

## State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

**PROJECT TITLE:** Training for Supervisors and Operators

**OBJECTIVES:** The goal of this project is to develop a comprehensive, easy-to-use training program for winter maintenance supervisors and operators. Under this contract, our team will work with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee to identify and compile the many resources on winter maintenance and develop a series of 18 training modules for supervisors, seasoned operators, and new operators for use in the classroom or online. Information gathered through synthesis is only valuable if it can be effectively transmitted in clearly prepared documents and materials.

**PERIOD COVERED:** January 1, 2015 – March 31, 2015

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:**

Clear Roads

DOTs: Kansas, Rhode Island, Iowa, Maine, Oregon, Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota, Washington, Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Michigan, California, Wyoming, Vermont, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, New York  
Federal Highway Administration

**PROJECT MANAGER:**

Gregory Waidley

**LEAD AGENCY:**

Minnesota Department of Transportation

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**

Jim Grothaus, University of Minnesota

**SP&R PROJECT NO:**

MnDOT Contract No.  
99008 Work Order No. 168

**PROJECT IS:**

         Planning  
  X   Research & Development

**ANNUAL BUDGET:**

\$100,000

**PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:**

It is an 18 month contract. We have completed 1/3 (6 months) of the work. An estimate of the amount of spent to date would be:  
\$33,300.00

**WORK COMPLETED:**

To date the project team has worked on the following modules. Each of the PPT modules contains technical information and photos. These modules are approx.. 80% complete. The instruction workbook, quizzes, PPT formatting still need to be complete. Fortin Consulting has been working very closely with the TAP to obtain comments and approval during this process. A conference call to discuss project progress was held on February 20, 2015.

Ten Modules at 80% complete:

Module 1: Plowing Procedures

Module 2: Truck Operations

Module 3: Spreaders

Module 4: Material Use

Module 5: Prewetting

Module 6: Brine Production

Module 10: De-icing Agent Management Policy

Module 13: Science of Freeze Point Depressants

Module 14: Snow and Ice Control Agents and the Environment

Module16: Weather Basics

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:**

We anticipate finalizing the instructional workbook, quizzes, and final PPT format for six of the modules by June 30, 2015. Meet and review the materials with the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) in July 2015. Work on modules 11-18 and review them with the TAP. Have 10 modules ready for fall training by September 30, 2015

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

We have approval of Task 1 of the contract and are waiting for approval of Task 2 and 3.