

Transportation Pooled Fund Program

Project Title: Latin America Trade & Transportation Study Institute (LATTS II / Institute ITTS)		
Project Managers & Phone Numbers: W. Ray Balentine, P.E., CPM Director, Office of Intermodal Transportation Planning 601-359-7025	Project No: TPF-5(025)	Project is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> R&D
Reporting Period: January – March, 2006	Multi-Year Project: Yes	
<p>Description of Work Performed & Progress: <i>Please note that <u>current</u> work performed in the progress reports is indicated with BOLD font...</i></p> <p>The southeastern states (SASHTO) undertook the Latin American Trade and Transportation Study (LATTS) in an attempt to plan for their future freight transportation challenges. To continue the initiative originated by LATTS and LATTS II, the member states decided to form an independent Institute that will continue LATTS' efforts in assisting the member states on freight related transportation issues.</p> <p>The Institute, owned by the region states, will perform specialized analysis and research that individual states would need and could not undertake singularly. The Institute's effectiveness will be in its ability to identify member states with similar needs and to address those needs regionally in a collaborative and cost effective manner. The name of the institute is Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies (ITTS).</p> <p>Domicile: The Institute is to be located in New Orleans, Louisiana, and on temporary basis, will be housed at World Trade Center, 2 Canal Street, Suite 2900, New Orleans, LA 70130-1507.</p> <p>At a recent AASHTO meeting in Nashville, TN., the ITTS Board & Bylaws was approved. At the meeting, Johnny Bradberry, Executive Director of the Louisiana DOT was elected President, Lindo Tippett, Executive Director, North Carolina DOT was elected Vice President, Butch Brown, Executive Director of the Mississippi DOT was elected Secretary/Treasurer, and Harold Linnenkohl, Executive Director of the Georgia DOT was selected as member of the ITTS Executive Committee. The executive committee is finalizing the requirements necessary for an executive director of ITTS and will advertise for the position during the next reporting period.</p> <p>The committee met via Teleconference on February 24, 2006 and agreed to advertise for the ITTS Executive Director and discussed possible projects that ITTS could perform for members of the Alliance. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita it became abundantly clear that coastal states must establish effective channels of cooperation in joint response to disaster. Plans for evacuation, delivery of assistance and evaluation of the effects of a disaster on segments of the infrastructure are only some of the very critical issues that require assessment and evaluation on a regional basis. ITTS is uniquely positioned to undertake such efforts on behalf of coastal and inland states facing such treats.</p> <p>A website for ITTS-LATTS will be published on MDOT's website and it should be available for review within the next 30 days. All member states as well as other government entities will be notified once the website is officially online. Presently, the current LATTS website is available online at http://www.wilbursmith.com/latts/</p>		
Status & Completion Date: Percentage of work completed to date for total project: Project is : <u>75</u> % <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> on schedule <input type="checkbox"/> behind schedule, explain: Expected Completion Date: <u>12/31/2006</u>		

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