TRAC & RIDES Program Update

AASHTO Annual Meeting 2014
Matt Dunn – MDOT
What is TRAC?

• Transportation and Civil Engineering
• Students participate in hands-on activities to solve real-world problems through math, physical science, and social science.
  • Bridge Design
  • City Planning
  • Design and Construction
  • Environmental Engineering
  • Highway Safety
  • Magnetic Levitation
  • Motion
  • Traffic Technology
What is RIDES?

• Roadways Into Developing Elementary Students
• RIDES introduces elementary students to engineering and transportation careers
  • Laws of Motion
  • Inertia and Safety
  • Transportation Careers
  • Environmental Topics
  • Roadway Geometry
  • Using Maps
  • Related transportation topics
TRAC & RIDES Mission

To introduce students in grades K-12 to the working world of transportation, especially civil engineering, and inspire them to consider careers in those fields.
TRAC & RIDES Successes in 2014

Rhode Island
• TRAC career ladder – Brain and Brawn
  • “Building Futures” Program
• Impacting over 6000 students this year
• Workforce Diversity

Iowa
• Working in lower income/disadvantaged schools
• Created partnership with minority and women owned engineering firms
TRAC & RIDES Successes in 2014

Mississippi

• Trained 229 teachers over the summer
• 150 teams applied for state bridge competition
• 46 teams applied for AASHTO bridge competition

Michigan

• Held 25 TRAC training sessions
• 22 students in the TRAC pipeline program
• Created partnership with MSU to reach more students
TRAC & RIDES Successes in 2014

FHWA Florida

- Using Quest Corporation of America to gather data on programs implemented in Florida, including performance of TRAC

FHWA assistance for States

- OJT funds
- 5204 E – Workforce Development
TRAC & RIDES Successes in 2014

AASHTO National Bridge Competition

- Twelve States participating (99 teams)
  - Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Kentucky
- Truss, Cable-Stayed, Suspension
- Spring Meeting on Wednesday
Spring 2014 participation

• 23 states participating
  • Alaska
  • Arizona
  • Colorado
  • Connecticut
  • Florida
  • Hawaii
  • Illinois
  • Louisiana
  • Maryland
  • Michigan
  • Mississippi
  • Nebraska
  • Nevada
  • New Hampshire
  • New York
  • North Dakota
  • Oklahoma
  • Oregon
  • Rhode Island
  • West Virginia

• Goal for 2014 was to have 30 States participating by the end of the year
Fall 2014 participation

• 20 states participating
  - Alaska
  - Arizona
  - Colorado
  - Connecticut
  - Florida
  - Hawaii
  - Illinois
  - Louisiana
  - Maryland
  - Michigan
  - Mississippi
  - Nebraska
  - Nevada
  - New Hampshire
  - New York
  - North Dakota
  - Oklahoma
  - Oregon
  - Rhode Island
  - West Virginia

• 10 states added
  - Pennsylvania
  - Ohio
  - Virginia
  - Kentucky
  - Utah
  - Wisconsin
  - California
  - Wyoming
  - Iowa
  - Delaware
  - Tennessee

• We have received the TSP fee from 15 states, but we need 21 to break even
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Questions?