The National Transportation Knowledge Network:
A Community of Practice for Transportation Information Professionals

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US DOT Bureau of Transportation Statistics
National Transportation Library

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Information for Knowledge Workers
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About the National Transportation Library

• Established in 1998 by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21; P.L. 105-178)
• Part of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics
• NTL provides access and support to:
  – Digital collections
  – Data services
  – Reference and research services
  – Transportation knowledge networks
NTL and MAP-21 [49 USC 6304]

NTL’s authorized role is expanded and aligns with the 4 other national libraries:

– Services to DOT, other Federal agencies, public and private organizations, and individuals within the U.S. and internationally
– Set specific requirements for the NTL Director’s position
– Acquire, preserve and manage transportation information and information products and services for use by DOT, other Federal agencies, and the public
– Provide reference and research services
– Central repository for DOT research results and technical publications
– Central clearinghouse for transportation data and information of the Federal Government
– Serve as coordinator and policy lead for transportation information access
– Coordinate among and cooperate with multiple external parties to develop a “comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network” to support the I-XI list [information required of BTS at 49 USC 6302((b)(3)(B)(vi))]
– Publicize, facilitate and promote access to information products and services
– Receives contract, grant and agreement authority to support these goals

Coordinate among and cooperate with multiple external parties to develop a “comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network” to support the I-XI list [information required of BTS at 49 USC 6302((b)(3)(B)(vi))]
NTKN Mission

The National Transportation Knowledge Network (NTKN) leads, supports, and guides the nation’s transportation knowledge networks in their efforts to organize, share, and preserve transportation information, data, and knowledge for their stakeholders in the transportation community.

https://transportation.libguides.com/ntkn
NTKN Administration

• NTKN is a collaborative alliance of volunteer knowledge and information professionals

• NTKN Coordinating Committee is responsible for coordination and administrative functions
  – Leighton Christiansen, chair
  – Bob Sweet, secretariat
NTKN Goals

• Coordination of resources and efforts
• Teaching and learning
• Developing knowledge assets
• Innovating methods, tools, and services
• Adapting knowledge assets for local use
• Supporting individual members
NTKN LibGuides

- Hosted by NTL
- Information about NTKN, benefits of participation, governance documents
- Resource guides of national interest to knowledge workers
- Created and maintained by NTKN members

https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN/resource_guides
The National Transportation Knowledge Network (NTKN) is a voluntary alliance of transportation organizations, which supports a network of transportation information professionals, who collaborate to expand, improve access to, and preserve the domain of transportation knowledge. The purpose of NTKN is to coordinate with transportation research centers, transportation libraries, information providers, and technical assistance centers to develop a comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network that supports the activities of its members. NTKN members share the commonality of accessible quality information and resources housed in transportation research center websites, library collections, archives, institutional knowledge bases and systems, data centers, etc., which would be of benefit to the transportation community. Member groups commit to specific activities in support of the association and its work and are expected to participate in decision making, policy development, and governance where possible.

Mission

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Online Transportation Research Publications: Home

Research publications from State Departments of Transportation, academic educational institutions and other national and state organizations

Home State Research Reports National Publications

Online Transportation Research Publications

Many transportation agencies are making their publications available online. Retroactive digitization of potentially hundreds of historical documents is a very large and time consuming project, often taking several years to complete. At the same time, other agencies are working to make all of those publications accessible from unified databases, search engines and libraries. That is also a time consuming project. This guide is an effort to help with finding those publications via as many of the different access points as possible.

On the Home tab you will find the databases, search engines and libraries where you can search for publications from many agencies at once. On the other tabs you will find links directly to the agencies and access to their publications.

As with all LibGuides, this is a work in progress. If you see any errors, or know of sites which should be added, please contact the Guide compilers.
Copyright is a form of intellectual property (IP), which along with trademarks and patents, is protected by law (Title 17 of the US Code). This protection is grounded in the US Constitution, and grants protection for original works of authorship that is created in a tangible form of expression. Copyright covers both published and unpublished works, as well as digital creations, including webpages. These laws protect the creator's right to control how the material is:

- Reproduced
- Distributed
- Adapted
- Performed or displayed

Works created since 1989 are not required to include a copyright statement; we must assume that any publication, image, musical program, etc. is protected by copyright laws unless stated otherwise. Generally speaking, under current US copyright laws, copyright statements on works created after 1923 are still in effect.

For more information, see links under the Resources tab.
AASHTO Digital Publications: Basic Information

This LibGuide shares information in one place on suggestions for how state DOTs can manage the AASHTO E-Publications process. Prepared by a member of the Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network in consultation with AASHTO's Publication Department.

FAQs

- FAQ - Complimentary Copies Distributed to AASHTO Members (July 2017)
  Prepared by AASHTO Publications Department

- AASHTO Downloadable Publications Agreement

- AASHTO Publications Gatekeeper
  On October 16, 2018, AASHTO informed Board members that they would direct publications to one main contact — a publications gatekeeper for your DOT as of November 9th. BOD members are asked to send contact information about their selected gatekeeper and backup to Michele Langham by that date.
  mliangham@aashto.org by November 9th.

- AASHTO Bookstore - Web-Based Publications User Guide
- AASHTO Bookstore - PDF Download User Guide
- AASHTO Publications Editorial Calendar
Provides links to agency organizational charts, past compilations, research on state DOT organizational structure and some departmental/unit organizational charts.

Please contact the guide author if you would update your state DOT information or if additional resources should be added to this guide.

This guide was last verified or updated on January 9, 2019.

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Transportation Librarians Roundtable

• The Transportation Librarians Roundtable (TLR) provides transportation information professionals with opportunities to learn more about issues of mutual concern and interest and to have a new means of regular communication among members of that community

• TLR is an NTL initiative, co-sponsored by AASHTO, Special Libraries Association's Transportation Division, and TRB
Transportation Librarians Roundtable

- Monthly web conference series
- Live presentations are captioned for accessibility
- Past presentations are archived and available for replay

https://transportation.libguides.com/TLR
Expert Database

- Directory of knowledge and information professionals in transportation
- Voluntary participation, members fill out a form for inclusion
- Entries to focus on people, roles and areas of expertise
- Current project to replace *Directory of Transportation Libraries and Information Centers*
Cooperative Digitization

- NTKN Working Group: Focus on shared inventories, storage and access
  - Avoid duplication of effort
  - Prioritize projects
  - Locate already digitized materials
  - Discover print materials that have not yet been digitized

- Pooled Fund Study on Transportation Research and Connectivity: Create a cooperative digitization project among members, in partnership with the NTL, to convert copies of older materials to digital formats, as well as providing ADA compliance support for digital documents
Librarians Toolkit

• Product of a Transportation Library Connectivity pooled fund study, published in 2007, updated in 2009

• Provides guidance to new transportation information professionals, especially solo librarians and research managers

• Future revision will serve as a guide for organizations that do not have libraries or librarians and want to provide information services
Outreach

• We attend and speak at national meetings
• TRANLIB-L discussion group
• National Transportation Knowledge Network (NTKN): Blog
  https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN/blog
• Transportation Librarians Roundtable
How to Participate

• We welcome your help and feedback
• Join TRANLIB
• Attend or be a speaker for a TLR
• Volunteer to create and maintain a guide
• Add an entry about yourself in the Expert Database (forthcoming)
Questions or comments?

- Mary Moulton
  mary.moulton@dot.gov
- Bob Sweet
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- Leighton Christiansen
  leighton.Christiansen@dot.gov
NTL and MAP-21 [49 USC 6304]

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