

## TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Date: March 31, 2021

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Indiana DOT

**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.*

<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #</b> <i>(i.e., SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX))</i>  <u><b>TPF 5-281</b></u>		<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31)	
<b>Project Title:</b> <b>Center for the Aging Infrastructure: Steel Bridge Research, Inspection, Training and Education Engineering Center – S-BRITE</b>			
<b>Name of Project Manager(s):</b> Tommy E. Nantung		<b>Phone Number:</b> (765) 463-1521 ext. 248	<b>E-Mail</b> <a href="mailto:tnantung@indot.in.gov">tnantung@indot.in.gov</a>
<b>Lead Agency Project ID:</b>		<b>Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):</b>	<b>Project Start Date:</b> 9/1/2013
<b>Original Project End Date:</b> 10/1/2015		<b>Current Project End Date:</b> INDEFINITE	<b>Number of Extensions:</b> None

Project schedule status:

On schedule     
  On revised schedule     
  Ahead of schedule     
  Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

Total Project Budget	Total Cost to Date for Project	Percentage of Work Completed to Date**
<b>\$1,540,000*</b>	<b>\$869,604</b>	<b>75%</b>

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date**
<b>\$15,382,</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>80%</b>

\*Additional partners have joined S-BRITE and others have renewed participation, hence total project budget has increased.

\*\*Since end date has been extended, project percentages have been updated (estimates)

**Project Description:**

The objective is to develop the Steel Bridge Research, Inspection, Training, and Education Engineering Center (S-BRITE Engineering Center) focused on existing steel highway bridges. This National Center will be the first of its kind and will become the leading education, training, research, and engineering center related to all aspects affecting the existing aging steel bridge and structure inventory. Although the Center will be focused on highway bridges, it will also support stakeholders of steel railroad bridges as well as steel ancillary structures, such as lighting towers and sign supports. The Center will contribute to improved asset management decisions for DOTs, FHWA, and other partners relative to existing steel bridge inventory.

This impact will be realized through:

- Research
- Training
- Technical Support

**Progress this quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**

- Continued to provide DEN support to all partners.
- Scheduled and held an "S-BRITE UPDATE" webinar on March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021. The webinar was successful with very good input from the partners. Discussion focused around accomplishments of S-BRITE through TPF-5(281). Proposed research studies were also discussed. Connor will put together a survey to gain input on proposed research topics that might benefit partner agencies.
- At present, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, it appears that normal in-person short courses will not be able to "easily" offered until after August 2021 based on Purdue recommendations. However, if it appears that this will not be feasible, additional on-line training options will be provided.

**Anticipated work next quarter:**

- Issue web-based survey on proposed research projects discussed during the March 23 webinar. Depending on the results, possibly hold a short webinar to discuss the scope and details of the project that is selected.
- Offer S-BRITE course on retrofitting steel bridges for fatigue on campus as soon as travel restrictions are lifted for partner states.
- Continue with DEN support for all partners;
- Continue to work with DOTs to obtain items for bridge component gallery;

**Significant Results:**

1. Training of employees from several State DOT.
2. DEN support has provided solutions to various DOT problems.
3. S-BRITE research results are being disseminated

**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).**

COVID 19 has eliminated all on-site training at Purdue. Obviously, this has greatly reduced the ability of S-BRITE to provide training to partners and consultants. Optimistically, in-person training will resume in August of 2021.

**Potential Implementation:**

S-BRITE continues to have tremendous impact and benefit for owners, designers, and fabricators of steel bridges