



National Association County Engineers

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NACE UPDATE

The almost bi-weekly newsletter for Board members, Committee Chairs, and Members
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(Note: Sources of information include the AASHTO Journal, NACo staff, Senate and House publications, the Federal Highway Administration, and other association news journals)

Listen to NACE President Chris Bauserman Discuss Critical Issues in Reauthorization Visit Our Local Roads Matter website!

Chris E. Bauserman, NACE President & County Engineer, Delaware County OH discusses the important issues associated with the next transportation reauthorization in this important PODCAST. To view his presentation visit the NACE Local Roads Matter Campaign site <http://countyengineers...org/LRM/index.html> (click on Social Media Center).

Transportation Programs Close Down

Congress was unable last week to pass legislation to extend federal surface transportation programs, currently operating under a temporary extension of SAFETEA-LU due to expire February 28th. The Senate approved the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act, which included an extension of SAFETEA-LU through December 31, 2010, but the bill stalled in the House of Representatives over objections to various provisions, including the distribution of highway program funding. The House approved a bill containing extensions of several soon-to-expire programs, including a 30-day extension of transportation funding through March 28th. The bill was blocked in the Senate, and the Senate adjourned unable to approve the House bill.

Without an extension, expenditure authority from the Highway Trust Fund lapsed at midnight March 1. The Federal Highway Administration was required to suspend Federal-aid payments to the States. These federal reimbursements of funds already expended by the states amount to roughly \$800 million a week. The Federal Transit Administration, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and Motor Carrier Safety Administration would also suspend payments. On Monday afternoon personnel of the FHWA, FMCSA parts of NHTSA were sent home causing FHWA to shut down.

Jobs Created by Economic Stimulus Bill

The economic stimulus law added between 1 million to 2.1 million workers to employment rolls by the end of last year, a new report released Tuesday by congressional economists said. The [nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office](#) study also said the \$862 billion stimulus added between 1.5 to 3.5 percentage points to the growth of the economy in 2009. The controversial stimulus law combined tax breaks for individuals and businesses with lots of government spending. The report reflects agreement among economists that the measure boosted the

economy. But the wide range of estimates means it won't resolve the debate over how effective the stimulus has been.

REGISTER NOW! NACE 2010 CONFERENCE LINKS

NACE 2010 conference information is now available on the NACE website:

www.countyengineers.org (under NACE Events).

Delegate & Guests can register on-line:

http://www.naco.org/NACETemplate.cfm?Section=NACE_Events&Template=/cfiles/nace/delegateapp.cfm

Exhibitors can register on-line:

http://www.naco.org/NACETemplate.cfm?Section=NACE_Events&Template=/cfiles/nace/exhibitorapp.cfm

In addition to on-line registration and PDF files of brochures, see information on conference overview, travel, hotel, golf outing and more!

American Society of Civil Engineers magazine *Civil Engineering* has a great feature article on the construction of the Super Span of the Dallas Cowboys new stadium. We have set up tours on Tuesday afternoon. *More information about signing up to follow.* To view the article go to the following link. http://pubs.asce.org/magazines/CEMag/2010/Issue_01-10/article1.htm

2010 Sign Maintenance & Management Workshop, Fargo ND

This workshop will be held on March 17 - 18, 2010. The brochure is available on the ATSSA website at www.atssa.com/cs/roadway-traffic-safety-events.

NHI Announces New Web-based training

The National Highway Institute announces that the following new trainings are available. The attached bluelines have additional details. We need your help to spread the news. Please forward this e-mail to those you think would benefit from these new trainings.

New Web-based Training! FHWA-NHI-131126G TCCC Load Transfer Restoration

This one hour standalone module presents design and construction information on load transfer restoration (LTR), sometimes referred to as retrofitted load transfer. In the introduction we will describe the difference between load transfer restoration (generic term) and dowel bar retrofitting (DBR) which is a specific means of achieving LTR. There are other methods available, but DBR is the most proven method.

New Web-based Training! FHWA-NHI-131126H TCCC Diamond Grinding and Grooving

This one hour standalone module describes recommended procedures for surface restoration of Portland cement concrete (PCC) pavements, specifically diamond grinding and diamond grooving operations.

New Web-based Training! FHWA-NHI-131126I TCCC Joint Sealing and Crack Resealing

This one hour standalone module covers joint resealing and crack sealing for concrete pavements. Joint resealing and crack sealing is defined as placement of an approved sealant material in an existing joint or crack to reduce moisture infiltration and prevent intrusion of incompressibles.

These modules are also part of the curriculum from the **Concrete Pavement Preservation Series (FHWA-NHI-131126)** which presents current guidelines and recommendations for the design, construction, and selection of cost-effective concrete pavement preservation strategies.

The other Web-based training modules include:

- FHWA-NHI-131126A Preventive Maintenance and Pavement Preservation Concepts
- FHWA-NHI-131126B Concrete Pavement Evaluation
- FHWA-NHI-131126C Slab Stabilization and Slab Jacking
- FHWA-NHI-131126D Partial-Depth Repairs
- FHWA-NHI-131126E Full-Depth Repairs
- FHWA-NHI-131126F Retrofitted Edge Drains
- FHWA-NHI-131126J Strategy Selection

These trainings were prepared by the Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council (TCCC) in partnership with NHI to provide guidance on critical concrete pavement preservation issues. The trainings were sponsored by the FHWA and developed by the National Concrete Pavement Technology Center at Iowa State University. These courses are recommended for the TCCC levels I - IV.

Best Practices in Addressing NPDES and Other Water Quality Issues in Highway System Management: Results of a U.S. Domestic Scan Tour

Live Webcast – Thursday, March 25, 2010, 1:00-4:00 PM Eastern Time

Visit the [CTE Website](#) for complete program details, and click [Register](#) to sign up for viewing the live webcast. There is **no fee** to participate in the webcast.

Note: If you registered for any previous CTE webcast and your email address has not changed, simply use the same email address to [Login](#) and confirm your participation in this webcast.

Presented by CTE in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, this program features a panel of state and federal subject matter experts presenting highlights and discussing results of a recent domestic scan tour (NCHRP 20-68A, Scan 08-03). The scan studied stormwater programs in several states to understand what actions can help state DOTs to increase their compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations.

The findings of the scan provide transportation agencies with better insight to the project delivery process, improving compliance with NPDES permits, and reducing project delays associated with NPDES violations and noncompliance. Webcast panelists will review the following program strategies:

- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs);
- Source Control and Innovative Storm Water Best Management Practices (BMPs);

- Agency Operation and Reporting Practices; and
- Regulatory Communication and Permitting.

Panelists for the webcast will be:

- **Scott Taylor, P.E.**, Senior Vice President, RBF Consulting, Carlsbad, CA
- **Brian Smith**, Biology/Water Quality Specialist, FHWA Resource Center, Olympia Fields, IL
- **Rachel Herbert**, Physical Scientist, Water Permits Division, U.S. EPA, Washington, DC
- **Matthew Lauffer, P.E.**, Project Manager, Highway Stormwater Program, North Carolina DOT, Raleigh, NC
- **Andrew McDaniel**, Project Engineer, Water Quality Assessment, North Carolina DOT, Raleigh, NC
- **Karuna Pujara, P.E.**, Chief, Highway Hydraulics Division, Maryland State Highway Administration, Baltimore, MD

This webcast is aimed principally at transportation planning, engineering, construction, and environmental staff of state DOTs, federal agencies, and private-sector organizations. The program also will be of interest to non-governmental organizations and universities. During the live webcast, participants will be invited to submit questions via email for the panelists to discuss.

Research Pays Off: Implementing a Winter Maintenance Decision Support System: Indiana Department of Transportation's Process, Success, and Savings

Collectively, state and local departments of transportation (DOTs) in the snow-belt states spend approximately 25 percent of their maintenance budgets-or more than \$2.3 billion-annually on winter maintenance operations. Recognizing that even slight improvements in the efficiencies of snow and ice control operations can mean millions of dollars in savings, Indiana and other state DOTs established a pooled-fund study to develop a maintenance decision support system (MDSS) in 2002. [\[More\]](#)

Concrete Bridge Approach Pavements: A Survey of States

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has released a synthesis that explores other states' experiences with cracking and expansion joint failure in concrete bridge approach pavements.

[\[More\]](#)

New Publication: Federal Highway Administration Focus States Initiative: Traffic Incident Management Performance Measures Final Report

This report presents the results of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Office of Operations-sponsored Focus States Initiative (FSI) designed to advance the state-of-the-practice for traffic incident management (TIM) performance measurement. Through this effort, 11 Focus States identified several national-level TIM program objectives and related performance measures. During the process, the States successfully overcame institutional, operational, and technical barriers and defined three multi-agency, measurable TIM objectives and methods of measuring performance toward those objectives. All 11 Focus States committed to build on the momentum generated by the TIM FSI and to continue to work together to advance program-level performance measurement in their States as well as nationwide.

URL: <http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/fhwahop10010/index.htm>

American Concrete Pavement Association Webinars

March 4 - Webinar #3 ... The How, Why, and When of Concrete Overlays

Mike Ayers, Ph.D., American Concrete Pavement Association

Because of their competitive costs, exceptional durability, sustainability features, and overall performance, the demand for concrete overlays has increased dramatically. This webinar provides an overview of recommended pavement evaluation procedures, overlay type selection, design methods and construction techniques.

The webinar will provide helpful information about selecting bonded or unbonded overlays as long-term solutions for increasing structural capacity and/or correcting surface deficiencies in existing asphalt, concrete, or composite roadways.

With a sharp focus on how and when to use concrete overlays, this webinar builds on the basic ACPA training program, Concrete Pavement Seminar Series, "Rehabilitation, Restoration and Overlays," currently available as an ACPA Learning on Demand Module. **(90 minutes)**

[WEBINAR FLYER](#) | [WEBINAR REGISTRATION](#) | [LEARNING-ON-DEMAND MODULES](#)

March 18 - Webinar #4 ... How to Perform Utility Cuts in Concrete Pavements

Dale Harrington, P.E., Snyder and Associates

Dispelling the myth that concrete pavements are too difficult to repair, this webinar provides hands-on information about performing repairs and restoring concrete pavements around utilities.

The webinar will provide details about ACPA's recommended practices, from planning the project to re-opening the pavement to traffic.

This educational program will provide techniques and tips for planning the utility cut location, size, and shape; making the necessary cut(s) in the concrete slab; removing the concrete; and excavating the subbase and/or subgrade. The webinar continues with tips and techniques for repairing/upgrading or installing the utility; backfilling and compacting or placing flowable backfill; and installing necessary embedded steel (dowel bars and tiebars).

The webinar also provides special methods for placing, finishing, texturing and curing the new concrete surface course; jointing and joint sealing; and opening to traffic.

As a special bonus, this program also will include discussions and examples of precast panels, emergency patching, utility cuts in heavy-duty concrete pavements, utility cuts in concrete overlays, and utility cuts in pervious concrete pavements. **(90 minutes)**

[WEBINAR FLYER](#) | [WEBINAR REGISTRATION](#) | [LEARNING-ON-DEMAND MODULES](#)

March 25 - Webinar #5 ... Protecting Your Equipment Investment: Pre-Season Checklist

Dennis Clausen (Gomaco) and Marco Cantu (Guntert & Zimmerman Constr. Div. Inc.)

Here is a simple truth: Paving equipment and other machines are not earning money for your company if they're broken or sidelined for repairs and maintenance. This webinar focuses on some often-overlooked procedures for protecting your investment in paving equipment and other machines used on the grade. This training session will provide specific procedures recommended by equipment manufacturers to follow at the beginning of the paving season.

The discussion will highlight helpful tips for placer/spreaders, pavers, and texture/curing machines. Topics will include: auger/plow adjustments; track adjustments and wear limits; conveyor adjustments and wear limits; and vibrator maintenance. Also included will be a wide range of preventive maintenance steps, including changing filters; checking and adjusting wear pads, adjusting and checking paving forms and other critical pre-season checks.

Although intended primarily for contractors, this webinar will provide information for anyone requiring a detailed knowledge of paving equipment operation and maintenance. **(90 minutes)**

[WEBINAR FLYER](#) | [WEBINAR REGISTRATION](#) | [LEARNING-ON-DEMAND MODULES](#)

Pedestrians, Bicycles, and Motorcycles

TRB's Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board, No. 2140 includes 24 papers that explore counting pedestrians at intersections; estimating pedestrian intersection crossing volumes; automatic pedestrian detection device and smart lighting; impact of weather and season on pedestrian traffic volumes; automated analysis of pedestrian-vehicle conflicts using video data; an FHWA project to reduce pedestrian fatalities, injuries, and conflicts; pedestrian crosswalks at midblock locations; pedestrian scramble operations; LED rectangular rapid-flash beacons for yielding to pedestrians in multilane crosswalks; and work zone accommodation of visually impaired pedestrians. [\[More\]](#)

2009 Edition of the MUTCD

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration has released the online version of the 2009 Edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) dated December 2009. [\[More\]](#)