, he has also performed many projects that are state-of-

the-art and transformative in the industry, most notable being the CVAG Regional ITS Program that he has led since 2016. This project includes over \$100 million in ITS and Traffic Signal Synchronization improvements throughout the Coachella Valley, implemented in 2 phases. Phase 1 is currently under construction and Phase 2 may be going out to bid in the second half of this year. This project is transformative because it enhances the inter-operability of traffic control among cities using different vendors' equipment, with infrastructures that enable the CVAG region to become a Smart Region. With his success in the industry, we are confident that Carlos will lead ADVANTEC to reach new heights!

As for myself, I am not going to retire. I will remain as Chairman to help grow the company, especially the highway, transit, and construction management disciplines that we have expanded into. I will also help develop our future leaders and young engineers. In the past 24 years, as the company grows, I had to change my job focus numerous times, that's the nature of my job – what is important to the company would need to be my focus. At this time, I feel it is most important to train and develop the future leaders of the company. After all, we are a people-centric company and growing the talents is a key towards our future success!

Please join me to congratulate Carlos and support him as CEO of ADVANTEC!



FIRST QUARTER EMPLOYEE AND PROJECT RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS:

**Tony Hernandez--Employee of the Quarter
CVAG Project, Phase II -- Project of the Quarter**



ADVANTEC is pleased to congratulate our award winners! Thank you to Tony and the entire CVAG CV Sync team for helping to provide the teamwork and initiative that resulted in excellent solutions to our clients.

Tony was recognized for taking initiative to help others and promote teamwork. Tony has been a key player in various aspects of the CVAG project but in particular the contribution he has had on the Phase II quantities and the creation of a Matrix with a pivot table. That matrix is able to handle all the quantities for this \$65+ million

dollar construction project. This has made it easier for the entire team to follow and identify quantities which can be sorted out by corridor or by agency. Needless to say, he has worked very hard and gone the extra mile to ensure that key deadlines are met, such as helping deliver quantities and staying late at the office to make sure the latest Phase II plans are plotted for the PM's review.

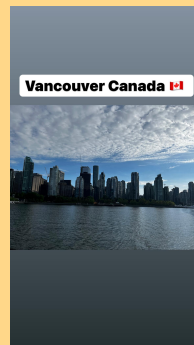
The CVAG Phase II project was recognized as a groundbreaking project in smart region technology for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG). Already an award-winning project, CV Sync is also becoming an international example of advanced technology in transportation. Please refer to the two articles in this newsletter for more information.

ADVANTEC is Pleased to Announce the Addition of a New Talented Team Member to the Company!



Isabella Cheung
Business Development Assistant

TAKING NEW TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS TO AN INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE



As the transportation industry begins to learn more about CVAG's Smart Mobility solutions in the Coachella Valley, the CVAG team is increasingly in demand to speak and present the project at transportation meetings and conferences nationally and internationally, to share their expertise. Recently, Eric Cowle, Project Manager at CVAG and Carlos Ortiz, ADVANTEC's COO were invited to Vancouver, Canada to speak at the Vancouver 2022 ITE "Resilient Cities Planning for an Uncertain Future" from May 29-June 1, 2022. This was a joint CITE/QUAD conference with 4 full days of sessions, mobile workshops and keynote speakers for Canada's community of Transportation professionals.

Carlos was able to attend to speak and share the project with experts from CITE and QUAD in a presentation entitled "Building the New Age of Information with Smart Mobility Solutions in the Coachella Valley". The presentation, focused on The Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project (CV Sync)--the Coachella Valley Association of Government's (CVAG) major effort to advance the development and implementation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and Smart Region Programs with an emphasis in the development of multi-jurisdictional and regional smart intersection, smart corridor, and broadband communication network.

The presentation received numerous positive comments, including social media posts and emails from international attendees, and has led to additional requests for presentations within organizations in Canada. Beyond those requests, opportunities to apply the CVAG CV-Sync project model in other areas internationally are already being discussed. ADVANTEC is honored to be a part of CVAG's team on the CV Sync project and looks forward to taking the technology and engineering expertise from this award-winning project to help successfully resolve some of the traffic challenges that Canada is facing and help advance smart mobility solutions internationally.



ADVANTEC is looking for talent like yours!

ADVANTEC Consulting Engineers is a rapidly growing professional engineering firm specializing in advanced multi-modal transportation technology in planning, design, and operations. We provide our clients a variety of professional services, including, Highway Engineering, Public Works, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), Traffic Engineering, and Transportation Planning. ADVANTEC's multi-disciplined team of talented and innovative professionals includes civil, electrical, and traffic engineers and planners. If you are interested in a new chapter in your career with our growing firm, please apply!

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Calendar of Transportation Events

Watch for ADVANTEC and our Clients at the Following Transportation Events and Conferences:

***June 26-29, 2022-ITE Western District Annual Meeting**, Palm Springs, CA. ADVANTEC and Clients who will be presenting include:

1. Monday, June 27 at 10:00 a.m. – **John Dorado**, PE, Senior Project Manager, ADVANTEC--Broadband Track, "Leverage your Communication Network"
2. Tuesday, June 28 at 8:00 a.m. – **Leo Lee**, PE, CEO, ADVANTEC--Connected Vehicles Track, "My Car Almost Killed Me", Can We Trust Autonomous Vehicles?
3. Tuesday, June 28 at 10:00 a.m. – **Jose Guedes**, Senior Engineer, ADVANTEC--Pandemic Response War Stories Track, "Performance of a Citywide Adaptive System During the COVID Pandemic"
4. Wednesday, June 29 at 8:00 a.m. – **Carlos Ortiz**, PE, PTOE, COO, ADVANTEC; **Eric Cowle**, Transportation Program Manager, Coachella Valley Association of Governments; **Justin Schlaefli**, TKE and **Dave Heermance**, President, Crosstown Electric and Data-ADVANTEC Project Panel-- "Building the New Age of Information with Smart Mobility Solutions and Broadband in the Coachella Valley. This Panel will be moderated by **Randy Iwasaki**, PE, Leader, State and Local Government Transportation at Amazon Web Services.

ADVANTEC is a Gold Sponsor, Exhibitor, Wifi Sponsor, Bag Sponsor, Tours Coordinator for CVLink and CVSync and Local Arrangement Committee (Lawrence Tai and Carlos Ortiz). ADVANTEC team is involved in planning this conference (Carlos, John, Bryan, Lawrence).

***July 31-August 3, 2022-ITE International Annual Meeting and Exhibition**, New Orleans, LA

***August 19, 2022, 2022 Mobility 21 Southern California Transportation Summit, Future Forward**, Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, CA

***August 28-31, 2022, APWA PWX**, Charlotte, NC

***November 13-15, 2022 Focus on The Future Conference**, Uniting Transportation, Building a Path to our Future, Newport Beach Marriott, CA

In our upcoming issue--New Projects, Employee and Project of the Quarter as well as an update on ADVANTEC's broadband work.



Visit our
website

Reach out to us:
Contact Leo Lee, CEO at:
marketing@advantec-usa.com



innovative & cost effective solutions

ADVANTEC's management philosophy is characterized by our motto: "BECAUSE WE CARE!"

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Phone:
(949) 861-4999
Fax:
(949) 502-5522

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Website