

1999 AASHTO TRNS*PORT MATERIAL TAG REPORT

October 5, 1999

The 1999 AASHTO TRNS*PORT Materials TAG met on October 5, 1999. Interim Coordinator Lonnie Jones of Georgia chaired the meeting. The previous TAG coordinator, Bernie Paiz was unable to attend due to work conflicts. Bernie stepped down as the coordinator.

Jeff Lee Derrer, Trns*Port Task Force Chair, made a brief statement to the group regarding the status of the SiteManager product. The Task Force is aware of the number of errors that the current release contains and is taking steps to address them. A subgroup of Jim Johnson, Shirley Daugherty, Lonnie Jones and Paul Neumann are reviewing the outstanding TMR list and are providing direction to ITI regarding priorities for fixes and schedules for patches.

The issue of TAG membership was addressed next. There was no official notification of TAG membership after last year's organizational meeting in Portland, Maine. The previous attendees who had expressed an interest in TAG membership were polled to determine their continuing interest and commitment to serve. Several others from the floor expressed an interest in TAG membership.

The following will be recommended to the Board of Directors for TAG membership:

Roger Pruitt, Coordinator	Georgia
Dennis Glascock, Asst. Coordinator	Missouri
Sven Coenye	Vermont
Beth Landry	Louisiana
Tim Avara	Maryland
Rick Yunker	Indiana
Rhonda Debutts	Nebraska
Steve Gage	Connecticut
Kim Mathisan	New Brunswick
Mabub Khoda	Iowa
Steve Seider or Ken Barnett	Texas
Debbie Back or David Lee	Virginia
Dave Catanach	New Mexico

The next order of business was to review the TAG Mission Statement. The Mission Statement that was developed at the previous TAG session in Maine was accepted with no changes.

The TRNS*PORT MATERIAL TAG MISSION STATEMENT IS:

The Trns*Port Materials TAG will:

Provide guidance, coordination, and oversight for the development, implementation, and maintenance of a modern comprehensive materials information management system within the framework of a total transportation information system.

The next order of business was to review the Short-Range and Long Range Plans. This TAG did not establish Short-Range or Long Range Plans at the previous meeting so new plans were adopted.

Short Range Plan:

- Correct known functional problems with the existing SiteManager Materials Manager components.
 1. Review the original SiteManager Design Requirements
 2. Prioritize known problems for correction
 3. Continue identification of problems
 4. Provide a product that supports the basic Materials Functions specified by the SiteManager Development and Design Documents.
- Share Materials Implementation information among members through the use of a List Server devoted to materials issues.
- Support the solicitation efforts for the Materials Manager Proposal
- Establish a sub-group to review the existing Materials related TMR's and establish priorities among these TMR's to provide the intended Materials functionality of SiteManager in the most expedient timeframe. This sub-group will be comprised of representatives from Texas, Missouri, Vermont & New Mexico. Lonnie Jones will coordinate the group and serve as Task Force Liaison.
 - Texas- Ken Barnett
 - Missouri- Dennis Glascock
 - Vermont- Sven Coenye
 - New Mexico- Dave Catanach

Long Range Plan:

- Provide oversight for the development of additional Materials Management functionality in SiteManager.
- Participate in the development of the Materials Manager project to insure that the necessary Laboratory Functions are supported by the system with the maximum user flexibility possible.

- Review current and changing regulations and methods to insure that the AASHTO Trns*Port products support the functions necessary to comply with all regulations and evolving methods.

The next order of business was to elect TAG Officers. After spirited debate (not to mention pleading and begging), Roger Pruitt volunteered to serve as TAG Coordinator for the coming term. Roger was unanimously approved. Dennis Glascock was nominated for the Asst. Coordinator in abstention. Dennis was unanimously approved for this position.

Lonnie Jones gave a brief overview of the upcoming Materials Manager proposal and requested that each member support the solicitation within their organization. A summary of the functionality to be included in the application and the release delivery schedule was provided. ITI also provided some pamphlets with information regarding the proposed application.

The final item of business was the discussion of the proposed enhancements. After a great deal of discussion, the TAG agreed to reclassify the current 21 enhancement items on the ballot as TMR's and incorporate them into the priority list for maintenance. Many of these items pertained to a missing specification field or an incorrect calculation in the current system and failed to address any real enhancement of the functionality of the Materials component of SiteManager.

It was decided by the Materials TAG that existing bugs in the Materials component of SiteManager must be corrected before focusing on enhancements. The application must be able to support the specified functionality before enhancing its functionality. This is consistent with the Short-Range Plan for the TAG.

Two enhancement items will be presented on the floor from the Materials TAG.

The first enhancement will address providing a link to third party software from the custom templates to allow worksheets to be accessed directly from a SiteManager Custom Template. This is proposed by Texas and will be prepared by Ken Barnett and ITI.

The second enhancement will address providing the ability to link several different test methods into a single Lab Report. This will provide much needed reporting functionality within the existing SiteManager Materials component. This enhancement was proposed by Vermont and will be prepared by Sven Coenye and ITI.

This concluded the 1999 Materials TAG meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.