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News at the end of 2005 focused on time, a valuable commodity to us all. As it turns out, like many of us, Earth too is behind schedule, and so its gift in 2005 was an extra second added to the clock, a “leap second.” Earth’s day is increasing about 2 milliseconds per century (due to the tides) and for us humans to keep up, about 21 leap seconds have been added to the clock since 1972, the last one being in 1998. Adding seconds to the clock will likely occur twice a year within the next century, as Earth keeps falling further behind.

The end of one year and the beginning of another always has us “taking inventory” of our accomplishments and shortcomings, and generally evaluating where we are in life, among other things. So in taking “stock” of our center for 2005, I have to say that I took great comfort in knowing that I was in good company (with Mother Earth) in sharing the challenge of not having enough hours in the day to do what needed to be done. I am now reassured that not having enough time to accomplish everything we’d like to do is indeed one of those shared universal phenomenons, like never having enough money or funding.

In 2005, our center delivered 17 training courses, training 244 people in 9 different subject areas, with 4,243 hours of instruction. We sponsored training in 16 different locations within a service area of 31 states: A vast geographical span from the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean (including Minnesota), and south to the Gulf of Mexico. We spent countless hours in industry-related meetings, indirectly educating and “liaison-ing” our way throughout the entire country. Besides the outreach, we “kicked it up a notch” with both our newsletter and our web page. Our editor created a new design, moved us to full color, added many photos, and developed more tools and content, making them much more useful, user-friendly and appealing. And that’s merely the front-line action, the back office was just as dynamic. Our editor and student employee, working countless hours behind the scenes on developing and re-structuring, made their visions and plans into reality (check out the article in this issue on our new Web site). Our management and leadership people intently tried to capture the resonance of field/grass roots level within our program. So, all in all, in taking stock of the use of our center’s time and resources in 2005, I am completely satisfied with both the effort and the results. I think we did a decent job and our time was well spent. When I think of our center and the year 2005, the term value comes to mind.

Safety Corner

Tribal Highway Safety Improvement Program Model And Implementation Plan for Hazard Elimination Projects Guide

The purpose of this project is to develop a model process and guidelines to improve Tribes’ abilities 1) to identify hazardous highway locations, sections, and elements; and 2) to develop and prioritize projects. The goal for implementing the model process and guidelines is to place Tribes in a position to effectively compete for Hazard Elimination Program (HEP) and other available highway safety funding.


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Federal Tribes in the Michigan Tech TTAP Region

- Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians
- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Bay Mills Indian Community
- Bois Forte (Netz Lake) Band of Chippewa
- Catatea Indian Tribe
- Cayuga Nation of Indians
- Chippewa of Eastota Community
- Croushatta Tribe of Louisiana
- Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
- Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa
- Forest County Potawatomi Community
- Grand Portage Band of Chippewa
- Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa
- Hannahville Indian Community
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Huron Potawatomi, Inc.
- Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Leech Lake Band of Chippewa
- Little Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa Indians
- Lower Sioux Reservation
- Matchquatucket Pequot Indian Tribe
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
- Micosukee Tribe of Indians
- Mississippian Band of Chocow Indians
- Mohican Tribe of Indians
- Narragansett Indian Tribe
- Oneida Nation of New York
- Oneida Tribe of Indians in Wisconsin
- Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
- Passamaquoddy Tribe Indian Township Reservation
- Passamaquoddy Tribe Pleasant Point Reservation
- Penobscot Indian Nation
- Poarch Band of Creek Indians
- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
- Sac and Fox Tribe of Mississippi in Iowa
- Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- Sauk Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Schaghticoke Tribal Nation
- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Seneca Nation of Indians
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Shinnecock Nation
- Sokogon Chippewa Community
- St. Croix Chippewa Indians
- St. Regis Band of Mohawks Indians
- Stockbridge-Munsee Community
- Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians
- Tuscarora Nation of Indians
- Upper Sioux Community
- Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head Aquinnah
- White Earth Band of Chippewa Indians

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**Time, from page 1**

In 2006, we will focus on over 20 different training topics, 2 core competency conferences, as well as some trials in distance learning. We will attempt to penetrate regions/locations we were not able to reach in 2005, and we will push those trained last year on to the next level.

This year, in looking at how you will spend the “extra time” the universe has given you, take a look at a training opportunity with us. We hope you will find the same, that it was a worthwhile investment and time well spent.

For information on 2006 training topics, please check our web site <http://www.ttap.mtu.edu>, write <TTAP@mtu.edu>, or call 888-230-0688.

See you on the road! 🚗

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**Editor’s Corner**

Welcome to 2006 and a new TTAP training season. By the time you read this, the first meetings and trainings have begun, but don’t despair, there’s plenty more where that came from. Be sure to check out our full calendar of training on page 7. Being early in the year, this schedule contains many “TBD” dates, so be sure to check our web site throughout the year for updates.

When you go to our web site, you may notice the many changes highlighted on pages 4-6. We are constantly trying to put more and more information on the web, and we welcome announcements from other organizations. Since you’ll be on the web site checking the calendar, take a minute to fill out the on-line survey. We’ll use the feedback you give us to improve our center.

--John

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**Program Director**

Bernard D. Alkire, Ph.D.

**Manager**

Cheryl Cloud

**Editor**

John Velat

**Workshop Instructor**

John Lovato

**Administrative Assistant**

Amanda Abramson

**Student Assistant/Web Master**

Troy Sherman

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Pathways is published quarterly by the Tribal Technical Assistance Program, in the Michigan Tech Transportation Institute at Michigan Technological University. The Tribal Technical Assistance Program is part of a nationwide effort jointly financed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). It intends to relay the latest technology and information on tribal roads and bridges, tourism, recreational travel, and related economic development to tribal transportation and planning personnel. Tribes in the Michigan Tech TTAP region include those in the Minneapolis and Eastern BIA Regions. Contact the TTAP office for a free Pathways subscription, or to submit articles and suggestions.

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You may contribute information for publication on the MTU TTAP web site at any time, but the **deadline** for contributing suggestions, corrections, or information for printing in the next Pathways, Volume 12, No. 2, is March 13, 2006. Any contributions made after that date may appear in Volume 12, No. 3.

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**Federal Tribes in the Michigan Tech TTAP Region**

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- Tuscarora Nation of Indians
- Upper Sioux Community
- Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head Aquinnah
- White Earth Band of Chippewa Indians
Quantification of Smoothness Index Differences Related to Long-Term Pavement Performance Equipment Type

"Abstract: The Long-Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) program was designed as a 20-year study of pavement performance. A major data collection effort at LTPP test sections is the collection of longitudinal profile data using inertial profilers Three types of inertial profilers have been used since the inception of the LTPP program: (1) K.J. Law Engineers DNC 690 incandescent profilers, (2) K.J. Law Engineers T-6600 infrared-system profilers, and (3) International Cybernetics Corporation (ICC) laser profilers. The following analyses were performed for this research project: (1) investigate data collection characteristics and compare profile data collected by the different inertial profilers, (2) compare International Roughness Index (IRI) values obtained by the different inertial profilers, (3) investigate factors that contribute to differences in IRI for data obtained from profilers and Dipstick®, and (4) identify problems with equipment functionality and current data collection and procession procedures. The analyses indicated good agreement of IRI values among the different inertial profilers that have been used in the LTPP program."

Report No. FHWA-HRT-05-054. September 2005
(At press time, no on-line links were available for this document)

Field observations and evaluations of streambed scour at bridges

"The National Bridge Scour Project was funded by the FHWA to collect field data on scour at bridges during major floods. The project has collected data during six major floods and has compiled data collected by various state-funded projects. An analysis of the pier scour data has been completed and a revised K2 has been developed. The HEC-18 approach to abutment and contraction scour was applied to two sites in Minnesota and the results compared with measured data."

Report No. FHWA-RD-03-052
(At press time, no on-line links were available for this document)

Safety Evaluation of Red-Light Cameras

"Abstract: The objective of this final study was to determine the effectiveness of red-light-camera (RLC) systems in reducing crashes. The study used empirical Bayes before-and-after research using data from seven jurisdictions across the United States at 132 treatment sites. The purpose of the study was to estimate the crash and associated economic effects of RLC systems and specially derived rear end and right-angle unit crash costs for various severity levels. Crash effects detected were consistent in direction with those found in many previous studies: decreased right-angle crashes and increased rear end ones. The economic analysis examined the extent to which the increase in rear end crashes negates the benefits for right-angle crashes. The analysis showed an aggregate crash cost benefit of RLC systems. A disaggregate analysis found that the greatest economic benefits are associated with the highest total entering average annual daily traffic, the largest ratios of right-angle to rear end crashes, and with the presence of protected left turn phases. There were weak indications of a spillover effect that points to a need for a more definitive, perhaps prospective, study of this issue."

Document links:
New TTAP Web Site Form and Function

Major updates to the Michigan Tech TTAP Web site make it easier for you to register for workshops, see what’s going on, and get information important to you.

Have you visited the Michigan Tech TTAP web site lately? You’ll notice some changes in the way the site looks, and in the way it works. We’ve made our web site a place to get relevant information and interact with us without having to pick up the phone or send a fax.

First of all, you’ll notice the new look. Users asked us to add more pictures to the site, so we’ve done that. We’ll update pictures as we take them, so you might find yourself on the front page someday. In addition to the pictures, the new look includes some new functionality.

Navigation

The main sections of http://www.ttap.mtu.edu have been listed along the top, for quick navigation to the various major subject areas of our site.

Searching

Searching the whole web site, or the whole Internet, is easy. To search, simply enter a few key words about what you are looking for in the “search” box at the top of the page, and Google will show you the pages containing those words. You can choose to search just <http://www.ttap.mtu.edu> or to search the whole Internet. All of the Google search operators, e.g. “+”, “-”, and “site:” work in the search box (see “Search Engine Cheat Sheet” sidebar on page 6).

Mailing List

Adding yourself to our mailing list is easy: simply fill out the form on the left side of the page and click “submit.” Your contact information will be entered into our contact database.

Current Announcements

On the Home page, you’ll see a listing of upcoming events and the latest notices. Most of the entries have links for more information on that entry.

Online Workshop Registration

In addition to seeing upcoming workshops on the front page, you can register for those workshops right on our web site. Clicking “register for TTAP workshops” takes you to the registration page.

The registration process has two steps:

1. Enter your first name, last name, and ZIP code. If you have registered for a workshop online before, and you’ve entered the same first name, last name, and ZIP that you used last time, you won’t have to fill out a new contact form.

2. Confirm your registration by clicking “Yes, This is me” or click “No, this is
not me. Return to the Workshops page.” If you click “Yes”, you’ll be registered. If you click “No”, you’ll get a chance to enter your information again. Keep in mind that we are looking up information based on a first name, last name, and zip code, so if you happen to share that information with somebody else in our database, you’ll have to call us to sort it out how we’ll tell you and your twin apart.

That’s it! If you want to change or remove your registration, you’ll have to call or write us. This is how we protect you from others who might want to take your seat at our popular workshops.

If you enter an e-mail in the registration form, we’ll send you e-mail notifications about the workshop. If you do not enter an e-mail address, we’ll do our best to call or fax you should we need to update you with workshop cancellations or changes. We will always try to reach you if there are changes to the workshop, but you should check our site before any scheduled event to see if there are changes or cancellations that you didn’t hear about.

Frequently asked questions about the registration process

Why can’t I un-register?
You can’t un-register on-line because we don’t want someone withdrawing you on purpose or by accident. If you want to withdraw from a class that you’ve registered for, you’ll have to call or e-mail us.

How can I see if I am registered for a workshop?
Go through the registration process for the workshop you are checking on, and the web site will confirm your registration and contact information.

Can I update my contact information on line?
Once you’ve submitted information via the on-line form, you can only change that information by calling or writing us.

Can others see my private information?
Yes. Just like you can enter your own
**Search Engine Cheat Sheet**

The search feature of www.ttap.mtu.edu is run by Google.com. Because we’ve chosen Google to run the search query you enter in our search box, you can also enter any of the search operators that you would enter into Google directly.

Have you ever wondered why some people can seem to find just what they’re looking for on the Internet while you are stuck looking at everything you DON’T want to see? Some of the magic that those successful searchers use is available to all of us in the form of search “operators.” A search operator is a symbol or word that instructs the search server to perform an operation on the search query that is different from the “default” operator.

Here’s a cheat sheet to help you build a search that gets you the information you want, and not the information you don’t want.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator: Effect:</th>
<th>Sample query:</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no operator (default)</td>
<td>request documents with either of the words entered (in Google, the first results will have both words)</td>
<td>ttap michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>requires whatever comes after + to be in the result</td>
<td>+ttap +michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“*”</td>
<td>requires the exact word or words typed</td>
<td>“ttap michigan”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>requires words following - to be excluded from the result</td>
<td>ttap michigan -oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~</td>
<td>find synonyms of word following ~</td>
<td>ttap michigan ~training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>request documents with either word listed before and after “OR”</td>
<td>ttap michigan OR oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>define: defines the word following</td>
<td>define:training</td>
<td>dictionary definition of training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>site: restricts results to a specific web site</td>
<td>training site:ttap.mtu.edu</td>
<td>documents on the ttap.mtu.edu web site with the word “training” in them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>wildcard replacing any number of letters or words (Google will give you results with common suffixes like “ing” “ed” and “s” by default)</td>
<td>ttap michigan work*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can also use combinations of operators (**ttap michigan -oklahoma OR -california site:ttap.mtu.edu**). With practice, you’ll also learn Google tricks like restricting a search to only a certain domain (**site:.gov, or site:.edu**), performing instant conversions (**convert 147 acres to sq mi**), or getting the map for a location (**map:houghton, mi**).

There are many other documented and undocumented tricks for any search engine. Each search engine usually has a page dedicated to helping you get better results. Below are links to the most popular search engine help pages. Try clicking on the “help” or “advanced search” link on the main page of your favorite search engine if it’s not listed here.

- [http://search.msn.com](http://search.msn.com) (click on “search builder” and then “learn more”)

Web, from page 5

**How can I pay the registration fee?**

You can wait for an invoice and then pay by cash, check, or credit card. You can pay before, on the day of, or after the workshop, unless the workshop is designated pre-pay only. You do not have to wait for the invoice to pay.

**Can I see who else is registered?**

No, you can’t view the roster or the number of people registered via the Web site. You may call or write us to request a list of attendees.

**How do I register a bunch of people easily?**

Make a list of the people you want to register in a spreadsheet, e-mail, or fax with all the contact information you see on the registration form. Remember, you’ll only have to fill out the whole form once. If you are already in our database, the web site will recognize your first name, last name, and ZIP code and you only have to confirm the information you entered earlier.

We’ve made this web site based on your input and our own ideas. We welcome your input, so please call or write us whenever you have a great idea or new content for the TTAP web site!
### 2006 MTU TTAP Training and Event Calendar

All events and details are subject to change. Please check www.ttap.mtu.edu for up-to-date information on these events, and for more events scheduled throughout the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost &amp; duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 22-26</td>
<td>Annual Transportation Research Board (TRB) Meeting &amp; Subcommit-tee participation</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7-8</td>
<td>IRR Program Overview &amp; P.L. 93-638 Construction Contracting</td>
<td>Arlington, VA (USET)</td>
<td>FREE (12 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Heavy Equipment Operation &amp; Safety Training</td>
<td>Poarch Creek, AL</td>
<td>FREE (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Heavy Equipment Operation &amp; Safety Training</td>
<td>Passamaquddy (Pleasant Point), ME</td>
<td>FREE (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20-24</td>
<td>Welding</td>
<td>Passamaquddy (Indian Township), ME</td>
<td>FREE (16 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Road Construction Project Inspection</td>
<td>Eastern Cherokee, NC</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Land Use Planning</td>
<td>Eastern Region</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Heavy Equipment Operation &amp; Safety Training</td>
<td>White Earth, MN</td>
<td>FREE (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Heavy Equipment Operation &amp; Safety Training</td>
<td>Keweenaw Bay, MI</td>
<td>FREE (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>BIA/State/Tribal Meetings with FREE training</td>
<td>Midwest Region</td>
<td>EVENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3-4</td>
<td>Traffic Counting</td>
<td>Midwest Region</td>
<td>FREE (8 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Surveying for Local Highway Departments</td>
<td>Marksville, Louisiana (Paragon Casino)</td>
<td>$50 (8 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Welding</td>
<td>Gun Lake, MI</td>
<td>FREE (16 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Welding</td>
<td>Bois Forte (Nett Lake), MN</td>
<td>FREE (16 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>OSHA Competent Person Training</td>
<td>Leech Lake, MN</td>
<td>TBD (8 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Electronic Surveying</td>
<td>Eastern Cherokee, NC</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 28 - August 6</td>
<td>National LTAP/TTAP Annual Meeting and International Symposium on Transportation Technology Transfer</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, FL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Steep Slope Equipment Operation</td>
<td>Eastern Cherokee, NC</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Tribal Transit Training</td>
<td>Eastern Region</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Field Operator’s Course</td>
<td>Midwest Region</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Surveying for Local Highway Departments</td>
<td>Midwest Region (Ho-Chunk)</td>
<td>$50 (8 hrs.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Tribal Roads Program Management Course</td>
<td>Midwest Region</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>National Tribal Transportation Conference (NTTC)</td>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>CDL Training</td>
<td>Midwest Region</td>
<td>TBD (24 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Tribal Transportation Planning</td>
<td>Eastern Region</td>
<td>TBD (16 hrs.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other potential training topics in 2006:**
- Asset Management
- Cultural Sensitivity Training
- Forklift Operation & Safety
- GIS/GPS Training
- IRR Inventory & RIFDS Training
- Road Safety Audits

You may request training for any topic, and not just for the ones you see here. All specific requests for local training in 2007 must be e-mailed to TTAP@mtu.edu, faxed to 906-487-1834, or mailed to us by December 8, 2006.
2006 BIA/Tribal/State meetings for the BIA Midwest Region

Be sure to contact Todd Kennedy, Midwest Regional Road Engineer, 612-713-4400 at the BIA Midwest Office for questions about these meetings and to confirm dates, times, and locations.

**Wisconsin, April 4-6, 2006**
Hosted by: Ho-Chunk Tribe (Baraboo location)
Road Safety Audit Training (4 hrs, April 4)

**Michigan, April 18-20, 2006**
Hosted by: Sault Ste. Marie Tribe
Road Safety Audit Training (4 hrs, April 18)

**Minnesota, May 2-3, 2006**
Hosted by: Upper Sioux Tribe
Traffic Counting Training (May 3-4)