

Learning in Progress

January 2010



Improving the Performance of the Transportation Industry through Training

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NHI Celebrates 40 Years of Training Excellence

When the National Highway Institute (NHI) first opened its doors in 1970, it was just a small operation, with a handful of employees who completed every course registration, every scheduling arrangement, and every certificate by hand. Understandably, the menu of courses was fairly narrow, covering subjects such as work zone safety, pavements, and hydraulics. But, one thing has remained constant from day one: NHI's commitment to quality. Whether developing exceptional training materials or securing top-notch instructors, quality has not diminished in 40 years and remains a core NHI value.

Fast forward to 2010: NHI's course catalog has expanded to include hundreds of training opportunities in 15 broad categories, ranging from structures and operations to safety and environment. In addition to nearly 250 Instructor-led training courses, NHI now lists more than 50 distance learning courses, offering transportation professionals a flexible and cost-effective training delivery option they can access from the comfort of their own offices. Not only is the entire NHI training catalog available online, NHI has even embraced the latest social networking applications, including Facebook and LinkedIn.

For 40 years, NHI has made the transportation community a learning community. To find out more about NHI, visit www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov, or e-mail nhimarketing@dot.gov to be added to the mailing list.

Introducing the 2010 NHI Course Catalog

The 2010 NHI Course Catalog has been reorganized to make it easier to navigate, and includes some great new courses. Some of you may have already received your copy -- please e-mail

Mark Klinge, NHI Materials Manager at Mark.Klinge@dot.gov if you have not and would like to request a copy.

Customer Success: Expanding Knowledge of Transportation Topics

Erica Interrante, a new member of FHWA's Office of Policy, recently completed a two-year professional development program. During her time in this program she opted to take a variety of NHI courses.

"NHI courses were a great way to become acquainted with FHWA and with transportation topics that I was unfamiliar with, primarily engineering-related topics. One especially good course was [Highways in the Coastal Environment \(FHWA-NHI-135082\)](#), which allowed me to know what issues to consider when building and maintaining highways along the coast. I feel very fortunate to have benefited from the information for little or no cost; plus, the registration process is so simple and courses are accessible to everyone in FHWA, regardless of GS level. If others have the time, they should really take advantage of the great learning opportunities that NHI has to offer," Erica told us.

Do you have a success story you'd like to share? We love to hear why NHI training was important for your group. Send a brief description of your experience to nhimarketing@dot.gov.

Upcoming Web Conferences

Since September, the **NHI Real Solutions Seminar Series** has hosted presentations on the following topics: Engineering the Future of Florida's Transportation System: The Professional Engineer Training Program (October), NCHRP U.S. Domestic Scan Project 07-05: Best Practices in Bridge Management Decision-Making (Session I) (November), and NCHRP U.S. Domestic Scan Project 07-05: Best Practices in Bridge Management Decision-Making (Session II) (December).

The **NHI Innovations** series continued with the seminars Advancements in EPS Geofoam for Transportation Applications (October) and Lightweight High Performance Concrete (December).

Did you know you can watch past seminars anytime? Check out the NHI Web site for recordings of previous seminars or to register for future [NHI Real Solutions Seminars](#) or [NHI Innovations](#) seminars.

Upcoming Real Solutions Seminars:

- January 12, 2010, 1 - 3 pm EST, Assessing the Impact of Local Agency Traffic Safety Training Using Ethnographic Techniques (hosted live from TRB conference)
- January 28, 2010, 1 - 3 pm EST, Best Practices on Bridge Preservation
- February 25, 2010, 1 - 3 pm EST, Bridge Life Cycle Benefit and Cost Analysis: Fundamentals and Application
- March 25, 2010, 1 - 3 pm EST, SCAN 09-05 Best Practices for Roadway Tunnel Design, Construction and Maintenance

Upcoming NHI Innovations:

- February 11, 2010, 2:30 - 4 pm EST, Accelerating Project Delivery, Innovative

- Contracting
- March 25, 2010, 2:30 - 4 pm EST, The Use of Recycled Materials in Roadway Construction

Want to be notified when registration opens for any of these free Web conferences? E-mail nhimarketing@dot.gov.

New Course Spotlight: TCCC Concrete Pavement Preservation Series (FHWA-NHI-131126)

The Concrete Pavement Preservation Series (FHWA-NHI-131126) presents current guidelines and recommendations for the design, construction, and selection of cost-effective concrete pavement preservation strategies. To streamline registration and enable you to take some or all of these courses when it best suits your schedule, we have created this new series option which automatically registers you for all 10 modules -- it's that easy. You can also register for a single training in this series too. The courses are as follows:

- Module 1: [Preventive Maintenance and Pavement Preservation Concepts \(131126A\)](#)
- Module 2: [Concrete Pavement Evaluation \(131126B\)](#)
- Module 3: [Slab Stabilization and Slab Jacking \(131126C\)](#)
- Module 4: [Partial-Depth Repairs \(131126D\)](#)
- Module 5: [Full-Depth Repairs \(131126E\)](#)
- Module 6: [Retrofitted Edge Drains \(131126F\)](#)
- Module 7: [Load Transfer Restoration \(131126G\)](#)
- Module 8: [Diamond Grinding and Grooving \(131126H\)](#)
- Module 9: [Joint Resealing and Crack Sealing \(131126I\)](#)
- Module 10: [Strategy Selection \(131126J\)](#)

To learn more about this training and to register visit the [NHI Web site](#).

Transportation in the News

Computers guide traffic lights to reduce congestion for commuters, other drivers

By Ashley Halsey III

Washington Post

1/5/2010

There probably are just two times when you think about a traffic light. When one just turned yellow ("Can I make it?"). When one has been red for too long ("Come on, change!"). Traffic lights, on the other hand, are much more thoughtful about you. They note the hum of your passing tires. They adjust to meet your needs. They sense your mounting frustration. It won't be long before they also know how many people are in your car and just where you're headed. Traffic systems -- and the stoplights that are their highway sentinels -- are complex networks that must be synchronized with Balanchine precision or rush hour will descend from the normal headache into commuter hell.

[See full story](#)

White House Moves to Raise Transit-Safety Standards

By Josh Mitchell

Wall Street Journal

12/8/2009

The Obama administration pressed Congress Tuesday to pass legislation that could lead to a slew of new national safety standards for state and regional transit systems, spurred by a fatal crash in June on Washington's Metro system.

[See full story](#)

States Produce List of "Ready to Go" Projects Worth More Than \$69 Billion

AASHTO Journal

12/4/2009

State transportation departments have identified more than 9,500 highway, bridge, transit, rail, port, aviation, and intermodal projects worth \$69.55 billion that, if funded by Congress, could be used to create hundreds of thousands of jobs across the country.

[See full story](#)

New and Updated Courses

NHI in partnership with the Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council has developed 14 new FREE Web-based trainings:

[TCCC Basic Surveying \(134106\)](#)

[TCCC Bolted Connections \(134074\)](#)

[TCCC Concrete Pavement Evaluation \(131126B\)](#)

[TCCC Diamond Grinding and Grooving \(131126H\)](#)

[TCCC Full-Depth Repairs \(131126E\)](#)

[TCCC Joint Resealing and Crack Sealing \(131126I\)](#)

[TCCC Load Transfer Restoration \(131126G\)](#)

[TCCC Maintenance of Traffic for Supervisors \(380099\)](#)

[TCCC Maintenance of Traffic for Technicians \(380098\)](#)

[TCCC Partial-Depth Repairs \(131126D\)](#)

[TCCC Preventive Maintenance and Pavement Preservation Concepts \(131126A\)](#)

[TCCC Retrofitted Edge Drains \(131126F\)](#)

[TCCC Slab Stabilization and Slab Jacking \(131126C\)](#)

[TCCC Strategy Selection \(131126J\)](#)

For the latest listing of all NHI courses, visit the [NHI Web site](#).

Courses of Excellence: October - December 2009

Course	Course Title	Training Type	Average
141029	Basic Relocation Under the Uniform Act	ILT	4.92
141030	Advanced Relocation Under the Uniform Act	ILT	4.89
139004	Principles of Effective Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Size and Weight Enforcement	ILT	4.71
142051	Highway Traffic Noise	ILT	4.69

135041A	HEC-RAS, River Analysis System (3.5-day)	ILT	4.67
135046	Stream Stability and Scour at Highway Bridges	ILT	4.66
131032	Hot-Mix Asphalt Construction	ILT	4.65
380003A	Design and Operation of Work Zone Traffic Control (3-Day)	ILT	4.63
131050	Asphalt Pavement In-Place Recycling Technologies	ILT	4.63
133028	Traffic Signal Design and Operation	ILT	4.62
380087	Safety Workshop	ILT	4.62
132014	Drilled Shafts	ILT	4.61
130078	Fracture Critical Inspection Techniques for Steel Bridges	ILT	4.61
130053	Bridge Inspection Refresher Training	ILT	4.61
134073	Leap Not Creep: Accelerating Innovation Implementation	ILT	4.56
380094	Science of Crash Reduction Factors	WCT	4.50
380072	Advanced Work Zone Management and Design	ILT	4.50

TCCC Corner



TCCC (Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council) now offers 35 WBT trainings available on the [NHI Web site](#). The [NTTR database](#) has also added many new TCCC training resources this quarter.

As of the end of November, TCCC trainings had more than 5,900 registered participants. We are also sharing TCCC trainings with eight States that have Internet restrictions or LMS (Learning Management System) needs and have been able to reach more than 5,500 participants. That means NHI/TCCC trainings have reached an impressive 11,400+ participants!

The TCCC team met in Chicago at the beginning of December for our semi-annual meeting. We met with team members from several States and talked about the TCCC training development and delivery status. We had several new States at the meeting with fresh ideas and suggestions. We also provided a presentation on new training technologies and opportunities. We ended our 3-day meeting with pages of action items, so watch for some exciting things from our team!

New Trainings Available

[FHWA-NHI-131126A TCCC Preventive Maintenance and Pavement Preservation Concepts](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126B TCCC Concrete Pavement Evaluation](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126C TCCC Slab Stabilization and Slab Jacking](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126D TCCC Partial-Depth Repairs](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126E TCCC Full-Depth Repairs](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126F TCCC Retrofitted Edge Drains](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126G TCCC Load Transfer Restoration](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126H TCCC Diamond Grinding and Grooving](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126I TCCC Joint Resealing and Crack Sealing](#)

[FHWA-NHI-131126J TCCC Strategy Selection](#)

[FHWA-NHI-134074 TCCC Bolted Connections](#)

[FHWA-NHI-134106 TCCC Basic Surveying](#)

[FHWA-NHI-380098 TCCC Maintenance of Traffic for Technicians](#)

[FHWA-NHI-380099 TCCC Maintenance of Traffic for Supervisors](#)

WBTs Coming Soon!

FHWA-NHI-131128 Testing Self Consolidating Concrete

FHWA-NHI-131129 HMA Paving Inspection

FHWA-NHI-131130 Advanced Self Consolidating Concrete

FHWA-NHI-134105 TCCC Pipe Inspection

FHWA-NHI-380101 TCCC Safety Orientation

With new topics being added monthly!

