
INDOT-FHWA-HERPICC Technology Transfer for Improved Implementation

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Beginning September 9, 1993, representatives from INDOT (Indiana Department of Transportation), FHWA (Federal Highway Administration), and HERPICC (Highway Extension Research Project for Indiana Counties and Cities) formed a technology transfer partnership. The main objective of this group is to move to more efficient and effective evaluation and dissemination of new and useful technologies. The strategies of this group will help INDOT Research in developing more effective procedures to meet the need for responsiveness and to promote more timely and widespread technology transfer and sharing.

INDOT Research as a donator and a provider of technologies would prefer to more rapidly evaluate advanced transportation technologies. The FHWA and its partners, as providers of technologies, are inclined in the same direction. The success of the technology transfer effort from the FHWA depends on the strength of its ties with the highway community. The FHWA's relationships with States, local governments, and academia thrive on commitment to better management of the technology transfer process. HERPICC serves as a provider of technologies to local transportation agencies and as a Technology Transfer Center for Indiana. On the basis of the functionality of these groups to the highway community, it would be better if combined efforts are created to track technology and guide development of appropriate marketing strategies.

The combined efforts are not only benefiting INDOT but also FHWA, local transportation agencies, and industries. Since successful technology transfer strategy depends on the links between groups or agencies in the highway community, more

donors, providers and users of new technologies should be identified by the INDOT-FHWA-HERPICC group. Participation from academia has been developed: Purdue University through JHRP (Joint Highway Research Project), Indiana University through Transportation Research Center, Indiana State University, and some other schools from Indiana has been developed. Four groups from the industry are also agree to participate in this process. They are: the Indiana Mineral Aggregates Association, the Indiana Ready-Mixed Concrete Association, the Indiana Constructors, and the Asphalt Pavement Association of Indiana.

The transfer of technology between public and private entities typically occurs when one party develops a product they desire the other to implement to increase the usefulness of the product. Similarly, a private agency develops an effective product and government wishes to support its widespread use.

With all of the resources available from the INDOT-FHWA-HERPICC group, the first effort will put emphasis on technology transfer through information exchange, implementation of research, and cooperation between public and private sectors. The information exchange will explore the linear form (from the source to the users) and interactive form (where the provider of the information is in direct contact with the users).

Implementation of research involves marketization, training, and technical assistance that will lead to results such as developing standard specification, new products or procedures, improved performance, etc. Since this process needs a wider coordination among agencies in transportation and highway communities, it needs a different approach. One of them is the Demonstration Projects Program from the Technology Applications Office from FHWA and the Implementation program in INDOT. The transfer method in the implementation projects is *interactive method*. The INDOT-FHWA-HERPICC group will apply this method as one package in technology transfer.
