

Message from the Chair:



I would like to thank each of you for welcoming me back to the AASHTO Subcommittee on Maintenance (SCOM) with open arms at the recent annual meeting in the great state of West Virginia. It was like coming home for me. There are folks who I have known for years still involved in the meeting, and as I expected, the work of the subcommittee is stellar.

For those of you who do not know me, I look forward to meeting you and want you to know that I have maintenance in my blood. I served in maintenance at the district and statewide level here at the Mississippi Department of Transportation for around 13 years before moving into administration. I truly believe that maintenance is the backbone of any transportation department, and as funding gets tighter and tighter, maintenance will have to lead the way to preserve our nation's infrastructure.

The SCOM has always been and will continue to be a venue for the sharing of innovative ideas and techniques that will increase productivity and stretch the dollar as far as it can possibly go. I look forward to serving as your chair and welcome any thoughts on how we can improve the workings of the subcommittee.

I would be remiss if I did not give my heartfelt thanks to Carlos Braceras for leading this subcommittee for all of these years. I was part of the subcommittee when Carlos came on board, and I know firsthand how he rejuvenated the group into what I consider to be the best subcommittee within AASHTO. He will be greatly missed, but I know that this group can overcome anything, even having me as the chair. (Smile) I would also like to thank the Leadership Team for being patient with me as I reeducate myself in the workings of the subcommittee. I promise not to say Task Force or Focus Group anymore.

Thank you again for being champions for maintenance. I promise to help you in any way possible and hope that you will feel free to contact me at any time.

All the best - Mark

Equipment Technical Working Group

Equipment Management Technical Services Program (EMTSP)



The EMTSP Oversight Panel continues their management of the program. Recent accomplishments include the following:

- FY 2014 State DOT annual contributions to AASHTO have been received from 40 states year-to-date
- Action items in the EMTSP Strategic Plan have been updated and completed
- Modified the EMTSP website to provide similar information as the AASHTO Equipment Reference book to eliminate the need of continuing that publication
- The first Triennial Report on the progress and status of the Equipment Management Technical Services Program (EMTSP) was presented to SCOH. The program was approved for continuation
- Working in partnership with TRB Committee AHD60, Maintenance Equipment, and Florida DOT, successfully completed the joint

AASHTO/TRB National Equipment Fleet Management Conference and Trade Show. The event was held at the Coronado Springs Conference Center in Orlando, Florida on June 8-12, 2014. Conference attendance highlights include:

- 46 states including the District of Columbia and Canadian Saskatchewan
- 351 attendees
- 55 separate vendors and exhibitors participated with 192 attendees
- 46 spouses and guests registered ; 55 invitational state attendees and 37 non-invitational state DOT attendees
- Continued coordinating the scheduled regional partnership meetings to occur on odd numbered calendar years. 2015 Regional Partnership Meeting Calendar is as follow:

- Northeast Equipment Management Partnership and the Midwest Equipment Management Partnership will meet jointly in Missouri in July, 2015. The final dates and location of the conference are under evaluation
- Southeastern States Equipment Managers Conference will meet in June 2015. The final dates and location of the conference are under evaluation
- Western States Highway Equipment Managers Association will meet in Alaska in August 2015. The final dates and location of the conference are under evaluation
- Working in partnership with TRB Committee AHD60, Maintenance Equipment, and Ohio DOT, the development of a conference planning steering committee and conference call schedule for the planning and preparation of the 2016 AASHTO/ TRB Joint National Equipment Fleet Management Conference, which will be hosted by the Ohio DOT. The final dates and location of the conference are under evaluation
- Continued work implementing findings from the final report of Research Project 20-07/Task 309 to identify and prioritize additional research projects
- Continued working with the EMTSP National Performance Measurement Working Group to develop and post each state's available performance measures on the EMTSP website. Four (4) common state DOT fleet performance measures (Utilization, Preventative Maintenance, Retention, and Availability) are now being reported and may be reviewed at www.emtsp.org.
- The development of a training and certification program for state equipment managers in collaboration with North Carolina DOT, the National Center for Pavement Preservation and Ferris State University continues to move forward. During, the joint AASHTO/TRB National Equipment Fleet Management Conference and Trade Show, each state DOT completed a survey in which they prioritized critical training modules. A listing of the ten (10) most critical modules have been forwarded to Ferris State University for their review and subsequent response addressing their ability to complete the work as web based modules augmented with written training guide books and corresponding cost structure. Response is anticipated before

October 31, 2014. Collaterally, conversations continue with the Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council (TC3) on their ability to fund some of the web based training modules.

The revised EMTSP strategic plan can be found on the "About EMTSP" page of the EMTSP website at the following link: <http://www.emtsp.org/about-emtsp/>

If your state has not yet remitted the voluntary contribution for EMTSP, you are encouraged to do so in order for this valuable program to continue and expand its accomplishments, which serve the needs of highway agency equipment fleet professionals.

All state DOT equipment managers (and others interested in receiving periodic e-mails related to the EMTSP) are encouraged to subscribe to the EMTSP listserv by clicking on this link: [EMTSP General Listserv](#).

Equipment Technical Working Group (TWG)

Research

- The Equipment TWG's research problem statement titled *Guidelines for the Development of Highway Operations Equipment Replacement Lifecycle Criteria* and assigned NCHRP project number 13-04, FY2014 is on-going. The project panel has been staffed, RFP has been written, solicited and evaluation of a research agency proceeds. Estimated project start date is January 2015.
- The Equipment TWG's research problem statement titled *Guidelines for the Development of Highway Operations Equipment Utilization Measurement and Management* and assigned NCHRP Project Number 13-05, FY2015 was approved by the AASHTO Board of Directors this summer. NCHRP is now in the process of assembling the project panel membership and plans to initiate the project this fall.
- The Equipment TWG's most recent research problem statement titled *Guidelines for the Development of State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) Highway Operations Equipment Multi-year Replacement Plans* was presented to the Subcommittee on Maintenance at the summer meeting and was voted #2 by the subcommittee. Next process action going forward is NCHRP review and SCOR recommendation.
- NCHRP Synthesis 43-14, *DOT Fleet Replacement Management Practices*, has been completed and published in March 2014. The complete report can be found on the "About EMTSP" page of the EMTSP website at the following link: <http://www.emtsp.org/about-emtsp/>.

Collaboration with TRB

Various members of the Equipment TWG have been involved with preparing, reviewing and arranging for papers on relevant equipment management topics to be presented at

Highway Safety and Reliability Technical Working Group

HS&R TWG at the Summer SCOM meeting – West Virginia

Sincere thanks go out to all the participants that made the Safety and Reliability TWG breakout sessions so successful. Over 60 attendees participated in one or more of the three breakout sessions. Those in attendance were treated to excellent presentations, discussions and sharing. The TWG endorsed two research need statements – “Assessment of maintenance support facility site layout and design features to promote the efficient, effective, and safe operation of maintenance support facilities,” and “Review of practice in observing and reporting road conditions during weather events to support maintenance operations, performance measurement, and public travel information.” Both of these needs statements are progressing through the NCHRP process.

As soon our work ended in West Virginia, the TWG leadership turned its focus to Iowa for the summer of 2015. This SCOM meeting will be a joint TRB meeting with all that it has to offer. The Highway Safety and Reliability Technical Working Group would like to hear from you on content for next year’s breakout sessions. Please connect with Steve Lund, Minnesota Department of Transportation, 651-366-5535, steven.lund@state.mn.us if you have ideas or suggestions – Thanks!

Lee Smithson Retires

Yes it’s true; Lee Smithson has decided to retire. For those of you that attended the 2014 SCOM, Lee Smithson was recognized for his outstanding career in public service. Lee graduated in 1957 with a degree in Civil Engineering, and then became a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Army Reserve achieving the rank of Colonel at his retirement in 1968. Lee would also go on to serve a 45-year career with the Iowa Department of Transportation. Upon his retirement from the Iowa DOT in 2002, Lee continued his support of the Subcommittee on Maintenance and the Winter Maintenance Technical Service Program as the SICOP Coordinator. His leadership, experience and tireless effort will be missed by all. Thank you Lee for all that you did. With Lee’s departure, brings a not so new face to the winter maintenance community and the WMTSP effort. Rick Nelson retired from Nevada DOT and was hired by AASHTO as the new SICOP coordinator. Rick brings with him over 30 years of strong transportation experience as well as national and international expertise – welcome Rick!

National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange

Once again, the pooled fund programs of Clear Roads, Aurora and the Winter Maintenance Technical Service Program (WMTSP) will be sponsoring and supporting the National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange. This will be the fifth National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange and

will be held in the Twin Cities on September 21-25, 2015. The Minnesota DOT will host the event. Like the previous peer exchanges this event is expected to bring together state transportation department personnel from around the country. The attendees will be experts in snow and ice control, road weather, and policy. In addition, private sector providers of services, equipment, and materials will be on hand as attendees share information on road weather and maintenance issues. You can expect to hear all the latest on many of your favorite winter topics. This event promises to continue to address and fill gaps in knowledge, technology, and communication and help states work together to develop strategies to bridge those gaps. Mark your calendars now!

Road Weather Management: Integrated Mobile Observations

If you attended the Wednesday July 30, HS&R TWG breakout session at the SCOM meeting you heard of exciting developments in the “connected vehicle technology.” The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Road Weather Management Program (RWMP) launched an innovative project to explore the feasibility of using vehicle-based data to support weather-related transportation safety & mobility. The RWMP partnered with the Minnesota, Michigan, and Nevada departments of transportation. Over 600 vehicles were deployed including heavy duty trucks, light duty vehicles, and mowers. The DOTs added external weather sensors to their vehicles, created software and hardware to read the information from the vehicles and external sensors, established communication systems to send the data to servers, and incorporated the data into new and existing systems. Throughout the project, the DOTs have gained valuable insights into the uses of the data and have transferred this knowledge to others.

Throughout the project, the DOTs transmitted their data to the Pikalert® Vehicle Data Translator (Pikalert VDT), another RWMP project, for ingestion, quality checking, dissemination, and consumption. Pikalert VDT is software that creates highly detailed weather and road condition output (e.g., “nowcasts” and forecasts) based on inputs of vehicle-based measurements (i.e., vehicle actions, road conditions, and the surrounding atmosphere) and other, more traditional weather data sources. The Pikalert VDT takes advantage of the higher level of granularity of surface weather conditions from connected vehicles combined with existing weather models and observations to create hazard datasets. The hazard datasets include near real-time and forecasted weather and road conditions specific to road segments. The hazard datasets can then be used as a vital input into any other system or application. For example, Pikalert VDT output can feed into maintenance decision support systems and traveler information systems. The

RWMP will continue to explore the use of data intrinsic to vehicles and from external weather sensors for safety and mobility by using a corridor approach in the three states. These efforts will include additional research for traveler information, road weather forecasts, decision support, and performance management. Also, the RWMP will work with

the Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office (ITS JPO) to incorporate road weather into other connected vehicle programs and applications being developed and deployed.

Bridge Technical Working Group

The AASHTO TSP.2 hosted the National Bridge Preservation Partnership Conference from April 21 – 25, 2014 in Orlando, Fl. The members of the Bridge Technical Working Group were active participants in the planning of this meeting, and several members of the Bridge Technical Working Group attended the meeting. The meeting was very successful with more than 500 individuals in attendance. 52 agencies and 58 industry partners were represented. Our industry partners conducted 23 outdoor demonstrations and 6 indoor demonstrations.

The Bridge Technical Working Group (BTWG) of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Maintenance (SCOM) had very productive break-out sessions during the 2014 SCOM meeting in Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting included three breakout sessions for the Bridge Technical Working Group, and a total of 41 individuals attended these bridge breakout sessions, and 16 of those individuals were state DOT employees.

The following bridge related research problem statements were presented during the 2014 business meeting:

- Review and Update of the AASHTO Maintenance Manual for Roadways and Bridges
- Summary of effective practices/procedures that are associated with Bridge Maintenance and Preservation activities which minimize environmental impacts
- Maintenance Actions for Fatigue Cracking in Steel Bridge Structures

The following resolutions were presented during the 2014 business meeting:

- Fall Protection Requirements for Highway Workers on Existing Bridges – Jointly sponsored by the Highway Safety & Reliability and Bridge Technical Working Groups.
- Formalizing the Attendance of the TSP-2 Regional Bridge Preservation Partnerships at the Annual AASHTO SCOM Meeting

The 2015 work plan for the Bridge Technical Working Group also includes the following actions:

- Focus Areas – Research
 - Support bridge related NCHRP projects and submit the research problem statements described above
 - Support the work of the TRB Bridge Preservation Committee (AHD37).

- Support the work of the TRB Structures Maintenance Committee (AHD30).
- Support the work of the TRB Bridge Management Committee (AHD35).
- Support update of the TSP2 Research Roadmap.
- Support FHWA’s Long Term Bridge Performance Program.
- Focus Areas - Workforce Development
 - Continue working with TSP.2, FHWA BPETG, and industry on collection of maintenance training material and make available for practitioners.
 - Continue supporting the FHWA proposed Peer exchange idea for bridge maintenance – the BTWG Vice Chair for Research and Workforce Development will serve as a member of the Steering Committee.
 - Serve as a liaison and facilitator between the TSP.2 regional bridge preservation partnerships and AASHTO SCOM Leadership.
 - Continue working with TSP.2, FHWA BPETG, and industry on collection of acceptance and use of materials and products.
 - Support the AASHTO TC3 program.
 - Support FHWA’s Bridge Preservation Expert Task Group efforts.
 - Conduct teleconferences and email exchanges with the Bridge TWG members.
 - Coordinate activities between AASHTO SCOBs and AASHTO SCOM through the appointed liaisons.
 - Update the Strategic Plan for the BTWG.
 - Support the efforts of the SCOM leadership to update the AASHTO Maintenance Manual for Roadways and Bridges.
- Focus Areas - Performance Measures
 - Provide comments on the FHWA NPRM for performance measures on bridges and for asset management.
 - Continue to collaborate with FHWA BPETG, AASHTO SCOBs and other stakeholders on defining “State of Good Repairs” as it applies to the bridge assets.
- Focus Areas - Environment

- Submit and promote the problem statement “Synthesis of best practices/procedures that are associated with Bridge Maintenance and Preservation activities which minimize environmental impacts”.
- Research Implementation Recommendations
 - Continue supporting implementation recommendations for NCHRP 14-24, Report 742 “Communicating the value of preservation”.
 - Support the implementation of SHRP2 Project R19A (Designing Bridges for a 100 year service life).

The Bridge Technical Working Group has provided an endorsement for a proposed Domestic Scan Program titled “Bridge Recoating Best Practices”.

The Bridge Technical Working Group and the Regional Bridge Preservation Partnerships are in the process of updating the list of State Bridge Maintenance Engineers and State Bridge Preservation Engineers.

The bridge related abstracts for the 2015 AASHTO/TRB Maintenance Conference will be reviewed by the Bridge Technical Working Group.

FHWA is in the process of developing the following training courses:

- NHI Bridge Preservation Course Series
 - Course 1 – Bridge Preservation Fundamentals – 4 hrs.
 - Course 2 – Establishing a Bridge Preservation Program – 5 hrs.
 - Course 3 – Communication Strategies for Bridge Preservation – 3 hrs.
 - Target Audience: includes Federal, State, and local bridge engineers and managers involved in or becoming involved in highway bridge preservation
 - Project Status: -Development Completed
- NHI Bridge Maintenance Training Course
 - Update the Bridge Maintenance Reference Manual
 - Develop new web-based training modules
 - Update the Instructor-led training course – 4 days Target Audience: Individuals involved in onsite bridge maintenance activities and those that supervise and manage these activities
 - Project status: Work began July 2013 (40% complete)
 - Target Completion Date: 2016

Pavements Technical Working Group

It seems like just yesterday that we were all together in beautiful Charleston, West Virginia for the annual SCOM meeting – but the fall weather has clearly arrived, and snow has already fallen in many northern states, and much has happened in the pavement maintenance community since we were together. The summer meeting was well attended, and the participation level was high.

2014 Work Plan Accomplishments

Workforce Development

- Sustained high level of maintenance interest and involvement in the area of System Preservation.
- Promoted the Transportation System Preservation Technical Services Program (TSP²) to AASHTO Members.
- Supported the expansion of Regional Pavement Preservation Partnerships.
- Enhanced the Internal Communications of the PTWG by: expanding the membership list; improving the e-mail address list; and conducting quarterly telephone conference calls and/or webinars.

Research

- Reviewed TRB/NCHRP Completed Research for possible publication as AASHTO Manuals.

- Assisted in the implementation of SHRP-2 products that are useful to pavement preservation and maintenance, especially R-26 and R-23.
- Worked to better understand the linkage of pavement preservation activities to overall crash reductions in comparison to traditional rehabilitation and reconstruction activities.

Performance Measures

- Assisted in the development and implementation of performance measures that can be effectively utilized by member agencies and to meet the requirements of MAP-21.
- Supported the development of a guideline that would uniformly define the Remaining Service Life (RSL) of zero for use by member agencies.

Environment

- Supported the development and promotion of life cycle assessment methodologies that demonstrate the environmental-friendliness and sustainability benefits of pavement preservation techniques and strategies.

2015 Work Plan

Research

- Review TRB/NCHRP Completed Research for possible publication as AASHTO Manuals or

presentations in a series of “Pavement Preservation Book Club” webinars.

- Implement SHRP-2 products that are useful to pavement preservation and maintenance.
 - R-26: Preservation Approaches for High-Traffic-Volume Roadways
 - R23: Using Existing Pavements in place and Achieving Long Life

Workforce Development

- Promote the Transportation System Preservation Technical Services Program (TSP²) to AASHTO members.
- Support TC3 and other groups in the development of various training and certification programs.
- Sustain high level of maintenance interest and involvement in Transportation System Preservation (TSP).
- Expand Regional Pavement Preservation Partnerships to include more LPA’s, LTAP Centers, and MPOs.

- Enhance internal communications of the PTWG: expand membership and e-mail list; and conduct two telephone conference calls and/or webinars involving roundtable discussions for members.

Performance Measures

- Support efforts to quantify the contributions of pavement preservation to safety and risk-based asset management programs.
- Assist in the development and implementation of Performance Measures to meet AASHTO members pavement preservation program needs.

Environment

- Assist in the development and promotion of Pavement Preservation Life Cycle Assessment methodologies, including the demonstration of environmental benefits.

Roadway/Roadsides Technical Working Group

Thanks to all for your attendance at the annual SCOM meeting in Charleston, West Virginia. The summer meeting was well attended and the participation level was high.

2014 Work Plan Accomplishments

Research

Soon to be Completed Research:

- Culvert Rehabilitation to Maximize Service Life While Minimizing Direct Costs and Traffic Disruption

Approved Research Proposals:

- Determination of the Best Practices for Collecting, Processing and Managing Roadway Asset Inventory Data
- Reducing Risks to Worker Safety in Work Zones Due to Distracted Drivers

Submitted Research not funded or moved ahead:

- Determine Consequences of Deferred Maintenance of Highway Assets Other Than Pavement and Bridges
- Lifecycle Management of Small Drainage Culverts

Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 Webinars

Topics discussed from two RRTWG Webinars include:

- Maintenance Manager Workshop
- Innovative Winter Practices
- Adopt A Highway/Reversible Trash Bags
- Automatic Data Collection
- Sequential Barricade Warning Lighting
- Deicing Chlorides – No Easy Answers

Maintenance Manager Workshops – Thomas Lyden, OHDOT

Maintenance managers are not always moving in the same direction. How then, does leadership attempt to “align the arrows” in a large, diverse, decentralized organization? Thomas presented on how training, sharing, and recognition take place with front-line maintenance managers.

Innovative Winter Maintenance Practices – Beth Wright, MODOT & Jerry Hatcher, TDOT

The harsh winter of 2013-2014 provided many challenges to state DOT’s. Jerry and Beth presented innovative solutions to some of these challenges. Jerry presented agricultural based de-icing/anti-icing materials that TDOT uses to keep roadways clear and open. Beth presented how MODOT dealt with replenishing salt inventory when their contract vendors could not meet demand.

Adopt-A-Highway Program and New Orange Reversible to Blue Bag – George Kapetanakis, NCDOT

The NCDOT AAH program turned 25 years of age in 2013. The AAH database maintains an ongoing record of each adopted roadway. George presented a brief overview of the process while providing current statistics. He also reviewed and presented feedback on the new orange bag which is reversible to blue and features a draw string for easy and secure closure.

2015 Work Plan

Research

- Continue Fall and Spring Webinars
- Focus on future presentations and completed research

Workforce Development

- Delivery of the NHI Maintenance Leadership Academy
- Support activities No Boundaries pooled fund – Implementing Maintenance Innovations from State to State

Performance Measures

- Begin the discussion of the need for consistent units of measurement in MQA programs

Environment

- Explore the maintenance of Best Management Practices for Storm Water and Silt detention

The RRTWG invites you to submit topics of interest for the upcoming Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 webinars. We are interested in any ideas you have for the webinars as well as topics you may want to present.

Turner -Fairbanks Highway Research Center - Update

We have several exciting maintenance-related research projects going on now at the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center (TFHRC). One of which is the “Advanced, Low-Cost Snowplow Operator visual Guidance System”; this project will develop an accurate, user-friendly system that will assist the plow operator in low-or-zero visibility conditions. It is the goal of the effort to leverage existing technology, and provide accurate and operator-friendly guidance via a digitally enhanced environment. Although the system will utilize GPS, it is not GPS-dependent and will have a suite of guidance tools for use in GPS-denied areas.

Another project currently underway is titled “New Approaches to Utility Cut Repair”, which investigates current domestic and international pavement cut/repair practice, with a focus on new and novel utility cut repair techniques and protocols. A third maintenance-related project is an effort to determine the energy use associated

with recycle-in-place paving projects, including hot-in-place and cold-in-place methods. The project will investigate the sustainability of using recycle-in-place paving methods/materials as compared to more conventional paving methods, by quantifying energy use within the whole-system boundaries.

Other projects that have relevance to maintenance include studies looking at the concept of Remaining Service Life (RSL) of a pavement, the impact of Wide-Base truck tires on pavement life, best practices for marking/mapping buried utilities, and a system to robotically relocate underground utilities. All of these projects are ongoing, and being handled by research staff here at TFHRC.

If you have any questions regarding these projects, or would have ideas for future research direction, please contact Morgan Kessler, Research Engineer, FHWA, Morgan.Kessler@dot.gov or 202-493-3187.

Transportation Research Board - Update

AASHTO SCOM TWG Chairs:

There were 74 abstracts submitted for consideration to be presented as part of the 2015 AASHTO/TRB Conference on Transportation Infrastructure Maintenance and Operations. The abstracts can be accessed using the dropbox link below. The attached file includes a list of all of the abstracts as well as separate tabs for each TWG. Please note that each abstract has an ID number at the beginning of the file name. The link to a simple review form is included below. The dropbox folder includes all of the abstracts. Look on the attached spreadsheet to determine which files need to be reviewed by your TWG. There are some abstracts that applied to Asset Management and budgeting. The leadership team is asked to assess the suitability of those papers. I would encourage you to look over the entire list and if you see an abstract that was assigned to another TWG and it looks like that would be a good one for your TWG or planned session, please comment accordingly.

Please note you can use your TWG members to review the abstracts, however the decision on what to propose for presentations is up to each TWG chair.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need assistance accessing any of the files.

[THE Deadline for initial abstract recommendations – October 15](#)

Dropbox links:

Click here to view All Abstracts

<https://www.dropbox.com/1/AD9KzF5M8fNfcGob6hum3v>

Click here for the Review Form Link

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17rnLkPrDMnHb-WJm47dNqV6pIVNNdtMbPQPtAM89_8/viewform?usp=s_end_form

If you have any questions regarding the abstracts or the dropbox, please contact James Bryant, Senior Program Officer, TRB at jbryant@nas.edu or 202-334-2087.

Subcommittee on Maintenance (SCOM) 2014

SCOM 2014 is now a memory and as we begin to look forward to 2015, I wanted to take a few minutes to recap the conference that was. From the opening day announcement of a change in leadership, we all knew this conference would be different. We bid farewell to Carlos Braceras, longtime friend and advocate for maintenance, and said hello to another longtime friend of the committee, Mark McConnell.

The “Winter That Was” presentation allowed us to see this past winter through the eyes of five different maintenance engineers. The “Damalanche” in Alaska made us shake our heads in awe while the gridlock in Atlanta made us cringe knowing we could all be next. We were reminded we need to think employee safety above all else, and received updates from our Federal Highway and AASHTO partners.

The Technical Working Groups had many great sessions and again excelled in practical research problem statements. Who can forget the fantastic technical tours West Virginia hosted? The Memorial Tunnel National Guard Training Center tour showed us that disasters of all kinds can happen in the blink of an eye. The adrenaline rush of the New River Gorge Bridge Walk Tour gave us all a thrill we won't soon forget.



Many thanks to Carlos for his years of service and thanks again to the West Virginia team for a conference well done. Members appreciated your southern hospitality shown forth in the smiling faces and the easy going style of setting up the impromptu tours. The closing dinner and audience assisted magic made for a great end to a perfect week. We couldn't have asked for a better time.

Stay tuned as Team Iowa gears up for SCOM 2015. I'm sure they will again give us an event to remember! - Jennifer Brandenburg, Vice Chair

From the Editor's Desk:

AASHTO Subcommittee on Maintenance - Assistant Secretary
John Perry, FHWA Field Operations Engineer, Idaho Division Office
Email: johna.perry@dot.gov; Phone: 208-334-9180x116

I would like to express my thanks to all of you for continuing to get me the information I need to do the job you've asked me to do. I appreciated getting the opportunity to meet and work with more of you at the summer meeting in Charleston, WV. To all newcomers to the AASHTO Subcommittee on Maintenance – Welcome Aboard!

I would like to wish a fond farewell to Steve Mueller, our FHWA Liaison to the Pavements TWG who retired on May 31, 2014 after 14 years of service to FHWA. Steve's mantra was to freely share his knowledge and of course as a champion of preservation and recycling, “to keep the good roads good”.

I would also like to extend a special welcome to Marc Hoelscher, our Quality/Operations Engineer from the FHWA South Dakota Division Office. Marc took over as the Pavements TWG Liaison at the annual SCOM meeting in Charleston, WV. Welcome Marc!

[Design to Paver Intelligent Construction Systems and Technologies Demonstration; EDC Initiative](#)

This summer a two day workshop was held in Corvallis, OR to showcase 3D Engineered Models for Construction. Some of these technologies may have application for maintenance related equipment. Automated Machine Guidance was demonstrated on various types of equipment. The following websites provide specific information and media presentations which demonstrate this program.

<http://designtopaver.org/post-event-materials/>
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/3d/>

Federal-aid Essentials for Locals

In your dealings with Local Public Agencies you may find the following of interest. More and more, transportation agencies must pursue better, faster and smarter ways of doing business. Federal-aid Essentials offers a central online library of informational videos and resources, designed specifically for local public agencies. Each video addresses a single topic-condensing the complex regulations and requirements of the Federal-aid Highway Program into easy-to-understand concepts and illustrated examples.

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/federal-aidessentials/indexofvideos.cfm>

Google State DOT Search Engine

The following link is for a Google State DOT Search Engine of which you may find useful for searching what other State DOT's are doing on a particular topic. I have found this to be very useful at time and wanted to share this with others. <https://www.google.com/cse/home?cx=006511338351663161139:cnk1qdck0dc>

Idaho Transportation Department and Vaisala Recognized for Exemplary Highway Program

Vaisala's collaboration with ITD has been recognized by the Road Safety Foundation and FHWA as winners of the biennial National Roadway Safety Awards. The award winners were chosen for reducing fatalities and injuries on roadways through excellence and innovation in operations,

planning, and design. ITD, using Vaisala's pavement sensors that calculate grip or friction values, discovered that this value can also be used to measure the success of the department's winter road maintenance operations. Idaho personnel developed several benchmark indexes that calculated operational performance. Vaisala supported this development by integrating the indexes into their RoadDSS Navigator software. Vaisala's road weather system provides real value to winter maintenance operations in Idaho. "We had a pretty significant year, this year (2012-13), and preliminary estimates, appears that we have had a 10-20% reduction in our seven (7) million dollar chemical usage budget," says Dennis Jensen, Mobility Services-Winter Maintenance Coordinator, Idaho Transportation Department.

Summer meeting information

Iowa Department of Transportation – Office of Maintenance

Mission Statement: In partnership with field maintenance, we will manage our maintenance operations so that consistent, effective and quality services are provided to the traveling public.

- Winter operations
- Winter travel information
- WeatherView/AWOS
- Adopt-A-Highway information
- Maintenance garages and roadways
- ROW harvesting and mowing

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The leadership team will begin coordination in January 2015. The final date for the SCOM/TRB Conference will be scheduled for July 2015 in Des Moines, IA. The DOT is trying to select a hotel at this point. Coordination efforts will begin around the beginning of the year.

No web site for the SCOM/TRB Conference is available at this time.