

Building International Partnerships Through Transportation Technology Exchange

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Value of International Sharing

Technology exchange instrumental in strengthening relationships among nations.

- Learning from each other about successful practices and their application
- Establishing relationships that last throughout individual careers
- Education and training programs in essential areas
- Ongoing exchanges through conferences and other forums.

Why This Is So Important...

- Resources are tight; we need to find the most effective ways to use them
- We need to accelerate the application of new ideas so our customers can benefit from them
- No one has all the answers...we need to create an environment that encourages the open sharing of ideas
- Most changes require the support of multiple stakeholders...partnerships are critical

Technology Transfer Centers

- A focal point for linking needs to solutions
- Help to systematically and actively disseminate new ideas
- Work in concert with other technology sharing tools (e.g. training, universities)

Our Experience with Technology Transfer Centers...

- Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)
- 25 years old
- 58 Centers around the US; 2/3 in universities
- Primarily support local agencies and tribes
- Model for other centers around the world
- Sharing with each other and through the LTAP/TTAP Clearinghouse (www.ltapt2.org)

Local Transportation Assistance Program: Achieving Results

- Using limited resources, LTAP/TTAP provides vital training and information
 - Conducted nearly 5,500 training courses
 - Reached almost 150,000 local agency employees
 - Delivered newsletters to a local agency circulation of about 350,000
- LTAP is a key contributor to technology transfer and workforce development programs

“Lessons Learned”: Elements of Successful Technology Transfer Centers

Lesson 1: Know Your Customer

- Engage Your Customers
- Understand Their Needs
- Use Your Services to Bring In Ideas

“Lessons Learned”: Elements of Successful Technology Transfer Centers

Lesson 2: “One Shoe Does Not Fit All”

- Look for a Model that Matches Your Needs
- Use Existing Networks and Organizations
- Be Willing to Change and Adapt

“Lessons Learned”: Elements of Successful Technology Transfer Centers

Lesson 3: It Takes Passion

- Find a Leader with a Passion for Innovation
- Establish an Environment for Innovation
- Create a Way to Keep the Passion

Twinning

- Facilitates technology transfer among T2 Centers
- Twinning arrangements are set up based on variety of factors
- Twinning yields many benefits

Successful Twinning Relationships

- Rhode Island/Slovak Republic
- Michigan/Brazil
- Kentucky/Russia
- Pennsylvania/Russia

The National Highway Institute

- NHI improves the performance of the transportation industry through training
- Customers include the over 250,000 highway transportation professionals nationwide
- Multiple partners in each state plus Puerto Rico covering broad spectrum of transportation related topic areas
- Top notch course developments and training delivery in partnership with recognized industry leaders

The National Highway Institute: Achieving Results

- NHI has more than 600 high-level technical and policy courses spanning numerous topics
- NHI offered 700 courses in 2007, reaching more than 19,000 participants
- NHI using internet technologies to offer Web-based training to meet customer needs; 12 new and 3 updated Web offerings were launched in 2007