

Trns•port USERS GROUP CONFERENCE

BUSINESS SESSION

A STATEMENT OF THE AASHTO Trns•port[®] CONSULTANT ACTIVITIES

For the Period September 6, 2003 - October 13, 2004

Presented by Info Tech, Inc.

October 14, 2004

INTRODUCTION

Since the 2003 Trns•port Users Group Conference, significant developmental and implementation milestones have been achieved with the Trns•port System Product. The key milestones include delivery of the following:

- Trns•port SiteManager[®] installation and packaging improvements
- Test Suite used by Info Tech for release testing
- Trns•port CES[®] Web-Enabled Parametric Estimation enhancement
- Greatly increased implementation activities (53% increase in service unit usage)

This report summarizes Info Tech's activities associated with the AASHTO Trns•port software from the time of the last Trns•port Users Group Conference in Burlington, Vermont to the present. These activities fall into two major categories:

- AASHTO Trns•port Maintenance, Support, and Enhancement (MSE) Contract activities
- Other Trns•port-related activities

Major activities performed in each of these areas are discussed below.

AASHTO Trns•port MSE CONTRACT ACTIVITIES

◆ GENERIC AASHTO-OWNED Trns•port

Start of Work on 2004-2005 Maintenance, Support and Enhancement Activities

In July 2004, we began a new fiscal year of maintenance and support activities addressing user needs and resolutions to Trns•port Modification Requests (TMRs). Functional enhancements are also a key focus for the current fiscal year. We recently completed the CES Web-Enabled Parametric Estimation enhancement and continues to work on several enhancements across Trns•port including those listed in the following table:

TMR	Enhancement Description
7897	<u>Decision Support System</u> BAMS/DSS Bundle: 8 Functional HREG Enhancements
4660	<u>Proposal and Estimates System</u> Projects Should be Locked in PES When Proposal Checked Out
3517 6578	<u>Letting and Awards System</u> New Data Validations Requested for LASINIT Attach Proposals to a Letting in LAS
4256	<u>Construction Administration System</u> Sitetime Record will not Accept Negative Value
7894	<u>Cost Estimation System</u> CES Bundle: Bridge Info, Copy Task and Scatter Plot Enhancements
7898 7895 7896 5118 7899	<u>General System Enhancements</u> Rewrite RTF Users Guide Add RTF to PDF Output Format in CES, PES/LAS, CAS, SiteManager PES/LAS Add Tabbed Folder Functionality Bundle Reference File Sharing Phase I Requirements Add Generic Fields in Trns•port

In addition, continued work is planned for Test Suite with the Phase 3 work plan under development.

◆ PRODUCT RELEASES AND UPDATES

Since the last Trns•port Users Group Conference, Info Tech has delivered releases and product updates on the AASHTO-owned products listed below. Details on the TMRs delivered can be found on the Product Releases Schedule archive on Cloverleaf™ at <https://www.cloverleaf.net/cgi-bin/UpcomingRelease/UpcomingRelease.cgi>.

Trns•port BAMS/DSS®

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS Release 6.3a-1 and Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS Standard Analysis Version Release 6.3a-1.*** In September 2003, we posted the Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.3a-1 product update on Cloverleaf. This product update addressed changes related to the SiteManager 3.2a release and it contained several maintenance TMR resolutions.
2. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS Release 6.3a-2 and Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS Standard Analysis Version Release 6.3a-2.*** In September 2003, we shipped the Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.3a-2 product update to AASHTO and to the Department of Public Works and Highways. This product update delivered graphical user interface (GUI) and report configuration changes related to the Currency Field Width Expansion enhancement.
3. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.4a.*** In January 2004, we delivered the Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.4a production release. This release contained Currency Field Width Configuration and HTTP Enabled DPS enhancements as well as warranty TMR resolutions and several maintenance TMR resolutions.
4. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS Standard Analysis Version 6.4a.*** In January 2004, we delivered the Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.4a Standard Analysis Version production release. This release contained Currency Field Width Configuration and HTTP Enabled DPS enhancements as well as warranty TMR resolutions and several maintenance TMR resolutions.
5. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.4b.*** In June 2004, we delivered the Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.4b production release. This release contained several maintenance TMR resolutions.
6. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server BAMS/DSS Standard Analysis Version 6.4b.*** In June 2004, we delivered the Client/Server BAMS/DSS 6.4b Standard Analysis Version production release. This release contained several maintenance TMR resolutions.

Trns•port CAS®

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server CAS Release 5.3a.*** In January 2004, we delivered the Client/Server CAS 5.3a production release along with PES®/LAS® 5.7a. This release contained Currency Field Width Configuration and HTTP-Enabled DPS enhancements as well as warranty TMR resolutions, and several maintenance TMR resolutions.
2. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server CAS Release 5.3b.*** In June 2004, the release of Client/Server CAS 5.3b was delivered containing maintenance TMR resolutions.

Trns•port CES®

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server CES Release 5.2a-1.*** In October 2003, we shipped the Client/Server CES 5.2a-1 product update to AASHTO and to the Department of Public Works and Highways. This product update delivered configuration changes related to the Currency Field Width Expansion enhancement.
2. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server CES 5.3a.*** In January 2004, we delivered Client/Server CES 5.3a. This release contained Currency Field Width Configuration and HTTP-Enabled DPS enhancements as well as warranty TMR resolutions and several maintenance TMR resolutions.
3. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server CES 5.3b.*** In June 2004, we delivered Client/Server CES 5.3b. This release contained several maintenance TMR resolutions.
4. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server CES 5.4a.*** In September 2004, we delivered Client/Server CES 5.4a. This release contained the CES Web-Enabled Parametric Estimation enhancement.

Trns•port Expedite®

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port Expedite Release 5.3a.*** In January 2004, we delivered the Expedite 5.3a release. This release contained Currency Field Width Configuration enhancements as well as warranty TMR resolutions and several maintenance TMR resolutions.

Trns•port Intranet

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port Intranet 1.2a.*** In January 2004, we delivered Trns•port Intranet 1.2a. This release contained changes related to Currency Field Width Configuration and HTTP-Enabled DPS enhancements as well as maintenance TMR resolutions.

Trns•port PES®/LAS®

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server PES/LAS Release 5.7a and Standalone Version of the Trns•port PES Worksheet™ Release 5.7a.*** In January 2004, we delivered the Client/Server PES/LAS 5.7a release. This release contained Currency Field Width Configuration and HTTP-Enabled DPS enhancements as well as warranty TMR resolutions and several maintenance TMR resolutions.
2. ***Delivery of Trns•port Client/Server PES/LAS Release 5.7b and Standalone Version of the Trns•port PES Worksheet Release 5.7b.*** In June 2004, we delivered the Client/Server PES/LAS 5.7a release. This release contained several maintenance TMR resolutions.

Trns•port SiteManager®, Trns•port SitePad®, Trns•port SiteXchange®

1. ***Delivery of Trns•port SiteManager 3.2a.*** In September 2003, we delivered the SiteManager 3.2a release. This release contained the Materials Contract Sampling and Testing Requirements enhancement, corrections to a number of maintenance TMRs, and an enhanced Object Store.
2. ***Delivery of Trns•port SiteManager 3.3a.*** In March 2004, we delivered the SiteManager 3.3a product update. This release contained the SiteManager/FieldManager Interface enhancement, corrections to a number of maintenance TMRs, training software, and warranty TMR resolutions.
3. ***Delivery of Trns•port SiteManager 3.4a.*** In June 2004, we delivered the SiteManager 3.4a release. This release contained an enhancement to SiteManager Critical Item, corrections to a number of maintenance TMRs, training software, and warranty TMR resolutions.
4. ***Delivery of Trns•port SiteManager 3.4a-1.*** In September 2004, we posted the SiteManager 3.4a-1 product update to Cloverleaf. This product update contained corrections to a number of maintenance TMRs and warranty TMR resolutions.
5. ***Delivery of Trns•port SitePad Release 1.1d.*** In June 2004, we posted the SitePad 1.1d release on Cloverleaf. This release contained corrections to a number of maintenance TMRs, training software, and warranty TMR resolutions.
6. ***Delivery of Trns•port SiteXchange Release 1.0a-2.*** In September 2003, we posted the SiteXchange 1.0a-2 product update on Cloverleaf addressing maintenance TMR resolutions.

◆ Trns•port SHARED PRODUCTS

Start of Work on 2004-2005 Maintenance, Support and Enhancement Activities

In July 2004, we began a new fiscal year of maintenance, support and enhancement services for shared products. Several functional enhancements are underway including the following AASHTO-funded enhancements:

TMR	Enhancement Description
	<u>Estimator</u>
6836	Support for Standard Undo/Redo Phase 1 Requirements
6962	Build Project in Item Number Order
7199	Bid History Catalog Filter
	<u>FieldManager</u>
5926	Contract ID and Type During Import
5994	Assign Items to Subcontractor

◆ PRODUCT RELEASES AND UPDATES

Since the last Trns•port Users Group Conference, Info Tech has delivered releases and product updates on the shared products listed below. Details on the TMRs delivered can be found on the Product Releases Schedule archive on Cloverleaf at <https://www.cloverleaf.net/cgi-bin/UpcomingRelease/UpcomingRelease.cgi>.

Estimator™

1. ***Delivery of Estimator 2.1a-1.*** In January 2004, we posted the Estimator 2.1a-1 product update to Cloverleaf addressing several maintenance TMR resolutions.
2. ***Delivery of Estimator 2.2a.*** In June 2004, we delivered the Estimator 2.2a release. This release contained four enhancements and several maintenance TMR resolutions.

FieldManager®

1. ***Delivery of FieldManager 3.3b.*** In November 2003, we delivered the FieldManager 3.3b release addressing several maintenance TMR resolutions.
2. ***Delivery of FieldManager 3.4a.*** In March 2004, we delivered the FieldManager 3.4a release. This release delivered the SiteManager/FieldManager Interface enhancement, a number of additional enhancements, and maintenance TMR resolutions.
3. ***Delivery of FieldManager 3.4a-1.*** In September 2004, we posted the FieldManager 3.4a-1 product update to Cloverleaf. This product update delivered several maintenance TMR resolutions.

◆ **MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**

Throughout the year we continued to focus our maintenance activities toward addressing customer needs while improving product quality and reducing the maintenance backlog by almost 600 TMRs. Continued progress was made toward streamlining product installation and configuration procedures and increasing automated batch testing. Significant improvements were made to SiteManager installation documentation and packaging.

We maintained focus on high-quality reporting and validation processes in both technology upgrades and product deliverables with alpha, beta, and final test result reports and acceptance. Once again, a major accomplishment last fiscal year was the annual TMR backlog review process, a joint Task Force, Info Tech, and Agency endeavor resulting in the removal of 215 obsolete TMRs. Additional reduction in TMR backlog was accomplished through grouping related TMRs, a process that has become standard with each fiscal year. The following table provides a TMR summary by module.

Product	Begin	New	Delivered	Removed	End
BAMS/DSS	172	77	38	41	170
CES	46	74	45	9	66
PES/LAS, SAPW	137	91	33	55	140
CAS	100	10	11	37	62
SiteManager, SitePad, SiteXchange	489	213	369	39	294
FieldManager Suite	85	67	46	14	92
Estimator	7	29	27	2	7
Expedite	4	11	10	0	6
Multiple Modules	50	19	13	18	37
Total	1,090	591	592	215	874

Additionally, new search functions have been added to the TMR browse functionality that allow easier access to information. For example, information on TMRs reported on a specific release can be found on Cloverleaf at <http://www.cloverleaf.net/cgi-bin/support/SearchByRelease>. These improvements continue to make Cloverleaf a more user-friendly information source.

◆ CUSTOMER SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Throughout Info Tech, we continue our strong focus on customer support. From resolving incoming incidents quickly and efficiently to coordinating complex implementation activities, we never lose sight of our customers' needs and objectives. We continue to offer and enhance the electronic reporting and communication facilities available on Cloverleaf: TMR and Call Ticket Search, Electronic Request Form for Submitting Incident Reports, Product Update Postings, Agency Product and Platform Environment, and Upcoming Releases. We continue our role in maintaining and supporting the Automated Ballot System that allows Trns•port Users Group members to electronically cast their ballots for proposed enhancements that are most important to them. As we continue to grow and enhance our communication with the customers, we welcome new ideas and feedback.

◆ ON-SITE SERVICES

Continuation of Activities Under the On-Site Services Offering. In the year following the last Trns•port Users Group Conference, Info Tech made more than 200 trips to 21 agencies and completed approximately 602 Service Units to facilitate the implementation of the Trns•port modules. This represents an increase in Service Unit activity of more than 53% compared to last year as measured by the number of completed units per 12-month period. Info Tech also now has full-time on-site support personnel at five sites: Alabama, Mississippi, New York, Tennessee, and the Philippines. In addition, Info Tech provided full-time on-site support for Washington, D.C. for a portion of the past year.

Info Tech continued to provide services for the installation, configuration, generic system customization, project management/monitoring, and training of AASHTO Trns•port software for the Philippines Department of Public Works and Highways.

◆ CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND MEETINGS

Info Tech attended or participated in several conferences, seminars, and meetings:

1. Trns•port Users Group Conference held in September 2003.
2. Transportation Estimators Association Workshop held in September 2003.
3. Maine Transportation Conference in December 2003 in Augusta, Maine.
4. AASHTO Trns•port Task Force Activities, including preparation for and attendance at five Task Force meetings held in November 2003 and January, April, June, and September 2004.

5. Western Area State Highway and Transportation Officials (WASHTO) Subcommittee on Construction and Materials in March 2004 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
6. Public Technology Institute Conference in San Antonio, Texas in March 2004.
7. HEEP activities, including attendance at five HEEP meetings held from May 2004 to September 2004.
8. AASHTO Information Subcommittee Meeting in Orlando, Florida in June 2004.
9. AASHTO Construction Subcommittee Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico during August 2004.
10. AASHTO Materials Subcommittee Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee in August 2004.
11. WASHTO Meeting in July 2004 in Kalispell, Montana.
12. Southern Area State Highway and Transportation Official (SASHTO) Meeting in August 2004 in Norfolk, Virginia.
13. American Public Works Association Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia during September 2004.
14. National AASHTO Meeting in September 2004 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

◆ **ADMINISTRATION AND MARKETING**

1. ***Administrative Items.*** Completed several administrative items at the request of the Trns•port Task Force, including preparation and revision of the 2004-2009 Trns•port Long-Range Work Plan; the 2004-2005 Trns•port Maintenance, Support, and Enhancement Work Plan; and the Trns•port portion of the 2005 AASHTOWare® Catalog. Assisted the TUG Chair with preparation of ballot items, continued standardized reporting for Trns•port Task Force meetings, worked with the Trns•port Task Force and agencies on several proposals, prepared and maintained the Service Unit schedule, tracked Service Unit allocations and usage, reported to each affected agency its Service Units to be carried forward, prepared reports covering the status of Trns•port maintenance items and their planned release schedules.

2. **Marketing.** Sent written responses to inquiries about Trns•port and Trns•port-related products to 35 transportation agencies (Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, Vermont, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Wyoming, Washington D.C., and the Federal Lands Highway Department). Made formal Trns•port product suite presentations to eight agencies (Connecticut, Delaware, Kansas, Illinois, Manitoba Ministry of Transportation, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Toronto Ministry of Transportation). Made marketing visits to 12 additional agencies to discuss various Trns•port modules (Alaska, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Vermont, and West Virginia). Hosted remote demonstrations of Estimator 2.2a for over 60 participants from 16 agencies in June 2004 and of Web-enabled CES for over 30 participants from 8 agencies in September 2004.
3. **Trns•port NEWS.** Preparation of *Trns•port NEWS* (the Trns•port newsletter) published in winter 2003 and spring 2004.

Trns•port-RELATED ACTIVITIES

◆ CLOVERLEAF

Info Tech continues to provide Cloverleaf Network Management Support services to all Trns•port Task Force members and Trns•port licensees. Cloverleaf is fully accessible over the Internet; however, certain areas are restricted to “members only” and require a password for access. Info Tech provides passwords upon request to any Trns•port licensee. Content maintained on Cloverleaf includes information about AASHTO and AASHTOWare, Trns•port Modification Requests, Call Tickets, Agency Product and Platform Environment, Trns•port Task Force meetings, and Trns•port software release schedules and product updates. Info Tech is also hosting the TUG website and several Listservs on Cloverleaf for the Trns•port user community.

◆ INDIANA SCHEDULING/PROJECT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Info Tech continues to provide enhancement, maintenance, and support services for the Scheduling/Project Management System that was developed under a contract with the Indiana Department of Transportation.

◆ **MINNESOTA PROJECT DATA TO PES and CES XML INTERFACE**

Info Tech is providing enhancement services under a contract with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

◆ **NCHRP 20-64 TransXML**

Info Tech is providing professional services under a subcontract with Cambridge Systematics, Inc.

◆ **NORTH DAKOTA EXPEDITE AND INTERNET BID SUBMISSION IMPLEMENTATION**

Info Tech is providing implementation services under a contract with the North Dakota Department of Transportation.

◆ **WYOMING SPEC BOOK IMPLEMENTATION**

Info Tech completed Spec Book implementation services under a contract with the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

◆ **Bid Express®**

In August 1997, Info Tech created the Bid Express service for on-line bidding exchange. The Bid Express service is offered by Info Tech's subsidiary, Bidx.com, Inc., to the state departments of transportation and their contracting community to facilitate nationwide bid management by providing secure bid submittals, electronic mail and other forms of communication with other vendors and state transportation agencies, and integration with Trns•port Expedite, AASHTO's Electronic Bid System. Bid Express currently is in production in Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Implementation activities are under way in Alabama, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Tennessee. Proposals for implementation services have been requested by Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, New Jersey, New York, and New Hampshire.

Bid Express supports on-line bid bond validation with S2000 Corporation and InSure Vision Technologies for bid bonding validation services using Bid Express. Release of the bid bond verification functionality occurred in the December 2001 release of Expedite 5.0a.

In November 2003, Plan Room Service was added to Bid Express. The Georgia DOT is operating the Bid Express Plan Room, which provides the option to GDOT contractors to receive on-line plan sheets for an additional monthly subscription fee.

In August 2004, a Bid Tab Analysis service was launched on Bid Express. With the exception of subscribers in Iowa, Bid Express account holders from all Bid Express production states can subscribe to the Bid Tab service for an additional monthly fee.

CONCLUSION

The past 12 months have seen significant growth in the technical and functional sophistication of Trns•port, and a corresponding increase in Info Tech's responsibilities. Info Tech has accomplished a great deal in support of the AASHTO Trns•port software over the past year. In addition to the continuing development and implementation of generic Client/Server Trns•port modules for AASHTO member agencies, we participated in a significant number of direct contracts with those agencies and expanded our service offerings.

Significant accomplishments since the last Trns•port Users Group Conference have been deployment of Web-enabled CES parametric estimation; increased use of Test Suite for release testing; improvements in SiteManager installation and packaging; and continuation of services for the successful implementation, configuration, and training of AASHTO Trns•port software.

The upward trend in AASHTO On-Site Services activity continues. In the year following the last TUG Conference, Info Tech completed or will complete over 53% more Service Units than in the preceding 12-month period.

We are excited about the continuing evolution of Trns•port System Products in terms of both their current functionality and promise for the future as we collaborate with Trns•port users to make implementation a complete success. We look forward to carrying on this work over the next year, and we are continually increasing our capacity to ensure we can meet anticipated needs and provide the Trns•port user community with products and services meeting the highest standards of quality. For more information on Trns•port products and services, refer to <http://www.cloverleaf.net/>.