



# The Maintenance Manager

A quarterly newsletter of the AASHTO Highway Subcommittee on Maintenance Volume 2, No. 2

## Message from the Chair:

Over the last several months the subcommittee's leadership team has been working with the Wisconsin DOT, the subcommittee on System Operations and Management and the Wireless Technology committee to plan for this summer's meeting. Things are coming together and I am excited about our meeting and know that you will all find things to learn, bring home, implement, as well as have fun. It's time for all of us to make our plans to attend, because this year will be unlike any other meeting we have held. By bringing together the three committees it will allow us to better understand what they are trying to accomplish and see where we have common ground. I am sure that there are things we are trying to do, that with their help we can better accomplish together, and vice versa.

As you all know it takes a lot of effort to make a difference and I want you all to know that through the time you commit to our committee you are making a difference to both your DOT and for the rest of us. I would like to thank our vice-chair, Russ Yurek, who has been reaching out to the committee to try and fill some of our leadership vacancies. As you know as our respective organizations change, so does our committee. I would like to report that he has made great progress; to date the following folks have agreed to serve:

*Snow and Ice Task Force*  
Chair – Bill Hoffman (NV)  
Vice Chair - Jaci Vogel (KS)

*Performance Measures Focus Group*  
Chair - Jennifer Brandenburg (NC)  
Vice Chair - Steve Lund (MN)

*Contract Maintenance Focus Group*  
Chair - Jim Carney (MO) (continuing)  
Vice Chair - Greg Duncan (TN)

*Pavements Task Force*  
Chair - Eric Pitts (GA) (continuing)  
Vice Chair - Vacant

*When you get the opportunity please thank these volunteers, and if you would like to become active on the leadership team please contact Russ. Have a great spring and I will see you soon in Wisconsin.*

- Carlos

*(Carlos Braceras, Deputy Director-Utah DOT, is the current Chairman of the Subcommittee on Maintenance)*

## Subcommittee Activities

**Contract Maintenance Focus Group** and TxDOT sponsored the Performance Based Maintenance Contract Seminar and Peer Exchange in San Antonio, Texas on March 19 - 21, 2007. The 110 attendees represented 16 State DOT's, 17 industry organizations, and 7 other agencies. The meeting was highlighted by the roll out of a short course on performance maintenance contracting, co-sponsored by FHWA, and the breakout groups who worked on the development of performance measures. Focus Group Chair, Jim Carney, and Vice-Chair, Jennifer Brandenburg, were very pleased with the number of participants and received good comments on the quality of the conference. Proceedings of the event are currently under preparations and will be distributed on or before the summer meeting. The focus group wants to recognize Joe Graff for the outstanding work he did along with TxDOT staff to host the conference.

**Snow & Ice Task Force** – Members of the Snow and Ice Task Force are working with AASHTO, FHWA, TRB, Clear Roads, Aurora, and the Pacific Northwest Snowfighters to organize the first ever "National Snow and Ice Peer Exchange" scheduled for August 28-29, 2007 in Columbus, Ohio. State DOTs in the snow-belt states have been invited to send their snow and ice control experts to this national peer exchange to present their best practices and identify gaps in current knowledge, materials or equipment that need to be filled in order to optimize operations and improve safety and mobility during winter weather. Equipment, materials and value added

meteorology services vendors will be invited to attend the second day and interact with the Peer Exchange attendees to determine what they could do to help fill these research needs and technology gaps.

## TSP<sup>2</sup> Update

Utilization of the TSP<sup>2</sup> Help Desk by state and local pavement practitioners continues to be brisk. During the first quarter, the TSP<sup>2</sup> Help Desk has fielded questions on promoting pavement preservation; guidance on specific treatment applications such as microsurfacing, crack sealing and filling, Novachip, chip seals, and phase separation problems when using polymers. A great deal of interest has also been expressed in the new Quick Network Assessment Guide, and several agency practitioners have sought further guidance on using the worksheet more effectively.

The NCPP has distributed several thousand copies of its new book entitled "At the Crossroads: Preserving Our Highway Investment". The book published by NCPP and TRIP, presents a message that is consistent with the mission of the TSP<sup>2</sup> and is intended to stimulate serious discussion about the nation's highways. Contact the NCPP for more information on this book.

Through your continued support, the TSP<sup>2</sup> continues to provide a vital resource to pavement preservation practitioners nationwide. States not currently participating in the TSP<sup>2</sup> program are encouraged to contribute by contacting Ken Kobetsky at AASHTO at 202-624-5254 or by emailing kenk@aaashto.org. To access the TSP<sup>2</sup> Help Desk or to receive free copies of the Quick Network Assessment Guide, contact the NCPP at (517) 432-8220, or visit the TSP<sup>2</sup> website at <http://www.tsp2.org>.

## Regional Events

The Nevada Department of Transportation hosted another successful annual meeting of the WASHTO Standing Committee on Maintenance, March 4-7, 2007 at South Lake Tahoe, Nevada. The event was attended by representatives from Western States DOT, FHWA, industry, and the academia. The committee is currently chaired by Lonnie Hendrix, State Maintenance Engineer of Arizona DOT.

## Moving On

- The following members retired recently: Joe Graff, TX, former chair of the Contract Maintenance Focus Group, Tony Vogel - OH, Dan Smyser - PA
- The following members were either promoted or transferred to different departments: Jim Souba - NV
- Huley Shumpert – SC, former vice chair of the Pavements Task Force will retire effective April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Calendar of Events

- **AASHTO Joint SCOM/SSOM/WT Summer Meeting** – July 15-19, 2007, Madison, Wisconsin; contact Cathy Meinholz – WisDOT, (608) 266-3466, Howard Rosen – UW, (608) 262-4341; conference website: <http://www.dot.state.wi.us/news/events/scom.htm>
- **12<sup>th</sup> Eastern Snow Expo** – August 29-30, 2007, Columbus, OH; contact Monica Glover – AASHTO, (202) 624-3696 or Pat Kennedy – FHWA, (202) 366-9498; website: <http://www.easternsnowexpo.org/>
- **7<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Transportation Asset Management** – November 6-8, 2007, New Orleans, LA; contact Lacy Love – NC, (919) 733-3725; David Floyd – TRB, (202) 334-2966 or Francine Shaw-Whitson – FHWA, (202) 366-8028

## In Memoriam

**Ray Bass**, who served as Alabama DOT's Director from 1971-79 and 1983-87, and later continued to serve the agency as Chief Engineer, passed away March 22, 2007. Ray also served as the vice chair of the Subcommittee from 1996-2000.

Please e-mail any news articles you want to share with the Subcommittee to Celso Gatchalian: [celso.gatchalian@dot.gov](mailto:celso.gatchalian@dot.gov)

Also make sure to visit our Subcommittee website: <http://maintenance.transportation.org/?siteid=76>