



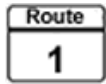
U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration



A monthly feature for FHWA employees

OCTOBER 2010

Upcoming Learning Activities



Corporate Competencies

Welcome TMS!

On October 1st, The Department of Transportation unveiled its new and improved Talent Management System (formerly eLMS). TMS is operated by National Business Center which is also responsible for our Personnel Payroll System.

At this time, all employees should have received their new User ID and password via e-mail. If you have not yet received your new User ID and password, or if you are unable to log-in, please contact the TMS Help Desk at 1.888.367.1622. Upon receiving your log-in information, we encourage all employees to test their new User ID and password by going to: <https://tms.nbc.gov/DOT>.

TMS training will be offered via webinar for all users as well as sessions designed specifically for Training Coordinator's. The scheduled offerings for these trainings are:

All-Employee Training:

Wednesday, October 20

10:00 am to 12:00 pm (EST)

Web Conference Link: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/tmseehr/>

Phone Number: (800) 683-4564

Passcode: 507016

Thursday, October 21

10:00 am to 12:00 pm (EST)

Web Conference Link: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/tmseehr/>

Phone Number: (800) 683-4564

Passcode: 137213

Thursday, October 21

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm (EST)

Web Conference Link: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/tmseehr/>

Phone Number: (800) 683-4564

Passcode: 866309

Training Coordinator Training:

Tuesday, October 19

10:00 am to 12:00 pm (EST)

Web Conference Link: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/tmshr/>

Phone Number: (800) 683-4564

Passcode: 330837

Wednesday, October 20

2:00 pm to 4:00 pm (EST)

Web Conference Link: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/tmshr/>

Phone Number: (800) 683-4564

Passcode: 145663

For technical or log-in related questions, contact:

TMS Help Desk at 1.888.367.1622

For course registration or learning history questions, contact:

Paula Mosby, Talent Development Division, 202.366.1156

Business Conduct

In May, the first Agency-wide Business Conduct webinar was conducted and was attended by more than 200 FHWA employees. During this session, participants learned about topics such as ethics, business travel, the use of Government equipment, and other general conduct issues. Based on the success of the event, we will now be hosting Business Conduct webinars on a quarterly basis.

The next webinar, which will be held on October 5th, is open to all employees and will include presentations addressing current topics such as the Hatch Act and Business Travel. In addition to the presentations, participants also have the opportunity to ask questions about ethics or business conduct issues.

Audience: All employees

When: Tuesday, October 5 from 3:00 to 4:00 (Eastern)

Link to join the Web conference: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/sr250hbusinessconductoct5/>

Teleconference number to access audio portion: 800.707.9573

Pass Code: 172639

Contact: Suzy Tyson, 202.366.1157

Constitution Training

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Constitution Training Webinar. This session will be hosted by Scott Jones, Attorney-Advisor with the Office of Chief Counsel and will serve as a follow-up to the annual Government-wide Constitution week which was held from September 17th through September 23rd.

For additional information about the Constitution training materials, employees can visit:

http://staffnet.fhwa.dot.gov/opt/training/AnnualCompliance/Constitution_Training.htm

Audience: All employees

When: Wednesday, October 6 from 3:00 to 4:00 (Eastern)

Link to join the Web conference: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/sr250hconsitutiondaytraining/>

Teleconference number to access audio portion: (866) 254-5934

Pass Code: 172648

Contact: Suzy Tyson, 202.366.1157

Financial Planning Webinars

Beginning on October 12th, employees will have the opportunity to participate in a series of financial planning webinars. Over the course of four weeks, ten separate webinars will be conducted and will cover topics such as estate planning, retirement, and many other useful topics.

The financial planning sessions specifically address employees with different levels of experience. Additional information about the webinars can be found in the Hot Lanes section of the Learning Highway or by clicking on the link below.

http://intra.fhwa.dot.gov/opt/training/course_materials/financialplanwebinar.docx

Audience: All employees

When: Information available on the Learning Highway

Contact: Steven Graham, 202.366.5238

FHWA Portal (SharePoint) Training

The Knowledge Application Team invites you to take part in their FHWA Portal (SharePoint) training.

Audience: All FHWA employees

Contact: FHWAPortalAdmin@dot.gov

User Training – A *User* is anyone who uses the FHWA Portal for daily business.

Pre-requisite: SharePoint 101: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/sp101wbt/>

SharePoint 102: [Monday, October 4](#) [Monday, October 25](#) [Monday, November 8](#) [Monday, November 22](#)

Power User Training – A *Power User* is anyone who uses the FHWA Portal for daily business and also works with some of the more powerful features or helps design and maintains SharePoint sites.

Pre-requisite: SharePoint 201: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/sp201wbt/>

SharePoint 202: [Thursday, October 7](#) [Thursday, October 28](#) [Thursday, November 11](#)
[Wednesday, November 24](#)

Site Owner Training – A *Site Owner* administers and governs SharePoint sites and has the highest level of permissions available in the FHWA Portal. The core Site Owner trainings are mandatory for anyone with those permissions but the trainings may also be of interest to some power users.

Pre-requisite: SharePoint 301: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/sharepoint301/>

SharePoint 302: [Friday, October 29](#) [Tuesday, November 30](#)

Human Resources Management Council Webinar

The FHWA Human Resource Management Committee (HRMC) invites you to participate in an interactive webconference to discuss the results of the 2010 FHWA All Employee Survey and the OPM Federal Employee ViewPoint survey results. This session will also provide employees with the opportunity to learn about the HRMC and to ask questions of the HRMC representatives

More information about the HRMC can be found at: <http://staffnet.fhwa.dot.gov/opt/hrcommit/national.htm>

Audience: All employees

When: Tuesday, October 19 from 2:00 to 3:30 (Eastern)

Link to join the Web conference: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/allemmployee2010surveyresults/>

Teleconference number to access audio portion: (800) 700-7784

Pass Code: 172245

Contacts: Gerry Solomon, gerald.solomon@dot.gov and Clara Conner, clara.conner@dot.gov

Individual Development Plan (IDP) Workshop: A Road Map for Your Career

Learn the significance of developing an IDP and how it benefits employees, supervisors and the Federal Highway Administration.

Learn how to create a plan in ELMS and develop the IDP content using the Learning Highway and the competency frameworks.

Supervisors can learn how to review and approve plans for their employees in eLMS.

Audience: All employees

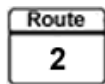
When: Thursday, October 7 from 2:00 to 4:00 (Eastern)

Link to join the Web conference: <http://fhwa.na3.acrobat.com/sr250bindividualdevelopmentplan/>

Teleconference number to access audio portion: (800) 683-4564

Pass Code: 604390

Contact: Nicole Hicks, 202.366.1202



Leadership Competencies

Manager's Monthly Meeting

The Monthly Managers Web Conference is part of our ongoing effort to provide FHWA managers, supervisors, and team leaders with learning and development opportunities; however, all employees are welcome to attend. This session will be delivered via web conference.

Information to join this webinar has been requested and will be distributed to participants once received.

****Please note that November's Manager's Monthly Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm due to Thanksgiving falling on the regularly scheduled meeting day.****

Audience: Senior executives, supervisors, managers, and team leaders

Topics: Competitive Learning Programs and CASTLE

When: Wednesday, October 27 from 2:00 to 4:00 (Eastern)

Type: Web conference

Contact: Nicole Hicks, 202.366.1202

Request for Nominations: Competitive Learning Opportunities

Designed to advance leadership and professional competencies, the FHWA Competitive Learning Opportunities are the Agency's premier learning programs. In correlation with the upcoming announcement of the FY 2011 offerings, the Office of Human Resources will be conducting 3 webinars to discuss the programs being offered as well as the nomination process.

Information to join this webinar has been requested and will be distributed once received.

Audience: All employees

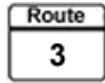
When: Tuesday, October 26 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (EST)

Wednesday, November 3 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (EST)

Wednesday, November 3 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 (EST)

Type: Web conference

Contact: Steven Graham, 202.366.5238



Professional Competencies

2010 Pacific Northwest Bridge Maintenance Conference

The Pacific Northwest Bridge Maintenance Conference (NBMC) is being sponsored by FHWA as well as the Alaska, California, Idaho, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington Departments of Transportations. The event will be conducted from October 19th through 21st, at the Seaside Civic & Convention Center in Seaside, Oregon.

THE NBMC provides a forum for engineers to share cradle-to-grave bridge maintenance information, innovations, ideas, and best practices. It will also provide a means for bridge maintenance personnel to obtain training and a better understanding of bridge maintenance/repair techniques; foster the development of leadership skills; promote technology transfer within the bridge maintenance community; provide a forum for networking; and ensure a higher level of on-the-job safety and environmental awareness.

For more information, contact:

Tim Rogers, Division Bridge Engineer, Oregon Division Office, 503.587.4706;

Barry Brecto, Sr. Bridge Engineer, Washington Division Office, 360.753.9556.

On-line registration closes on October 15. To register, please visit the Web site at:

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=856458>.

American Concrete Institute – Fall Conference – *Green Concrete in the Steel City*

The American Concrete Institute's (ACI) Fall conference will be conducted from October 24th through October 28th, at the Westin Convention Center in Pittsburgh, PA. The theme of this year's event is "Green Concrete". Presentations on High Performance Concrete for Sustainable columns, as well as Seismic Design, will be delivered.

For more information on High Performance Concrete, contact:

Lou Triandafilou, Sr. Structures Engineer, FHWA Resource Center, 410.962.3648

For information on ACI 2010, visit the conference website at:

http://www.concrete.org/EVENTS/EV_CONVENTIONS.HTM.

ARTBA & IRF Team Up in New York for National Convention

America was built on innovation. The Nation's success story—from Thomas Edison's light bulb...to Henry Ford's assembly line...to Dwight Eisenhower's Interstate Highway System...to today's advanced computers and PDAs—is all about inventing our future. For it is only through the adoption of innovations that we can be more productive—saving time, money, and lives—and thus be more competitive. There is much U.S. innovation that we can export and profit from, and while America is still the world leader in

innovation, there is also much we can learn from innovation developed beyond our borders. This is ever so true in our 21st century global economy.

The American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) has made a strategic decision to pursue new initiatives in the international arena. Similarly, the International Road Federation (IRF) has committed to dramatically raise its profile in North America and work more closely with ARTBA. To that end, we are pleased to announce that this year ARTBA's National Convention and [IRF's North America Regional Congress](#) will become a joint event scheduled for October 3 through 6 in New York City. This means there will be excellent opportunities to meet new industry players from the U.S. and around the world; and to network with and explore possible business opportunities.

This year, the meeting's theme is "Global Innovations in Transportation Design & Construction". ARTBA and IRF are planning general sessions together that will focus on innovation, including high-speed rail, new techniques in tunnel boring, the latest research and technologies through the Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2), and new design and construction methods on two major infrastructure projects—the Trans Hudson Tunnel from New Jersey to Manhattan and the East Side Access. For more information, visit their website at: <http://www.artbanationalconvention.org/>

Fall Regional Geotechnical Engineering Conferences Underway

The Regional Geotechnical Conferences provide great opportunities for sharing best practices from like-areas of the Nation! For the past 30+ years, Geotechnical Engineering Conferences have been an excellent conduit for the transfer of information and technology to practitioners across the Nation, especially those held by Regional Geotechnical Engineer Groups. These regional exchange events are held annually in five separate locations—the Northeast, the Northwest, the Midwest, the Southeast, and the Southwest.

Geotechnical Engineers from State departments of transportation (DOT) attend the various regional events, based on location, and each region has also been assigned an FHWA engineer to assist in the coordination of these conferences. The conferences provide the ideal environment for the fluid exchange of information among practitioners and enhance the state-of-the-practice nationwide. Specific information on recent conferences is included below to give you a feel for what the events include, who attends, and the benefit of attending these events. We hope you will plan to attend the next conference in your area.

For updates on Regional Geotechnical Engineer Conferences throughout the year, visit: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/engineering/geotech/conference_listing.cfm.

- **42nd Annual Southeastern Transportation Geotechnical Engineering Conference (STEGC) will be conducted from October 4th through 7th, in Charleston, West Virginia.** The Federal and State DOT STEGC member organizations include: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and the FHWA. *Each State hosts the conference every 11 years. For more information on the STGEC, contact: Ben Rivers, FHWA Resource Center in Atlanta, 404.562.3926, benjamin.rivers@fhwa.dot.gov
- **39th Midwest Transportation Geotechnical Engineers Conference (MWGEC) will be conducted on October 13th and 14th, in Matteson, Illinois, at the FHWA Resource Center.** The Federal and State DOT MWGEC member organizations include: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, and the FHWA. For more information on the MTGEC, contact: Naser Abu-Hejleh, FHWA Resource Center in Matteson, 708.283.3550, naser.abu-hejleh@fhwa.dot.gov

Need to Learn More About Bridge Preservation and Maintenance?

The U.S. Congress and the FHWA are placing increasing emphasis on the importance of maintenance – in particular, preventive maintenance – for extending the service life of our Nation’s bridges. In support of that effort, NACE International 2010 Eastern Area Conference, will be conducted from October 12 through 15 in Alexandria, VA. The theme for the conference will be “New Policies and Directions for Corrosion Challenges in Challenging Times.” The event has been organized by four major tracks: defense facilities, pipeline, transportation infrastructure and water/waste water facilities. For more information about the conference, visit http://events.nace.org/sarwebsites/easternarea/conference_2010/savethedate.pdf. For more information on bridge preservation and maintenance, contact: Claude Napier, Sr. Structural Engineer, FHWA Resource Center, 804.775.3327, claudenapier@dot.gov

“Planning-On-the-Web” (POW) Training Seminar Series Installment

To help support FHWA and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) staff activities and to promote continuous professional development of agency planners, the FHWA Resource Center is offering a series of internal web-based training seminars through an initiative known as “Planning-on-the-Web” (POW). The POW training seminar sessions are for FHWA staff and will generally last no more than two hours. The next POW is slated for October 19th to discuss Planning Discipline Activities and the FY 2011 Action Plan Roll Out.

The preregistration e-mail for each session will be sent to the FHWA Field Planners e-mail group approximately 3 weeks before each session. If you cannot attend the POW session for a particular month, the presentations and other information resources are available on the Resource Center internal web site, as well as the Planning Corp.

We hope to “see” you at the next session and to hear your feedback on the session, as well as future POW topics.

If you have a topic that you think would be valuable to offer as a POW web-based training seminar, contact Lisa Randall, Ken Petty, or any member of the RC Planning Technical Service Team.

For more information about the October POW, please contact:
Lisa Randall, Planning TST, Manger, FHWA Resource Center, 720.963.3209

Roads & Bridges Live: 2010

Roads & Bridges will continue its series of live events from October 12th through October 14th, with a conference in Chicago, Illinois, that combines educational sessions led by industry experts with other valuable opportunities to learn innovative techniques from leaders in the field — while providing up to 19 professional development hours. Two educational tracks focused on Paving Innovations and Bridge Infrastructure, a tour of the Chicago DOT’s Wacker Drive/Congress Parkway Project and Top 10 Roads and Top 10 Bridges award presentations are among the highlights of Roads & Bridges Live: 2010. Sponsored by *Roads & Bridges* magazine, it will have two educational tracks--one on Paving Innovations and one on Bridge Infrastructure.

For more information, visit: <http://www.roadbridgeslive.com/>

Items of Interest

National Highway Institute (NHI) Launches New Web Site

The newly redesigned NHI Web site, which launched on August 30th, features a more cleanly organized layout, with a left-side navigation bar, a site map at the bottom of each page, and navigation options in the center-right of the home page. Visitors may also now access a course search box on each page, which enables them to find courses from any place within the site. Based on users' feedback, several of the previous site features were retained in the new design, such as displaying new courses on the home page, providing clear and informative course descriptions, maintaining an easy shopping and checkout process, and e-mailing updates to site users who sign up for the NHI Mailing List.

Overall, the new design aims to make the NHI site more accessible and easy to read by providing key information and links on the home page. The updated site also provides easier access to resources for course hosts, participants, and instructors. As each design phase is implemented NHI's goal is to make scheduling, searching for, and completing NHI trainings easier. The streamlined content and simplified design will not only improve navigation for current users, but may attract new visitors interested in learning about transportation industry training options. NHI plans to continue making Web site enhancements through June 2011. Please visit www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov regularly to see the latest updates.

Highlights of Recent Learning Activities

Leadership Competencies Certificate Program

On September 16, approximately 175 FHWA employees graduated from the first ever Leadership Competencies Certificate Program. The program, which began in October of 2009, included an extensive learning plan included a variety of webinars as well as self-directed learning courses that covered the 13 Leadership Competencies. During the Graduation webinar, participants were led through a session on leading change in both their personal and professional lives. The session challenged the participants to accept change and to use it to their advantage as they continue through their professional careers and into leadership positions.

Congratulations to all of the graduates!

New Employee Orientation

From September 14th to September 16th, approximately 50 new employees came together for the third New Employee Orientation (NEO) in 2010, held. Throughout the three-day session, participants had the opportunity to learn about the FHWA's organization, history, and programs, as well as the discipline support system and other topics specifically related to them.

Plans are underway for the next session of NEO, which will be for Headquarters employees and will be held in early 2011. Information will be distributed to program offices as details become available.

Contact Information

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