



A Partnership of DOTs and Universities

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute
North Dakota State University
Dept. 2880, P.O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050
Phone: (701) 231-7766
Fax: (701) 231-1945

Transportation Learning Network (TLN) FHWA Regional Pooled Fund Study Quarterly Progress Report SPR-3(099)

January – March 2010 (Quarter 3)

TLN's Quarter 3 events are charted below with the date, title, length and number of participants. These events reached 848 participants during the three month reporting period. Audience participation came from the following states: North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and South Dakota.

In January, Lundy Professional Development offered a leadership course titled *"Speak Up! Improving Your Assertive Communication Skills."* This course offered participants training on assertive communication skills that will help with career advancement. Due to many requests, the 3-day *"PE Exam Review"* was repeated (also offered in August 2009) in January-February by Dr. Peter Martin, University of Utah (Mountain-Plains Consortium). The Crucial Conversations workshop was originally scheduled for January. It is rescheduled for April 2010. Also rescheduled from January to February was the OSHA Work Zone Safety course.

February's scheduled offered a number of technical training events. Tom Wood, MN DOT, offered the *"Seal Coat"* workshop which provided an overview of current best practices for seal coat operations, including how to design and implement a seal coat operation. Wood also offered the *"Microsurfacing / Slurry Seals"* workshop. It covered the following topics: 1) What is micro slurry?, 2) When should it be used?, 3) How to design it, and 4) How to build it.

Also in February, Tom Wood offered the *"Cold-in-Place / Full Depth Recycling"* workshop. The workshop covered: what is FDR/CIR?, when should FDR/CIR be used?, how to design it, and what is important for inspection.

This event was held in the morning and in the afternoon Mr. Wood repeated the *"Seal Coat"* training.

On February 24-25, Jerry Teeler from ARTBA taught the *"OSHA Work Zone Safety"* 2-day training. This training program was developed by ARTBA and the National Safety Council to focus on the hazards and situations that roadway construction workers face every day. This 2-day course meets OSHA's requirements for 10-hour accreditation.

Lundy Professional Development's *"Listen Up! Powering Up Your Listening Skills"* was offered on February 10. The course covered the following: 1) learn how to be a more active listener, especially when the topic is touchy, 2) develop your skills so that you are able to handle difficult communication situations, and 3) improve your listening habits to enhance workplace productivity.

During the month of March, a session titled *“Work/Life Balance: Living the Less-Stress Lifestyle”* was offered by Lundy Professional Development. The event worked with participants on 1) how your own belief system may be causing you to feel stressed and to resist change, 2) how to identify and modify attitudes and behaviors that are contributing to stress, and 3) how to master or let go of stressful events and learn your own stress-management style.

On March 23, Ken Skorseth from the South Dakota LTAP taught the *“Gravel Roads Maintenance”* course. The workshop gave participants a better understanding of the importance of materials, techniques, and equipment needed for maintaining and repairing good gravel roads. This course is appropriate for state, county, or city personnel, technical staff, and maintenance forces responsible for maintenance of gravel shoulders or gravel roads. Private contractors employed to perform haul road maintenance on gravel roads would find benefit from this workshop. TLN experienced technical difficulties with broadcasting this event to locations in North Dakota—mostly western North Dakota. It was discovered that the state’s internet infrastructure had a piece of equipment malfunction that provides internet access to western North Dakota. Due to this problem, Mr. Skorseth has agreed to offer the course again. It will be in April or May.

The last training offered during this quarter was *“Corrugated Steel Pipe: The Real Deal.”* The course covered the following topics: 1) FHWA Pipe Selection Policy (North Dakota and Minnesota policy), 2) National Corrugated Steel Pipe Association, 3) Energy Sector (wind farms), 4) Private Development (storm sewer systems, detention systems, and water quality), and 5) Steel Box Culverts and Headwalls.

During the third quarter, the TLN member Wyoming DOT used the video conference system to broadcast a number of training events to their staff.

Coordinator Meetings were held on January 19, February 16, and March 16. Gary Berreth reported on upcoming events and discussed events held during the previous month. He also provided updates on the future of TLN and the Learning Management System progress.

All events are listed on the Transportation Learning Network’s monthly calendars found at www.translearning.org. Courses are recorded and are available for viewing at <http://tcs.translearning.org/tcs>.

Programming Summary

No. of Events	Hours Offered	Total Participants
13	107.25	848

Date	Event	Length	Participants
1/13/2010	Speak Up! Improving Your Assertive Communication Skills	8	45
1/14/2010	Pipe for Life	1.5	73
1/19/2010	TLN Coordinator’s Meeting	1.5	12
1/22/2010	PE Exam Review (Web Conference)	24	13
2/3/2010	Seal Coat	4	104
2/4/2010	Microsurfacing/Slurry Seals	4	104
2/10/2010	Listen Up! Powering Up Your Listening Skills	8	42
2/11/2010	WYDOT event	8	
2/16/2010	TLN Coordinator’s Meeting	1.5	12
2/17/2010	Cold-in-Place / Full Depth Recycling	3	97
2/17/2010	Seal Coat	4	19
2/23/2010	WYDOT event	3.5	
2/24/2010	OSHA Work Zone Safety	7	88
2/25/2010	OSHA Work Zone Safety	5	66

3/11/2010	WYDOT Event	3.25	
3/16/2010	TLN Coordinator's Meeting	1.5	12
3/17/2010	Work/Life Balance: Living the Less-Stress Lifestyle	8	17
3/23/2010	WYDOT Event	3.5	
3/23/2010	Gravel Roads	6.5	125
3/31/2010	Corrugated Steel Pipe: The Real Deal	1.5	19

Expenditures

	Pooled Fund (DOTs)
Salaries	\$18,051.04
Training	\$30,397.21
Network	\$22,071.13
Operating	\$1487.18
TOTAL	\$72,006.56

TLN Partners

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