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NHI Launches Web Site and New Courses By Kevin Monaghan

The National Highway Institute (NHI) launched its much-anticipated Web site at www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov on June 5, 2006. The updated site features user-friendly navigation and an expanded e-commerce module that allows participants to enroll and pay for courses. Rick Barnaby, Director of NHI, said, "We are extremely pleased that our new Web site is launched and that it brings new capability and flexibility for all Federal, State and local training participants."

Users can easily browse the NHI training catalog for course information and scheduled sessions. In addition to searching by key word, title, and course number, users can also find more details in advanced search functions, including location, course level, session dates, and whether it is instructorled or Web-based. Users can also visit the new NHI store to purchase copies of course materials.

NHI has also improved Web-conferencing and host requests by adding new functions. Users can quickly complete online requests and save contact information for future submissions.

The new Resources section houses the essential tools for NHI courseware development and delivery. They include online presentations, style guides, templates, and ideas for the successful implementation of NHI courses. In addition, NHI instructors are able to complete online registration and be part of the NHI instructor community allowing ideas and information to be exchanged. The instructor community feature allows NHI to continually improve to meet participants' training needs. And, new security features require the user to create an NHI user ID and password.

In addition to our new Web site, NHI has new courses, including the following:

Underwater Bridge Inspection (FHWA-NHI-130091) – Effective January 13, 2005. The latest update to the National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS) requires bridge inspection training for all divers conducting underwater inspections. One method of meeting the requirement is the completion of an FHWA-approved underwater diver bridge inspection training course. Satisfactory completion of this

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course will fulfill the NBIS requirement.

Managing Travel for Planned Special Events (two-day, FHWA-NHI-133099) and (one-day, FHWA-NHI-133099A) – These courses provide practitioners with a working knowledge of the techniques and strategies involved in successfully planning and operating a special event. Practitioners will gain an understanding of the collective tasks facing multi-disciplinary and inter-jurisdictional planned special events stakeholder groups, charged with developing and implementing solutions to acute and systemwide impacts on travel during a special event.

Integrated Transportation Management for Small and Medium-Sized Communities (FHWA-NHI-137043) – A one-day introductory course aimed at helping those involved in the planning, design, implementation, and operation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) in small and medium-sized communities. This course introduces the use of Advanced Transportation Management Systems (ATMS) and Advanced Traveler Information Systems (ATIS) when deployed in small and medium-sized communities.

Improving Highway Safety with ITS (FHWA-NHI-137044) – Aimed at increasing the awareness of the potential to be gained by implementing highway safety improvements through the deployment of Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies at the highway system, mainstream (highway improvement project) and stand alone project level, and accelerate the introduction and evaluation of ITS applications by increasing the recognition of their contributions in making highways safer.

For a complete description of these courses, please go to the new NHI Web site at www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov. If you have any questions, please contact the NHI Training Team at NHITraining@fhwa.dot.gov or (703) 235-0534.

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