

Message from the Chair:



It is great to be turning the corner on winter and looking forward to spring. As we are all aware, winter brings many challenges for maintenance professionals, and as is always the case, State Departments of Transportation from all over stepped up this winter to make the nation's highways as safe as possible for the traveling public. Oftentimes, our dedicated maintenance workers go unrecognized for the countless hours they spend clearing the roadways and ensuring safe commutes for our citizens, whether that means snow and ice removal or even flood clean-up, as many areas have endured heavy rains and severe flooding this year. The traveling public has come to expect results from their State DOTs, and our maintenance professionals come through every year. I would like to thank you and your staff for their efforts.

Plans are well underway for the Annual Subcommittee on Maintenance Meeting to be held in Clark County, Nevada, on July 17-21. The agenda is being developed, and it looks to be an excellent mix of presentations, Technical Working Group meetings, and regional discussions. I encourage you to make every effort to attend. These meetings are successful only with participation from State DOTs across the country with varying areas of expertise. In addition, I am always open to suggestions or recommendations that can improve the Annual SCOM Meeting, as well as the

Subcommittee as a whole, so please feel free to contact me or anyone on the SCOM Leadership Team to voice your opinions.

As a reminder, the SCOM Strategic Plan was approved at AASHTO's Annual Meeting in the fall of 2015. Now that the Strategic Plan has been approved, I ask that you familiarize yourself with the structure of the Subcommittee at the link below, so that you can align yourself with the TWG that is of most interest to you.

<http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/Assignment.aspx> The goal is to have committee members be active participants in the activities of the TWGs. While the TWG Chairs and Vice Chairs do a great deal of legwork getting agendas prepared and work plans developed, the TWGs are designed to generate discussion and elicit ideas from maintenance professionals throughout the nation, so participation from all of the members is critical.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not send out a thank you to Jennifer Brandenburg, NCDOT, who retired at the end of 2015. Jennifer served as the Vice Chair to SCOM for a number of years, and her commitment and professionalism will be missed. However, I am very pleased to have Russ Yurek, Maryland DOT, assume the role as Vice Chair. Russ brings tremendous experience and knowledge to this position. I know you will be supportive of Russ as he takes on this new role. Thank you for what you do each and every day.

All the best - Mark

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Equipment Technical Working Group / EMTSP

Equipment Management Technical Services Program (EMTSP)

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

- Year-to-date FY 2016 State DOT annual contributions to EMTSP are aligned with contributions for this time of year with that of previous fiscal years.



- Action items in the EMTSP Strategic Plan have been updated and completed.
- 2015-2017 EMTSP Work Plan has been updated, action items assigned and work advances steadily.
- Modified the EMTSP website to provide similar information as the former AASHTO Equipment Reference Book to eliminate the need for continuing that publication. Additional enhancements include:
 - Posting of the Annual TRB Meeting presentations sponsored by the cooperative TRB Committee on Maintenance Equipment (AHD60).
 - Promotion and instruction encouraging the EMTSP community to utilize the Survey Monkey® tools found on the website.
- Development of Regional Partnership and global email contact distribution lists.
- 2016 AASHTO-EMTSP/TRB Joint National Equipment Fleet Management Conference and Equipment Trade Show moves forward. Collaboration in partnership with TRB Committee AHD60 Maintenance Equipment, Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and associated conference planning committees, the preparation and event planning continues. The dates for the event are June 27- June 30, 2016. The conference location selected is the Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St. Columbus OH 43215. The conference hotel designated is the Hampton Inn & Suites, 501 North High St., Columbus OH 43215.
 - The agendas for this summer's 2016 Joint AASHTO-EMTSP/TRB Joint National Equipment Fleet Management Conference and Equipment Trade Show are highlighted by speakers representing the fleet equipment industry, government, academic research communities and selected State DOT's. Arrangements have been developed to provide the Regional Partnerships time to conduct their respective general business sessions, complete selection of officers and to conclude other mandatory obligations.
- Continued coordination, planning and completion of the scheduled regional partnership meetings to occur on odd numbered calendar years. The host state selections for the 2017 EMTSP Regional Partnerships Conferences are currently being studied respectively by each Regional Partnership. To date the following regions report their 2017 host State selection status:
 - Western States Highway Equipment Mangers Association (WSHEMA) – California
 - Southeastern States Equipment Managers Conference (SSEMC) – TBD
 - Northeast Equipment Management Partnership (NEMP) – TBD
 - Midwest Equipment Management Partnership (MWEMP) – TBD
- Continued work implementing the 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.
- Continued development of a training and certification program for State DOT fleet equipment managers in collaboration with the National Center for Pavement Preservation, Ferris State University continues to progress.
 - During, the 2014 joint AASHTO-EMTSP/TRB Joint 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 training modules was identified.
 - Certification types, prerequisites, curriculums, testing protocols and documentation procedures are being researched for program finalization.
- The above referenced identified and prioritized modules were aligned with the AASHTO Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council (TC3) Training Matrix to assure applicability and relevance.
- Two training modules selected by the EMTSP Oversight Panel and submitted to TC3 for web-based training (WBT) development were consideration and were accepted for development in 2015. The EMTSP Education Subcommittee, made up by EMTSP member state volunteers, is now finalizing the (WBT) educational requirements and outcomes for National Center for Pavement Preservation (NCP) development and later AASHTO TC3 contractor production design work. The EMTSP Oversight Panel will oversee this development process. The selected web-based topics were deemed suitable by the panel for their overall application to all levels of DOT fleet management. The modules are:
 - Preventive Maintenance Concepts for Equipment Fleet Management – now under development
 - Bench Marking and Best Practices within Equipment Feet Management
- EMTSP website continues to provide a clearinghouse of information for professional development self-study on subject-related fleet management topics including: industry and

regulatory communications, technical equipment specifications, white papers, videos, academic presentations and webinars.

The finalized EMTSP strategic plan and 2015-2017 Work 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 you 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-mail related to the EMTSP) are encouraged to subscribe to the EMTSP listserv by clicking on this general listserv link:

<http://mailman.egr.msu.edu/mailman/listinfo/emtsp>

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, evaluated and awarded to Dye Management Group. Project start date was May 01, 2015. Project completion date is April 30, 2017.
- 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 is on-going. The project panel has been staffed, RFP written, solicited,

evaluated and awarded to Washington State University. Project start date was June 01, 2015. Project completion date is May 31, 2017.

- The Equipment TWG's most recent research problem statement titled - Development of an Automated Tool to Assist in the Formulation and Maintenance of Long Range Equipment Replacement Plans was presented to the Subcommittee on Maintenance (SCOM) at the 2015 summer conference with the final document submitted on August 13, 2015. Next process action going forward is the March 2016 SCOR review/selection recommendation and the NCHRP review process.
- NCHRP Synthesis 452, State Department of Transportation 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/>.

Resolution

- Resolution to Establish an Increase of AASHTO-EMTSP Annual Contributions was submitted at the 2015 SCOM summer conference and been placed in abeyance for FY 2016 for further coordination.

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 the Annual 96th TRB Meeting to be held in Washington, D.C. in January 2017.

Tim Cunningham – Chair
Equipment Technical Working Group – AASHTO SCOM

Maintenance Operation Technical Working Group / SICOP

SCOM/Maintenance Operation (MO) Technical Working Group (TWG)

July 2016 SCOM MO TWG Planning:

The planning for the July 2016 SCOM meeting including the Maintenance Operations TWG sessions are in full swing. We continue to solicit any topics of interest to the SCOM. The committee strives for a mixture of snow and ice, safety and operational issues.

As usual, we will have a few presentations of interest, updates from our related pooled funds, SICOP, FHWA and more! We will have some research opportunities as well. Topics are being reviewed from the Snow and Ice Peer exchange. The committee strives for a mixture of snow and ice, safety and operational issues.

Critical to that success is that the research needs are well vetted. With the limited time that the SCOM conference provides, it can be somewhat difficult to fully develop research needs statements. So please, if you have any suggested research needs not identified by the peer exchange, please share them early by contacting Brad Darr at 701-328-4443 or bdarr@nd.gov.

The SCOM MO TWG continues to collaborate with related pooled funds, SICOP and TRB and our FHWA partners on research, conferences and other items of interest. One of those items is the 2016 International Conference on Winter Maintenance and Surface Transportation Weather. This is an innovative conference in which attendees watch the presentations remotely ahead of the conference and then

discuss the presentations in person. Registration expired on March 25, but the presentations are available. (See the information below)

2016 International Conference on Winter Maintenance and Surface Transportation Weather:

Advance Registration Expires March 25, 2016. TRB is sponsoring the 2016 International Conference on Winter Maintenance and Surface Transportation Weather. An online conference comprised of presentations that can be viewed on demand by conference registrants will be made available in February 2016. The in-person portion of the conference will take place April 25-27, 2016, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The meeting is designed to help improve snow removal and ice control operations and the application of weather information in transportation agencies. The meeting will provide a forum for the exchange of information on the state of the art and state of the practice in winter maintenance research and technology applications.

Winter Maintenance Technical Services Program - SICOP Update

SICOP Website: <http://sicop.transportation.org>

The AASHTO-Winter Maintenance Technical Service Program – SICOP represents the interests of 33 states who have made the voluntary contribution to the program for FY 2016. If you're not sure if your state participates in SICOP, the current listing of contributions can be found on the SICOP website. If your state has not yet remitted the voluntary contribution of \$4,000 for SICOP, you are encouraged to do so in order for this valuable program to continue and expand its accomplishments, which serves the needs of the highway agency winter maintenance community.

Collaboration with TRB

SICOP Steering Committee members have been working with TRB committees AHD65 Winter Maintenance and AH010 Surface Transportation Weather on the planning for the 2016 International Conference and Workshop on Winter Maintenance and Surface Transportation Weather to be held in Ft. Collins, Colorado in April 2016. The event this year will be a departure from the traditional lectern sessions traditionally experienced. With the presentations video-taped and available on demand before the workshop, participants will have a more hands on experience discussing the presentations and application in their home state.

2015 National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange

Highlights from the National Winter Maintenance Peer Exchange held this past September in Minneapolis, MN were contained in the Fall 2015 edition of the Maintenance Manager. We are happy to report that the facilitated discussion during breakout sessions produced 36 problem statements in four areas. These problem statements have

been distributed to the various winter maintenance research consortia and TRB committees for their refinement and development into research needs statements. All the presentations and breakout session documents can be found on the SICOP website.

Outreach

SICOP was represented at the Nevada Transportation Conference in Las Vegas, NV where SICOP Coordinator Rick Nelson made a presentation on Things to Consider When Thinking About Climate Change. This provided an opportunity to discuss SICOP's Top-10 Activities for a World-Class Winter Maintenance Program in a broader context.

Surveys

SICOP continues to take the pulse of winter maintenance activities and preparations with a pre-winter survey of preparations in anticipation of the El Nino event that influenced much of the 2015-16 winter weather season. The results of this survey and the other surveys conducted by SICOP can be found at the SICOP website.

Snow & Ice List Serve

The Snow-Ice List-Serve was established by SICOP to provide winter maintenance professionals a forum for the exchange of ideas, information, and news. All State DOT winter maintenance professionals interested in receiving periodic email communications regarding all manner of winter maintenance information are encouraged to subscribe to the Snow and Ice Listserv by visiting the SICOP website.

SICOP Website

The SICOP website has recently undergone some major reconstruction. The refreshed site has been updated with new winter maintenance resources and information about the SICOP program. Please visit the new SICOP website <http://sicop.transportation.org> for the latest winter maintenance events, Peer Exchange presentations and materials, the new Salt Map (courtesy of the Washington State DOT), SICOP survey results, and reports relating to winter maintenance. If your state has completed research or produced relevant reports, please forward links to the SICOP Coordinator, Rick Nelson so they can be shared with the winter maintenance community through the SICOP website.

For more information

More information about the SICOP program and to obtain other information or support, contact the SICOP Coordinator, Rick Nelson at RNelson@aaashto.org

Bridge Technical Working Group

The Bridge Technical Working Group (BTWG) is planning for the break-out sessions at the 2016 SCOM meeting in Nevada.

The BTWG serves as the liaison and facilitator between the TSP.2 regional bridge preservation partnerships and AASHTO SCOM Leadership.

The schedule for the 2016 regional bridge preservation partnership meetings is as follows:

- Southeast Bridge Preservation Partnership
San Antonio, Texas
March 30 - April 1
- Western Bridge Preservation Partnership
Salt Lake City, Utah
May 17 – May 19
- Northeast Bridge Preservation Partnership
Baltimore, Maryland
September 19 – September 21
- Midwest Bridge Preservation Partnership
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
October 3 – October 5

The BTWG has supported NCHRP bridge related research projects, and members of the group attended the 2016 TRB meeting in Washington, D.C. Members of the group are also involved in the activities of the following TRB committees:

- Bridge Preservation Committee (AHD37)
- Structures Maintenance Committee (AHD30)
- Bridge Management Committee (AHD35)

The BTWG is supporting the efforts of the SCOM leadership to update the AASHTO Maintenance Manual for Roadways and Bridges (NCHRP Project 20-07/Task 380).

Members of the BTWG have provided support to FHWA's Long Term Bridge Performance Program and the FHWA Bridge Preservation Expert Task Group.

The leadership team of the BTWG updated the Strategic Plan for the BTWG. The BTWG Strategic Plan was updated and submitted to the subcommittee leadership team on September 18, 2015. The updated Strategic Plan has been posted on the SCOM website.

The Bridge Technical Group re-submitted the research problem statement titled "Synthesis for Bridge Maintenance and Preservation Practices that Minimize Environmental Impact".

FHWA has developed the following training courses:

- NHI Bridge Preservation Web based training Course Series

- NHI Bridge Management Web based training Course Series
- NHI Principles and Practices for Enhanced Maintenance Management Systems Web based training course

FHWA is also in the process of updating the NHI Bridge Maintenance Training Course.

A National Bridge Preservation Partnership (NBPP) Coatings Group has been established. Jeff Pouliotte from Florida is the Chair.

A National Bridge Deck Preservation Working Group has also been established. Mike Johnson from California is the Chair.

A National Bridge Preservation Social Media Working Group has been established. Lorella Angelini, with Angelini Consulting Services, LLC is the Chair.

A National Bridge Preservation Performance Specification Working Group has been established. The leaders of this group are Ed Welch, NCPP; Mike Stenko, Transpo; Eric Burns, MI DOT; Jeff Milton, VA DOT; David Minor, Dayton; Greg Freeman, Kwik Bond; Keith Ramsey, TX DOT; Rich Van Allen, CT DOT; and Fred Grant, DBI.

The development of a Transportation Asset Preservation Portal has been proposed by FHWA. This work is proposed to be accomplished under a pooled fund project. A Technical Advisory committee is being established. This portal could be based on Defect, Cause, Action, and Cost model for preserving transportation system assets.

The leadership team of the BTWG also conducted email exchanges with the group members.

Jeff L. Milton – Chair
Bridge Technical Working Group – AASHTO SCOM

Pavements Technical Working Group

Pavements Technical Working Group

The Pavement Technical Working Group has been meeting monthly to work on work plan focus areas and planning for the summer meeting. Three webinars were planned during the year to support the Safety, Asset Management and Environmental Focus Areas.

The first webinar was conducted March 1st through TRB on Current Practices in Conducting Field Inspections for Maintenance Quality Assurance (MQA), NCHRP Synthesis 470: Maintenance Quality Assurance Field Inspection Practices. Presenters were Ms. Katie Zimmerman, Applied Pavement Technologies, Mr. Chris Harris, TN DOT, and Mr. Lonnie Watkins, NC DOT. An overview of the NCHRP project was provided with a presentation on Current Practices in Conducting Field Inspections for Maintenance Quality Assurance (MAQ). Following the presentation there was discussion on using MQA data followed by questions and answers. Link to the webinar slides: <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/Onlinepubs/webinars/160301.pdf>

The second webinar was conducted on April 6th on Safety Benefits of Friction - Current Pavement Treatments for Preservation and Safety. Presenters were Mr. Frank Julian, FHWA Resource Center and Mr. John Henault & Mr. Bartholomew Sweeney, CT DOT. Mr. Julian presented on high friction surface treatments and pavement preservation treatments as they relate to friction and safety benefits. Mr. Henault and Mr. Sweeney presented on pavement preservation surface treatments and lessons learned during winter maintenance operations.

The PTWG will be hosting a third webinar on Tuesday, June 7th, 1:30 to 3:00 pm EST, on INVEST 1.2 – Self-Evaluation Tool Supporting Roadway Sustainability. Link to the webinar is: <https://connectdot.connectsolutions.com/scomptwg/> Presentations will be provided by the Ms. Connie Hill, FHWA Office of Natural Environment, Mr. Steven Olmsted, AZ DOT and Ms. Rukhsana Lindsey, UT DOT. Topics to be covered will be an overview of INVEST 1.2, updates, new opportunities, experiences and lessons learned utilizing the Operations and Maintenance Module. The recordings of the Safety Benefits of Friction - Current Pavement Treatments for Preservation and Safety and INVEST 1.2 – Self-Evaluation Tool Supporting Roadway Sustainability will be posted on the AASHTO SCOM website.

The PTWG is working on finalizing the agenda for the annual AASHTO SCOM meeting. The annual Business Meeting will be held during the first PTWG breakout session. A few of the technical presentation topics for this year's meeting consist of Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Contracting for Preservation Projects, New Approaches to Utility Cut Pavement Repair: Keyhole Coring & Reinstatement - "An FHWA Best Practice", Communicating Maintenance Needs Through a Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP), Portland Cement Concrete Pavement-Partial Depth Repairs, Impact of Joint Sealing Effectiveness on Pavement Performance.

2016 PTWG Work Plan:

Safety

- Promote the use of Pavement Preservation Treatments that improve surface characteristics as a tool to reduce crashes.
- Support efforts to quantify the contributions of pavement preservation to safety programs.
- Identify best practices for maintaining rumble strips/stripes when applying pavement preservation treatments.

Asset Management

- Support efforts to quantify the contributions of pavement preservation to risk-based asset management programs.
- Assist in identifying and promoting Performance Measures to support AASHTO members' pavement preservation program decisions.

Environment

- Assist in the development and promotion of Pavement Preservation Life Cycle Assessment methodologies that consider the environmental effects.
- Review the products of FHWA's Sustainable Pavements Program.

Workforce Development & Retention

- 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.
- Support the development of Contractor and Agency Pavement Preservation Treatments Certificate Programs.
- Promote the 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 conference calls and/or webinars involving roundtable discussions for members and industry.

Communication

- Conduct webinars to report out results of completed research.
- Promote the value of maintenance and successful strategies.
- Reach out and educate the stakeholders.
- Promote research products and support implementation.
- Survey the SCOM membership for the need of a pavement preservation listserv.

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.
- Research Problem Statement Moving Forward
- Evaluation and Use of Alternative Aggregates in Chip seals

The PTWG Leadership is looking forward to seeing you at the AASHTO SCOM Meeting in July. Link to the AASHTO SCOM meeting information: <http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Anita Bush – Chair
Pavements Technical Working Group – AASHTO SCOM

Roadway/Roadsides Technical Working Group

SCOM Meeting Planning

The Roadway/Roadsides TWG leadership is currently working hard to finalize plans for our break-out sessions at the 2016 SCOM meeting. We expect to include several technical presentations on recently completed NCHRP research projects that we feel will be of great interest to attendees. We will have one session dedicated to an open interactive discussion with the audience on current roadway/roadsides related issues or concerns. We will seek feedback from attendees on possible solutions or current practices that are being used to address these issues. If you have an issue that you would like to be discussed during this session, please contact R/R TWG leadership.

For those that typically attend our TWG sessions, we are very interested in hearing from you **BEFORE** the SCOM meeting if you have research problem statement and resolution suggestions. Please submit any ideas or needs you have to R/R TWG leadership.

No Boundaries Pooled Fund

The Roadway/Roadside TWG continues to support the No Boundaries Roadway Maintenance Practices Pooled Fund Study. No Boundaries facilitates the implementation of proven, ready-to-deploy, non-winter maintenance innovations. Membership has now grown to ten states.

Missouri DOT (MODOT) hosted the first face-to-face meeting in December 2015. MODOT showcased their TMA mounted Panic Lights and Sound innovation. Both lights and sounds can be activated by a TMA driver when an approaching vehicle does not steer clear when approaching a maintenance truck.

CTC & Associates LLC was selected as the Program Manager. CTC has extensive experience in pooled fund project management having administered Clear Roads for many years.

For additional information, please visit the following website:
<http://noboundaries-roadmaintenance.org/>

2016 Highest Priority Work Plan Activities

- Organize and moderate webinars with a focus on presentations of recently completed research.
- Support the No Boundaries Pooled Fund – Implementing Maintenance Innovations from State to State.
- Review roadway/roadsides related TRB/NCHRP completed research projects and seek ways to create awareness and support implementation of best practices.
- Support the NHI Maintenance Leadership Academy.

The R/R TWG Leadership Team is looking forward to seeing you at the SCOM meeting this July!

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Turner -Fairbanks Highway Research Center - Update

“Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center (TFHRC) has many ongoing maintenance and preservation-related projects, and several that will soon be advertised.

The “Effective Use of Geospatial Tools in Highway Construction” effort is well underway, and we expect to have at least two webinars ready for broadcast in the fall/winter of this year. There will also be accompanying Techbriefs published for this project. To recap, the project is looking at the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or “drones” in the highway construction and maintenance areas, and will provide case studies and guidance where applicable, especially in the area of use and future direction in the regulatory environment.

We expect to advertise soon for three new research efforts. The first looks at emergency response activities in the context of highway maintenance asset deployment and recovery, and seeks to identify technology needs and gaps for the management of these assets when used during emergency response activities. The second project will take a look at the national use of recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) use in pavement preservation surface treatments, and

produce case studies of jurisdictions that use these materials. The last new project involves asset management, and specifically investigates what assets among many are “worth” tracking in a TAMP for a particular agency and, of these assets, what data should be collected for each asset to arrive at a desired funding/performance outcome.

As mentioned in earlier newsletters, an ongoing project “New Approaches to Utility Cut Repair” has been looking at underutilized pavement repair methods and materials that are in use nationally by right-of-way owners and utility companies. The project is nearing completion, and we’re pleased to announce that the contractor will be hosting a webinar that describes the project and summarizes its conclusions—this will be held on Thursday, April 21st at noon EDT. To register, use the following link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8470238830464205316>

Any questions regarding these research highlights, or any other R&D –related work at TFHRC may be directed to Morgan Kessler, PE. Morgan.Kessler@dot.gov, 202-493-3187.”

Transportation Research Board - Update

The SICOP Update included a general update on the 2016 Winter Maintenance Conference, included here are some additional details.

2016 International Conference & Workshop on Winter Maintenance and Surface Transportation Weather

- February 2016 – Online Conference with On-Demand Presentations
- April 25-27, 2016 In-person Workshop (Fort Collins, Colorado)

The TRB’s Committees on Winter Maintenance (AHD65) and Surface Transportation Weather (AH010) in cooperation with the FHWA are organizing a Joint Conference of the Ninth International Symposium on Snow Removal and Ice Control Technology, and the Sixth National Conference on Surface Transportation Weather.

Conference presentations were posted online. Presentations for accepted abstracts were recorded and posted in February 2016 and made available for on-demand viewing by conference registrants. Viewers were able to interact with presenters using an on-line Q&A. The in-person workshop drew from themes developed in the papers to identify key advances since the 2012 conference, technologies that are on the horizon for near-term implementation, and key ongoing research needs. Selected papers will be considered for

publication in a special issue of the Transportation Research Record.

Upcoming Webinars and Other Events

<http://www.trb.org/Calendar/Calendar.aspx> Webinars are recorded and can be accessed by State DOT employees.

TRB Webinar Registration Information

There is no fee for employees of TRB Sponsors (<http://www.trb.org/Finance/Sponsors.aspx>) or TRB Sustaining Affiliates (<http://www.trb.org/Finance/SustainingAffiliates.aspx>) who register using their work email address. In general the webinars are free for State DOT Employees.

If you have any questions regarding any research related topics, please contact James Bryant, Senior Program Officer, TRB Liaison at jbryant@nas.edu or 202-334-208

Idaho Transportation Department Innovations:

Rearden's \$60 solution potentially saves thousands for ITD fleet

COEUR d'ALENE - Mike Rearden's elegantly simple solution to a time-consuming, tank-loading issue in the Idaho Transportation Department's northern Idaho office may eventually save thousands per region as the department adopts the measure statewide.

For just \$60, his innovation allows a necessary filling task to be done more quickly, which means getting trucks back out on the road faster during storms, a direct safety benefit for area drivers.

For just \$45, Rearden, ITD's northern Idaho Signing & Striping Foreman, created a plumbing change (pictured here; <http://www.itd.idaho.gov/NewsReleases/D1Coupler.jpg>) that dramatically cuts the time it takes to refill tanks with critical winter de-icer or salt brine. For \$15 more, he added a drain valve and tube (pictured here; <http://www.itd.idaho.gov/NewsReleases/D1DrainValve.jpg>) to recapture waste brine and run-off, and reduce backsplash.

Beyond winter activities, the solution could also be used for herbicides, pesticides or any liquid where multiple tanks are used in the same operation.

Click here for the video;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBcqqGaP_x0&feature=youtu.be.

Filling the two brine tanks on any sander in the district's winter fleet was time consuming. An employee would fill one tank, then wait as the other tank filled...slowly...via gravity flow. This could take up to 40 minutes.

In the past after loading, the employee often was splashed with the excess product when unhooking the load hose from the truck. The \$15 drain valve, which re-directed the excess, eliminated that.

"Where it used to take up to 40 minutes to fill the tank, it now takes just a few minutes to get back on the road and continue deicing," explained Rearden. "That extra time on the road during a winter storm can be significant, and can make a difference in the safety of drivers."

"Plus, there's no splashing salt brine to ruin your shoes and clothes."

ITD's northern Idaho office will install Rearden's coupler on all of its brine sprayers. The coupler and drain valve may offer an innovative solution to other ITD districts grappling with the same problem, as well as other departments of transportation nationwide.

From the Editor's Desk:

AASHTO SCOM – Assistant Secretary
John A. Perry, FHWA Field Operations Engineer, Boise, ID
Email: johna.perry@dot.gov; Phone: 208-334-9180 x116

The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) recognized preservation as a vital component of achieving and sustain a desired state of good

repair of highway facilities. The FHWA updated our guidance questions and answers about Preservation and Maintenance accordingly.
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/preservation/memos/160225.cfm>

Thank you all for your hard work and be safe in all you do.

Bryan Cawley: AASHTO SCOM Secretary

2016 Summer Meeting Information

2016 Summer Meeting Information

The Nevada Department of Transportation will host the summer meeting this year. AASHTO and the hosting state are planning a technical tour visiting the Hoover Dam and the Mike O'Callaghan Tillman Memorial Bridge.

Information about the hosting state Maintenance and Asset Management Division follows:

Mission Statement: NDOT Maintenance and Asset Management has an essential function and responsibility within NDOT to assist the agency in meeting its overall mission, core values and goals. The mission of this group and the maintenance districts is to assure that the Department-maintained highway system is maintained to as high a level as possible consistent with the resources, budget, work plan, policies and program objectives.

Maintenance and Asset Management Division

http://www.nevadadot.com/About_NDOT/NDOT_Divisions/Operations/Maintenance/Maintenance_and_Asset_Management.aspx

Road Maintenance

http://www.nevadadot.com/Projects_and_Programs/Road_Maintenance/ROAD_MAINTENANCE.aspx

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The SCOM Planning Team began coordination efforts to develop the summer meeting agenda early in 2016.

The meeting will be held at the Renaissance Hotel (Marriott) from July 17-21, 2016 in Clark County, NV. Hotel and local information can be found at:

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/lasbr-renaissance-las-vegas-hotel/>.

The SCOM Conference Website has been developed and the information includes a Summary, Sponsor Registration, Hotel Info/Location, Staff, FAQs, and Contact Us.

<http://www.event.com/events/2016-subcommittee-on-maintenance-meeting/event-summary-96aae9d6062b4923905b59f85d81bed6.aspx>

Future AASHTO SCOM Meetings:

2017 Rhode Island
2018 North Carolina
2019 Michigan
2020 Colorado

AASHTO SCOM Leadership & Useful Links and Information:

Executive Leadership:

<http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/ExecutiveLeadership.aspx>

TWG Leadership:

<http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/TechnicalWorkingGroupLeadership.aspx>

AASHTO SCOM & Technical Working Group Leadership

Chair: Mark McConnell, MS
Vice Chair: Russell Yurek, MD
Vice Chair: Steve Lund, MN
FHWA Secretary: Bryan Cawley, FHWA-HQ
FHWA Asst. Secretary: John Perry
AASHTO Liaison: Jameelah Hayes
Research Coordinator: Jon Wilcoxson, KY
TRB Contact: James Bryant

Pavement TWG Anita Bush, NV – Chair
Vice Chair: Scott Capps, NC
Vice Chair: Bart Sweeney, CT
Liaison: Marc Hoelscher, FHWA-SD

Bridge TWG Jeff Milton, VA – Chair
Vice Chair: Steve Cook, MI
Vice Chair: David Miller, LA
Liaison: Morgan Kessler, FHWA-TFHRC

Roadway/Roadside TWG Jerry Hatcher, TN – Chair
Vice Chair: Enray Robinson-Perry, GA
Vice Chair: Thomas Lyden, OH
Liaison: William Beatty, FHWA-NC

Equipment TWG Tim Cunningham, KS – Chair
Vice Chair: Jim Smith, PennDOT
Vice Chair: Ron Pruitt, AL
Liaison: Randy Jensen, FHWA-CO

Maintenance Operation Brad Darr – Chair
Vice Chair: Dale Doughty, ME
Vice Chair: Jim Feda, SC
Liaison: Paul Pisano, FHWA-HQ

Useful Links and Information

AASHTO SCOM Home Page

<http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/default.aspx>

AASHTO SCOM References, Publications, & Links

<http://maintenance.transportation.org/Pages/References.aspx>

AASHTO Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council

<http://tc3.transportation.org/>

FHWA Preservation (Pavements, Structures, Research)

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/preservation/>

FHWA Pavements Preservation

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/pres.cfm>

FHWA Long-Term Bridge Performance Program

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/research/tfhrc/programs/infrastructure/structures/ltp/>

FHWA Road Weather Management

<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/weather/>

FHWA Federal-aid Essentials for Locals

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

Google State DOT Search Engine

<https://www.google.com/cse/home?cx=006511338351663161139:cnk1qdck0dc>

Maintenance Manual (July 2014) – California

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/maint/manual/maintman.htm>

Snow and Ice Best Practices – Ohio

<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Operations/Maintenance/SnowandIce/Pages/SnowBestPractice.aspx>

Structure Maintenance and Investigations

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/structur/strmaint/>

TRB Committees Related to Maintenance and Preservation

<http://www.trb.org/MaintenancePreservation/TRBCommittees.aspx>

TRB Research Related to Maintenance and Preservation

<http://www.trb.org/MaintenancePreservation/MaintenanceandPreservation1.aspx>