



Learning in Progress

September 2012

Improving the Performance of the Transportation Industry Through Training

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SEPTEMBER TRAINING SESSIONS

Interested in taking an NHI training course in September?

There are more than 20 NHI courses currently scheduled across the country in the month of September. Visit the [NHI Web site](#) to see a list of this month's training sessions.

If you can't make it to any of NHI's in-person, Instructor-led trainings, you can always take a self-paced, Web-based training (WBT). NHI now offers more than 130 WBTs. Click [here](#) to see a complete list

Course Spotlights:

[132042 Design of Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes](#)

Mechanically stabilized earth walls (MSEWs) are commonly used on roadway projects and are typically cost effective and aesthetically pleasing. The basic concept behind MSEWs is to combine soil, reinforcing materials made of steel or polymers, and appropriate facing to produce a composite system with engineering properties that are ideal for most roadway applications. Reinforced soil slopes (RSS) utilize the same types of reinforcement for the construction of steep embankments. Both MSEWs and RSS structures can provide substantial savings in construction time and costs when compared with other types of earth retaining systems.

The goal of the course is to educate agencies about state-of-the-practice design tools. This includes comprehensive instruction on the design of MSEWs using load resistance factor design (LRFD). The course also presents construction practices to promote implementation of mechanically stabilized earth technology in cost effective earth retention structures. This course would most benefit persons who are involved in the design and construction of earth retention structures for surface transportation projects.

[132070 Drilled Shaft Foundation Inspection](#)

of NHI's WBTs.

TRANSPORTATION IN THE NEWS

[DOT Secretary's Blog](#)

[AASHTO Journal](#)

[ASCE News](#)

QUESTIONS?

E-mail NHI Marketing at nhimarketing@dot.gov

Drilled Shaft Foundation Inspection is a stand-alone course developed to provide a basis for local, regional, or national qualification of drilled shaft foundation inspectors. The goal of this course is to provide inspectors with practical knowledge and standard industry practices for the inspection of drilled shaft foundation construction. A 2-hour qualification exam is administered on the third day of the course.

The course follows recommended FHWA specifications and practices for drilled shaft construction but may be modified to follow local agency specifications and practices.

[132080 Inspection of Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes](#)

This course is part of a series to develop a training and qualification/certification program for geotechnical field inspectors. Topics addressed in the course include the types and durability of mechanically stabilized earth walls (MSEWs) and reinforced soil slopes (RSS); construction methods and sequences; alignment control; methods of fill and compaction control; plans, specifications, and the geotechnical report; shop drawings; and safety. A 2-hour qualification exam is administered at the end of the course.

Please visit the [NHI Web site](#) to learn more about hosting or participating in these courses.

Access 14 Guides from your Mobile Phone



Screenshot of NHI's new mobile application.

NHI's new mobile application for the FHWA Pavement Preservation Checklists is now

available free of charge on phones that use the [Android operating system](#) and [BlackBerrys](#), and will soon be available on iPhones. These checklists were created to guide State and local highway maintenance and inspection staff in the use of innovative pavement preventive maintenance processes.

The 14 checklists are a valuable on-site aid but must be printed, spiral-bound, warehoused, shipped, and carried. The new application provides the target audience with the existing FHWA Pavement Preservation Checklist materials in a downloadable, easy to use mobile format. Construction and maintenance teams may now access the materials on their phones, placing the information at their fingertips on the job site, and eliminating the need to print and carry 14 paper-based documents.

The app is free, and simple to obtain. Using your smart phone, go to the Android Marketplace or Blackberry App World to download it. Enter "FHWA" into the search field to access the app.

NHI-Hosted Trainings at Arlington Facilities

In response to requests from the transportation community, NHI will host a series of NHI courses at our training facilities located in Arlington, VA. NHI will offer our most popular courses and others not widely offered in individual States.

NHI's modern facilities offer four training rooms that feature the tools and equipment necessary to ensure a productive and engaging learning environment. Additionally, we are housed within 15 minutes of the Nation's capital. We welcome the opportunity to host transportation professionals from across the country as well as from the DC metro area.

Upcoming Sessions:

[134065 Risk Management](#)

Oct 30-Nov 1, 2012

Soon to be Scheduled:

[142051 Highway Traffic Noise](#)

[152054 Introduction to Urban Travel Demand Forecasting](#)
[130053A Bridge Inspection Refresher Training](#)
[130091 Underwater Bridge Inspection](#)
[130091B Underwater Bridge Repair Rehabilitation, and Countermeasures](#)
[130055 Safety Inspection of In-Service Bridges](#)
[310119 Writing Effective Program Review Reports: Moving People to Action](#)

For more information about upcoming trainings at NHI's training facilities, be sure to [subscribe to NHI News and Updates](#).