SIDRA INTERSECTION 5.1
FIRST STEPS

October 2011
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Akcelik & Associates Pty Ltd acknowledges the contributions by numerous users from many countries around the world through their valuable comments towards the development of SIDRA SOLUTIONS software products.

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**TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

### CONDITIONS

Technical support is provided for the latest version of SIDRA INTERSECTION only, and you need to have valid COVER. A reasonable amount of technical support is provided to registered users under the COVER agreement. This includes assistance to make the software operate on your computer system, and investigation of example files that fail to run or produce unexpected results. It does not include assistance in the normal use of the software such as coding of input from an intersection plan. SIDRA SOLUTIONS training courses that cover these topics are offered from time to time.

### BEFORE CONTACTING AKCELIK AND ASSOCIATES

Before contacting Akcelik and Associates, refer to the Troubleshooting section in Part 2 of the SIDRA INTERSECTION User Guide (or the same topic in the Help system). The Troubleshooting section contains many answers to common problems. Also refer to the Technical Advice page of the Support section of www.sidrasolutions.com, which is frequently updated with answers to user questions. If you are unable to find an answer to your problem using these resources, please use the process described below to contact Akcelik & Associates.

### PROCESS FOR CONTACTING AKCELIK AND ASSOCIATES

To expedite support services, we prefer electronic communications via EMAIL. Use the following EMAIL address to ensure that your message is replied to as promptly as possible:

```
support@sidrasolutions.com
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When you send an EMAIL message:

- ensure that you have valid COVER,
- provide your Customer ID and Licence Type which can be found in the About dialog under the SIDRA INTERSECTION button (top left corner of the user interface),
- include your phone number and organisational details in your EMAIL message,
- describe your problem succinctly, and include any error messages reported by the program, and
- if it is a problem with input and output, attach the Project (sip) file in a zipped folder, or if it is a computer system problem, give details of your computer.

### CONTACT US

**Email**

For general enquiries, sales information and training workshops:

- info@sidrasolutions.com

For technical support enquiries for users with current COVER:

- support@sidrasolutions.com

**Postal Address**

Akcelik and Associates Pty Ltd, PO Box 1075G, Greythorn, Vic 3104, AUSTRALIA
ABOUT THE SIDRA SOLUTIONS WEBSITE

Our Website
www.sidrasolutions.com

The SIDRA SOLUTIONS website is full of essential information about SIDRA SOLUTIONS software products. Utilise this information for most efficient use of your SIDRA INTERSECTION software.

Subscribe to SIDRA NEWS
www.sidrasolutions.com/Company/SIDRA_News

If you are not already a list member, sign up to SIDRA NEWS to stay informed with our regular email alerts that give you the latest information on important product releases and updates, training workshops and other events. To subscribe, use the web address above. To unsubscribe, use the unsubscribe link at the bottom of any SIDRA NEWS email.

YouTube Channel
www.youtube.com/SidraSolutions

We are creating tutorial videos for SIDRA INTERSECTION, SIDRA UTILITIES and other SIDRA SOLUTIONS software. Visit our SIDRA SOLUTIONS YouTube channel and subscribe to keep up to date with the latest video posts.

eLearning
www.sidrasolutions.com/eLearning/INTERSECTION

The eLearning page for SIDRA INTERSECTION includes links to tutorial videos, getting started documents, installation instructions and more.

SIDRA FORUMS for Traffic & Transport Engineering
www.sidrasolutions.com/forums

Join SIDRA FORUMS, get involved, and communicate with the SIDRA team and other like-minded traffic and transport engineers around the world. To register, visit the FORUMS page.

Twitter
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Follow Rahmi on Twitter to keep in touch with what is happening at SIDRA SOLUTIONS.

Articles
www.sidrasolutions.com/Resources/Articles

Download and read the latest papers, reports and presentations as well as reprints of older but important papers and reports relevant to SIDRA SOLUTIONS software products.

continued >>>>
ABOUT THE SIDRA SOLUTIONS WEBSITE - continued

Support
www.sidrasolutions.com/Support
Information about sales support, product support including licensing information and licence setup instructions, latest technical advice and software updates.

Software Updates
www.sidrasolutions.com/Support/Software_Updates
To find information about the latest software updates, visit the Software Updates page under the Support section.

Store
www.sidrasolutions.com/Store
For purchasing new licenses, upgrade licences and COVER renewal.

Contact Us
www.sidrasolutions.com/Company/Contact_Us
Information about contacting us as well as lists of our representatives and resellers around the world.
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SIDRA INTERSECTION 5.1 First Steps

You need to know about the first few steps to take when you run SIDRA INTERSECTION. To learn more, click the Intro&Starting button in the User Guide group in the ribbon and refer to Part 2, Section 2.

The following tutorial videos are also available:

- SIDRA INTERSECTION 5.1 First Steps
- SIDRA INTERSECTION 5.1 User Interface

Visit our SIDRA SOLUTIONS YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/SidraSolutions

To start SIDRA INTERSECTION, double-click the SIDRA INTERSECTION icon on your desktop.

The Project Pane on the left-hand side of the screen displays a temporary Project (New Project - 1) which is created automatically when you start SIDRA INTERSECTION (Figure 1).

If you close the Project, you need to create a new Project or open an existing Project. For this purpose, click the SIDRA INTERSECTION Button in the ribbon, and click New or Open (Figure 2).

All file management functions in SIDRA INTERSECTION are performed through the Project feature. A Project file (extension sip) consists of a number of Sites. A site contains all input, model parameters and output pertaining to a particular case.

Figure 1 - SIDRA INTERSECTION user interface
When you start using SIDRA INTERSECTION for the first time, you need to add Sites to the Project. To do this, click the New or Template button in the Site group under the Home tab in the ribbon.

**Project Pane and Display Pane**

The SIDRA INTERSECTION user interface is shown in Figure 1.

The Project Pane on the left-hand side of the user interface contains the Project tree with each Site as a node in the tree. Within each Site node, there are child nodes (or sub-nodes) structured in a hierarchical manner. The main nodes are Layout, Data Summary, Input and Output.

The Display Pane contains all open output reports and graphical displays. Windows are opened in the Display Pane via actions in the Project tree.

**Familiarise with SIDRA INTERSECTION User Interface**

When you use SIDRA INTERSECTION for the first time, you may wish to follow the steps below to familiarise yourself with the software user interface.

In the Site group under the Home tab in the ribbon, click Template, and then click Signals (Figure 3). In the Signals group of templates, click the last template name in the list (User Guide Example ... ). This will add a Site named User Guide Example ... to the Project.

Click the SIDRA INTERSECTION Button in the ribbon to see the menu functions available for the Project file (Figure 2). Click Save, give a file name (e.g. “User Guide Example”) and click the Save button in the Save Project dialog.

Double click the Site name, or click the + symbol to open the Site tree.

Click Process in the Site group under the Home tab in the ribbon. This will process the Site data and create output. Additional nodes will appear under the Output group in the tree.
Check the following in the user interface:

- A pane on the left-hand side of the screen which displays the Project tree with the Input and Output dialog groups under the Site (Figure 1).
- Double-clicking a node in the tree representing a dialog group will open or close the set of nodes in the group (similar to clicking the + or - symbol next to the node name).
- Double-clicking a node at the lowest level in the Input group in the tree will open the input dialog associated with it.
- If you double-click nodes under the Output group in the tree, tabbed displays containing output reports and various displays will appear in the Display Pane on the right-hand side of the screen.

For the Site in the Project tree, double-click nodes in the left pane as indicated below. You can resize the display areas as you wish. You can access a menu by right clicking the Tabs of displays which will appear in order to configure displays as you wish (form different Tab Groups), change the behaviour of displays or close displays.

- Double-click Layout. A picture with intersection geometry will appear. Close the display.
- Open the Data Summary group and double-click Volume Summary. A picture with vehicle volume values will appear.
- In the Data Summary group, double-click Input Report. A text report will appear.
- In the Input group, double-click the Geometry dialog. The input dialog will open. Close the dialog (press the Esc key or click Cancel). You cannot use the other aspects of the user interface while an input dialog is open.
- In the Output group, double-click Phasing Summary. A report will appear containing text output and pictures with traffic movement symbols in various colours.
- In the Output group, double-click Movement Timing. A report will appear showing Displayed Signal Timing results for Phases, and Effective Signal Timing results for Movements.
- Under Output - Movement Displays - Delay, LOS and Capacity, double-click Delay (Average). A display will appear containing traffic movement symbols in colour.
This completes the steps for your familiarisation with the software.

See the following sections to learn more about some important aspects of SIDRA INTERSECTION.

**Closing a Project or Deleting a Site**

To close a Project, select the Close option under the SIDRA INTERSECTION Button, or right-click on the Project name in the Project tree and select Close.

To remove a Site from the Project tree, click the Delete button in the ribbon, or right-click on the Site name in the Project tree and select Delete. Once deleted, a Site cannot be restored.

**Processing**

When you click the Process button in the ribbon (or press F9), SIDRA INTERSECTION input data processing and computations will be carried out.

To process all Sites in the Project, click the Process All Sites button (or press F10) in the Quick Access Toolbar.

If no input data or processing errors are found, various output reports and displays will be generated under the Output node in the Project tree.

If any errors are found in processing, the Output node will not appear and an error message will be shown in a Processing Error message box. You must fix the errors before you will be able to get output for the Site.

**Templates**

Use the Template command in the Site group of commands in the ribbon to access many intersection templates provided by SIDRA INTERSECTION.

**Models**

SIDRA INTERSECTION has an extensive defaults system that covers all input data parameters, and most traffic model parameters. SIDRA INTERSECTION will use the Model (Defaults System) selected during installation. You can change the model at any time.

Click the Model tab in the ribbon to see the Selected Model as well as all available models in the drop-down list. To select another model, click the model name in the list.
Help System and User Guide

Use the Help system and the User Guide for detailed information on all aspects of SIDRA INTERSECTION.

The help system can be accessed by clicking the Help button in the ribbon or in an input dialog or pressing the F1 key.

In input dialogs:
- if you click the Help button, you will access the Help system with a general topic about the dialog displayed; and
- if you press the F1 key while the focus is in a data field, you will access the Help system with a help topic about the data field displayed (if the focus is not in the data field, a general topic about the dialog will be displayed).

When the focus is in an output report, graphical display, Graphs, or the Input report, and you press the F1 key, a related help topic will be displayed.

The User Guide is in four parts, namely Introduction, Getting Started, Input Guide and Output Guide. These can be accessed via the commands Intro&Starting, Input Guide and Output Guide in the ribbon (User Guide group).

For licensed users, all parts of the User Guide are available in a single PDF document accessible through your eCommerce account.