

FALL 2007

IN THIS ISSUE

The Quest for Highway Quality Partnerships, Programs, Proven Results

NPHQ Highway Quality Conference
November 13-14, 2007 1

TIG 2007 Focus Technologies Hit the Road

- Self-Propelled Modular Transporters 6
- Automated Machine Guidance 6

NPHQ Hones Strategic Focus 6

The Quest for Pavement Smoothness

Highways For LIFE Performance Goal Success Story 5

The Quest Begins in San Diego

Quality Conference Agenda and Registration Form 2

**NPHQ HIGHWAY
QUALITY CONFERENCE
November 13-14, 2007**

San Diego
Hilton San Diego
Resort Hotel



National Partnership for Highway Quality
12009 W. Highway 290, Suite 4
Austin, TX 78737

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The Quest for Highway Quality Partnerships, Programs, Proven Results

Join your colleagues in San Diego's beautiful Mission Bay as we begin the 2007 *Quest for Highway Quality*.

Your mission is to learn how the highway community's latest quality innovations, advanced tools, techniques and best practices can benefit your organization, as they are energizing agencies and industry leaders across the nation.

To prepare for your quest, take time to meet, greet and network with your fellow adventurers on the evening of November 12 as NPHQ celebrates its 15th anniversary!

Then begin the journey bright and early on November 13 as we explore customer-focused, project quality measures, and provide the clues to successful implementation. Hear industry's perspective on the why and how of quality managed projects. Get an update on exciting Highways for LIFE initiatives. And pause at mid-day to join the celebration as NPHQ's 2007 *National Achievement Award* winners are announced at a festive luncheon and NPHQ leaders gather for a signing of the new NPHQ Charter and national Policy on the Quality of Highways.

In the afternoon, learn more about major winners of the 2007 Achievement Awards and explore innovative workforce training concepts. End the day with an update on the activities of AASHTO's SCOQ Partnering Subcommittee and be inspired by the progress of Louisiana's Partnership for Highway Quality.

Day two of your journey begins with an informative look at how CalTrans is improving the quality of its project delivery. Then examine the case for state quality partnerships from both industry and agency perspectives. We'll round out the morning traveling the road to better communications as they relate to the quality driving experience.

Our quest comes to an end with a stirring challenge to keep our eyes focused on the road ahead.

Experienced leaders guide you every step of the way through this two-day exploration of partnerships, programs and proven results. Join the quest today!

To learn more, view the agenda and registration form within this newsletter or visit www.nphq.org.

The Quest Begins in San Diego



NPHQ HIGHWAY QUALITY CONFERENCE SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA November 13-14, 2007

NPHQ is proud to celebrate its 15-year anniversary as the only national organization that combines public and private expertise to lead the advancement of highway quality, safety and service to highway users.

Join your colleagues from across the country at the National Partnership for Highway Quality (NPHQ) Conference in San Diego on November 13-14. Learn about the highway community's latest quality innovations, advanced tools and techniques and best practices. Hear about new quality activities now benefiting State DOTs. Find out who will take home the 2007 National Achievement Awards and why these teams stand out as quality leaders. The conference takes place at the Hilton San Diego Resort at Mission Bay. Your registration form and information about making room reservations are below.

Who Should Attend?

Federal, State and local government/public officials, highway design, construction, traffic engineering and maintenance professionals, tollway authorities/operators, contractors, consultants, suppliers and university transportation researchers.

Registration Form
National Partnership for Highway Quality Conference
November 13-14, 2007
Hilton Mission Bay Hotel
San Diego, California

Quest for Highway Quality
Partnerships, Programs, Proven Results

Your Name _____
Organization _____
Position _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email _____

Registration Fee: \$395 through October 12, 2007 and \$450 after October 12, 2007

_____ **Check is enclosed** _____ **Check to follow**

Checks should be made payable to **Bob Templeton, NPHQ Executive Director**, and mailed with this form any time before the conference. Please mail to:

National Partnership for Highway Quality
12009 W. Highway 290, Suite 4
Austin, TX 78737

If you have not completed financial arrangements yet but plan to attend, please e-mail this form to btemplenphq@aol.com or fax it to (512) 301-9877. This will help in planning for a successful conference.

Hilton San Diego Resort Hotel
1775 East Mission Bay Drive; San Diego, CA

To reserve your room, call please call the hotel directly at (800) 445-8667
Ask for the "National Partnership for Highway Quality room block."
Conference lodging rate: \$131, for single or double occupancy
Deadline for reservations at Conference lodging rate is October 15, 2007

Conference information and registration forms are also available at www.nphq.org.
Questions? Call Bob Templeton at (512) 301-9899 or e-mail btemplenphq@aol.com.

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

November 12

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Meet, Greet & Network
Join us for a 15-year Anniversary Celebration!

November 13

7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. – Breakfast

Opening Session: 8:00 a.m

- Call to Order and Moderator Peter Stephanos, FHWA; NPHQ Co-Chairman
- ★ Welcome..... Co-Chairman Stephanos
 - ★ Introductions
 - NPHQ Member Organizations/Firms
 - NPHQ Accredited SQPs
 - New SQPs
 - ★ Keynote: “Focusing on the Customer”TBA, Fuller Jones Consulting
 - ★ The Urgency for Highway Quality.....Rick Capka or Designee, FHWA
 - ★ Highway Firms Weigh In On Quality Projects..... TBA, AGC of America
 - ★ Assessing MoDOT’s Efforts to Provide the Right Transportation.....Mara Campbell, Missouri DOT
 - ★ First Experiences with Highways for Life ProjectsByron Lord, FHWA

Lunch: 12:00 Noon

- ★ Announcement of 2007 National Achievement Award Winners
Terry Donovan, Chair of NPHQ Awards and Technology Subcommittee
 - Showcase of Award Winning Projects
 - Call for Nominations for NPHQ 2008 “National Achievement Awards”
- ★ Signing Ceremony for Current NPHQ Charter/National Policy on the Quality of Highways
Doug Rose, NPHQ Co-Chairman

Afternoon Session: 1:30 p.m.

- Call to Order and Moderator Mark Knight, NPHQ Co-Chairman
- ★ Highlights from 2007 Achievement Awards Major Winners
 - Colorado
 - Minnesota
 - Maryland
 - Western Federal Lands
 - ★ Workforce Training Initiatives
 - On-Line Training TBA, Florida DOT
 - TCCC Training Opportunities..... Chris Newman or Jim Sorenson, TCCC
 - ★ Activities of AASHTO SCOQ Partnering Subcommittee Elizabeth Dooher, Chair
SCOQ Partnering Subcommittee
 - ★ Update on Louisiana DOTD Quality Improvement Program and Formation of LPHQ
..... Gerrie Penn, Director, Louisiana DOTD Quality Improvement Program

November 14

Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

8:00 a.m

- Call to Order and Moderator Doug Rose, NPHQ Co-Chairman
- ★ Improving Quality of CalTrans Delivered Projects
 - First Presentation TBA, CalTrans
 - Second Presentation TBA, CalTrans
 - ★ The Case for State Quality Partnerships
 - NPHQ’s 2008 SQP WebinarGeorgene Geary, Chair, NPHQ SQP Subcommittee
 - The Industry PerspectiveTBA, AGC of America
 - The Agency Perspective TBA, Michigan Construction Quality Partnership
 - ★ Communications and the Quality Driving ExperienceMark Desio, CalTrans
 - ★ Challenge and Send-Off.....TBA, AGC of America
- Wrap-Up and Close Conference..... Doug Rose, NPHQ Co-Chairman

The Quest for Pavement Smoothness

PERFORMANCE GOAL SUCCESS STORY

Innovator. V1, Issue 2, August 2007

Nothing grabs motorists' attention like a bumpy road. Highway agencies, well aware of this phenomenon, began setting performance goals for pavement smoothness in the 1980s.

Over time, the performance goals were reached and then raised as the technology used to achieve the goals advanced. As a result, the goals have been instrumental in improving the way pavements are built and satisfying motorists' desire for a smoother ride.

Early on, many highway agencies adopted the California Department of Transportation's profilograph equipment and test method, the most innovative technology available in the 1980s. The California profilograph is a 25-foot-long (7.6-meter-long) rolling straight edge that uses a centrally mounted wheel to measure bumps and dips in the pavement surface.

The bumps and dips exceeding a threshold or bandwidth are added up over 0.10 mile (0.16 kilometer) to produce a profile index for that section. The lower the profile index, the smoother the road and the better the ride. Using the profilograph and profile index, highway agencies were able to establish and measure a performance goal for pavement smoothness that could be included in construction contracts.

Highway agencies found that pavements built under a profilograph specification were smoother and rode better, but the ride was still not as good as motorists demanded. Agencies began specifying an even lower profile index and narrowing or eliminating the bandwidth in calculating the profile index. Pavements



built under these second generation profilograph specifications got smoother, but they still weren't as smooth as they could be.

Highway agencies had taken the profilograph specification as far as it could go. The required specification to build even smoother pavements exceeded the capability of the profilograph to measure the true profile of the road surface.



The next step was the profilometer, an innovation that uses non-contact sensors and computer technology to accurately measure the pavement profile and calculate an International Roughness Index. As with the profile index, a lower IRI means a smoother pavement, but IRI is a much better indicator of the ultimate ride quality than the profile index.

Performance goals helped turn the quest for smoother pavements into a success story. Today most state highway agencies set their pavement smoothness performance goals using IRI measured by low-cost profilometers. Pavements that meet these goals provide the smoothest ride for highway users. Highway agencies also benefit because, as the Federal Highway Administration's Long-Term Pavement Performance Program has documented, smoother pavements last longer and perform better/

For more information, visit www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/smoothness.

Join us in the Quest for Highway Quality in San Diego, California, November 13-14, to learn more about Highways for LIFE projects and progress!

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TIG 2007 FOCUS TECHNOLOGIES HIT THE ROAD

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Technology Implementation Group (TIG) promotes high payoff, innovative technologies that state and local transportation agencies and industry can use to improve the nation's highway system. Information and technical assistance on two focus technologies selected for 2007 are now about to hit the road.

Self Propelled Modular Transporters – or SPMTs – are multi-axle, computer controlled transport platforms that can maneuver with remarkable flexibility and be used in the removal, support and installation of entire bridges and bridge sections, accelerating project schedules and reducing driver impact. Vehicles can move in any horizontal direction while maintaining their payload geometry and keeping equal axle loads. SPMTs also have vertical lift capability, allowing them to remove old bridge sections and replace them with prefabricated replacements in a fraction of the time required for traditional demolition and construction. Florida is serving as the Lead State for this TIG implementation effort.



Automated Machine Guidance (AMG) integrates a Global Positioning System (GPS) and computer generated Digital Terrain Models (DTM) into the operation of highway construction equipment, guiding the machinery with a high level of precision and increasing safety, productivity and accuracy. AMG technology is gaining popularity in grading operations, in particular. The Minnesota Department of Transportation leads this team as an experienced AMG user.

Promotional materials for both technologies are about to be released and can soon be accessed through TIG's website at www.aashtotig.org. Or contact Keith Platte at (202) 624-7830 (kplatte@ashto.org).

NPHQ HONES STRATEGIC FOCUS

NPHQ enters its 15th Anniversary year with a honing of its strategic focus, communicated through a new brochure and revised long range plan.

New NPHQ Brochure On The Way

Copies of the new brochure will soon be in circulation. Or you can visit www.nphq.org to download and share a copy with your quality-focused colleagues.



NPHQ is a groundbreaking partnership between:

- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)
- The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)
- Delcan Corporation
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- Foundation for Pavement Preservation (FP2)
- Granite Construction Company
- National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET)
- National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA)
- Peter Kiewit Sons', Inc.
- RedVector.com
- Texas Transportation Institute (TTI)
- URS Corporation
- Williams Brothers Construction Company

NPHQ Long Range Plan Is Being Streamlined

The NPHQ Steering Committee has reduced the number of goals and objectives in the 2008-2012 LRP to those judged to bring the most return in terms of improved highway quality and customer service. These include promoting formation of State SQPs; advocating effective project delivery partnerships; disseminating proven, innovative methods of advancing highway quality; championing work force training; and, identifying and publicizing objective measures of improved quality and customer satisfaction. Publication of the new LRP is targeted for Spring 2008.

The NPHQ Newsletter

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