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National Concrete Consortium

Task Force Report on State Technical Support Needs

Task Force Members:

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| 1. Chris Brakke | Iowa DOT |
| 2. Tom Cackler | CP Tech Center |
| 3. Maria Masten | Minnesota DOT |
| 4. Kevin Merryman | Iowa DOT |
| 5. Rod Montney | Kansas DOT |
| 6. Larry Sutter | Michigan Tech |
| 7. Peter Taylor | CP Tech Center |
| 8. Brett Trautman | Missouri DOT |
| 9. Suneel Vanikar | FHWA |

Purpose of the Task Force:

This task force was established at the April 2011 meeting in Indianapolis to bring a recommendation to the fall meeting regarding how the NCC might be of help in addressing the technical support needs of the members, related to concrete pavements, in view of diminishing financial and human resources.

Committee Activities:

A conference call of the committee members was held on August 17, 2011. The committee discussed the range of needs that are a concern, including technical analysis of performance problems, technical training of new employees, laboratory needs, changes to ASTM and AASHTO specifications - especially cements, overlay design, alternative bidding, use of SCMs and blended cements, and coordination of specifications being used by the various states. After extensive discussion, the committee recommended focusing on the following two needs.

Recommendations:

1. Develop material for the states to use in providing basic training on concrete and concrete paving for field inspectors. The material would be used in one to two-day training sessions that the DOT would conduct. There would be a need to offer “Train the Trainer” material and training.
2. Develop a technical library of material on topics to be prioritized by the NCC members at the annual business meeting so that it would be easier to keep up on the latest research and best practices on specific topics. The idea would be to continue to add to and update this material over time. The goal is to distill relevant information into an easy to use resource so that when a state wants to work with a new technology, write a specification, etc., it could have one source for easy reference. It was also desired that the relevant research done at the state level be incorporated into the summary.

Topics that were identified for consideration include:

- Use of SCMs
- Cement requirements
- Geotextiles
- RCC
- Concrete overlays
- Two-lift paving

It was proposed that the CP Tech Center be responsible for addressing the recommendations with funding provided within the existing TTCC TPF which was established for travel support and technology transfer needs.

NCC Action Needed: The NCC authorizes the Iowa DOT as TTCC pooled fund administrator to contract with the CP Tech Center for a scope of services to address the recommendations at a level of \$50,000 annually. This level of funding is sustainable for technology transfer given the historical cost of member travel support and the current membership level.