**TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM**

**QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Date: 31 December 2012

Lead Agency : Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Project Managers and/or research project investigators should complete a quarterly progress report for each calendar quarter during which the projects are active. Please provide a project schedule status of the research activities tied to each task that is defined in the proposal; a percentage completion of each task; a concise discussion (2 or 3 sentences) of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.*

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| **Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #**  *(i.e, SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX)*  TPF-5(025) | | **Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:**  □Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31)  □Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30)  □Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30)  **X** Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31) | |
| **Project Title:**  **Latin American Trade and Transportation Studies** | | | |
| **Name of Project Manager(s):**  **Dennis Decker** | **Phone Number:**  **(225) 379-1248** | | **E-Mail**  **Dennis.Decker@la.gov** |
| **Lead Agency Project ID:**  **700-99-0416** | **Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):**  **2000004871/H.005319.5** | | **Project Start Date:**  **9 July 2007** |
| **Original Project End Date:**  **8 July 2010** | **Current Project End Date:**  **12 Dec 2012** | | **Number of Extensions:** |

Project schedule status:

x On schedule □ On revised schedule □ Ahead of schedule □ Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

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| **Total Project Budget** | **Total Cost to Date for Project** | **Percentage of Work**  **Completed to Date** |
| $2,330,000 | $1,994,000 | 80% |

***Quarterly*** Project Statistics:

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| **Total Project Expenses**  **and Percentage This Quarter** | **Total Amount of Funds**  **Expended This Quarter** | **Total Percentage of**  **Time Used to Date** |
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| **Project Description**:  OBJECTIVES: Create the Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies – ITTS – (LATTS Phase III)  The Institute will include but not be limited to analytical and coordinative services to:  1. Provide trade and transportation related information to member state agencies based on information obtained in  previous phases of LATTS.  2. Coordinate the dissemination, review, and analysis of information on forecasts of trade and transportation to state  agencies and the FHWA.  Assist state agencies in developing work statements, data collection frameworks, specialized trade & transportation  related analysis among states, plus other items not listed here. |

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| **Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**   * ITTS provided special assistance as requested for Kentucky (Mississippi River traffic), West Virginia (Inland Terminal studies), Mississippi (freight data and ITTS activities), Florida (Panama Canal trade), USDA on the low river conditions on the Mississippi River * ITTS continued to work on the ITTS Freight Conference in Partnership with the Mid America Freight Coalition. Kentucky is serving as the host state. * ITTS moved from the New Orleans Board of Trade to the Regional Planning Center, which has helped ITTS through discussing freight issues with local MPO staff. * Provide recommendations on the Proposed MAP-21 Freight Guidance, through partnership with the ITTS member states. Have also participated in MAP-21 discussions with AASHTO staff and USDOT staff. * We had several conference calls on ITTS organizational matters, MAP-21 proposals, and the upcoming ITTS conference. * Presentations: Propeller Club (Waterways in the Southeast), AASHTO Meeting (Benefit Cost Analysis for Waterways and Regional Planning), Miss. Water Resource Assoc. (Economics of Waterways to Mississippi), Mississippi River for University of Wisconsin and Importance of Trade to Louisiana for the West Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce. * Prepared several ITTS newsletters. |
| **Anticipated work next quarter**: To be continued under TPF-5(273)     * Assist Mississippi on legislative initiatives * Host the ITTS Freight Conference * Continue working on Data integration efforts of corridor information |

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| **Significant Results:**  ITTS continues to support member state requests for technical assistance on an “as requested” basis. This provides ITTS with more insights into how state DOTs are considering freight projects within their region.  ITTS has been evaluating software and datasets for corridor analysis, which will assist in the MAP-21 guidance on freight corridors. (FHWA expects to release the primary network information early 2013).  ITTS submitted comments on the Intern Freight Guidance to USDOT at the request of member states.  This contract was terminated on 30 Nov 2012. Work will continue effective 1 Dec 2012 under new contract with Mentis LLC, Principal Investigator, Mr. Bruce Lambert. The new pooled fund study will be titled TPF-5(273, Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies - ITTS |
| **Circumstance affecting project or budget. (Please describe any challenges encountered or anticipated that**  **might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope and fiscal constraints set forth in the**  **agreement, along with recommended solutions to those problems).**  Given the limited discretionary budget, ITTS has been working with LADOTD to ensure that budget elements were vetted with the member states. This includes travel funds for member states and prioritizing research needs. |

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| **Potential Implementation:**  Have been discussing the ITTS Workplan with member states, especially given the importance of freight corridors.  Am working on developing tools and datasets to discuss at the ITTS Conference to develop a clearer plan for integrating  State DOT information into the models and estimates. |