

AASHTO RAC Transportation Knowledge Network Task Force

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What's the Problem?

- Not easy for either transportation professionals or the public to find the information they need or want.
- Internet searches only access ~16% of available information resources
 - Internet searches surf the surface web but not the invisible web.
 - Search company indexing can cause delay.
 - The invisible web is estimated to be 550 times larger than the surface web (numbers vary by study but all a significant amount)
- Full text searching doesn't find most related terms (hot mix asphalt, HMA, Superpave, ...)
- Version control management
- Brain drain as employees retire or people move on
- Inefficient communication
- "Hidden" communities
- Lack of connection between information resources
- Duplication of content/wasted server space
- and more...

SCOH Feedback April 2008

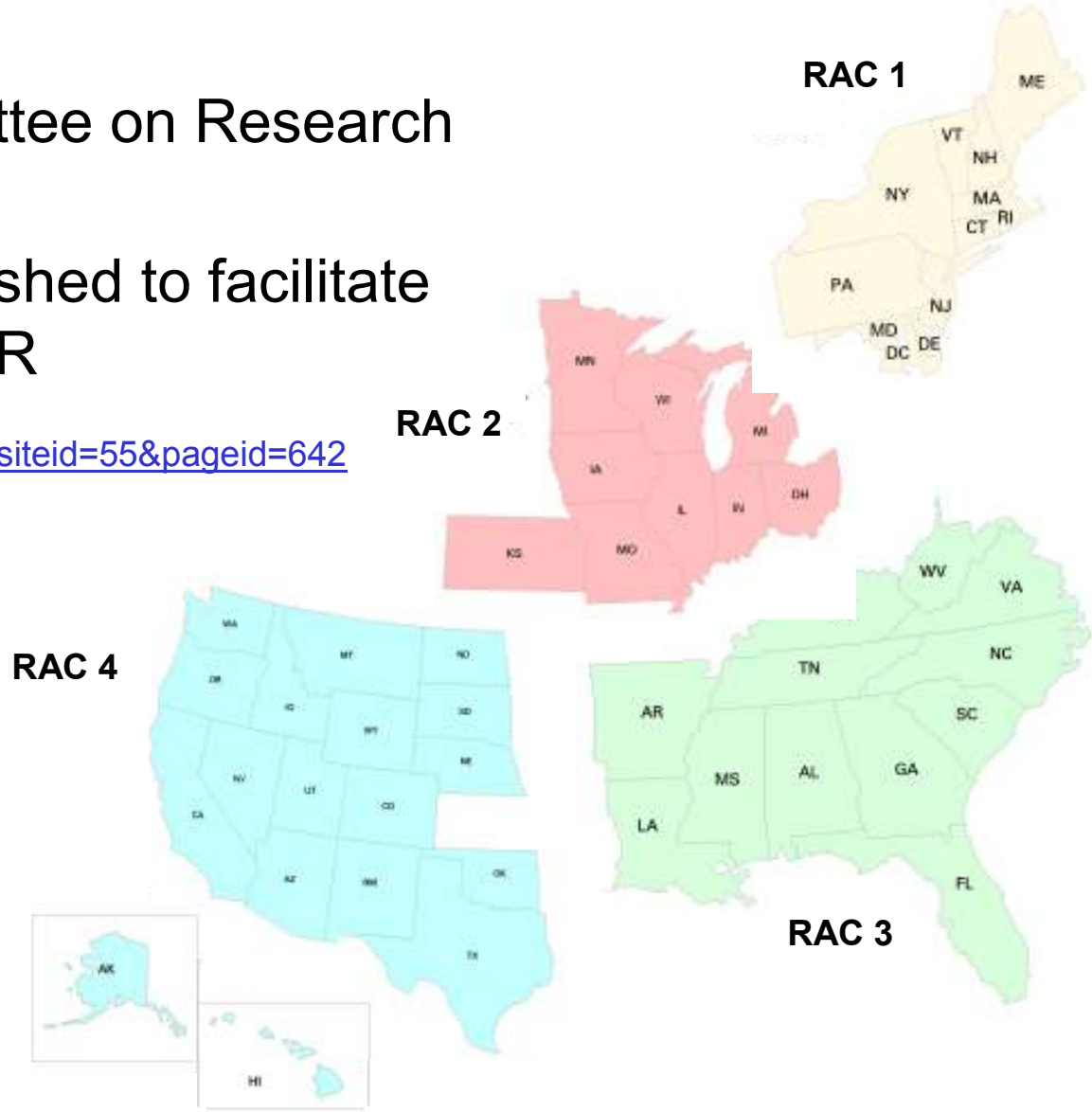
- 85% of AASHTO Standing Committee on Highway Respondents (28 states) thought a TKN would add value. The remaining respondents weren't sure.

Key transportation facts (gas tax by state, which states are using variable pricing...)	96.3%
State of the practice/Lessons Learned resources	88.9%
Research reports	74.1%
Current Policies and Procedures	81.5%
Directory of transportation professionals across the nation	63.0%
Industry Standards and Guidelines	59.3%
Data sources	48.1%
Event data (national and regional meetings and conferences)	33.3%

AASHTO RAC

- Standing Committee on Research created in 1987
- RAC also established to facilitate the work of SCOR

<http://www.transportation.org/?siteid=55&pageid=642>



SCOR's Strategic Plan

VISION STATEMENT:

Act as AASHTO's driving force for high-quality transportation research and innovation to improve the nation's mobility of people and goods.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Support AASHTO and the transportation community by delivering strategic, high-quality research results while addressing development, technology transfer, and implementation. **SCOR will facilitate access to accurate information** and new products and procedures for developing and operating transportation systems. SCOR will ensure that transportation research addresses critical short-term and long-term national needs; complement and supplement federal, state, local, and other programs; and have high value.

SCOR's Strategic Goals

1. Champion, optimize, and enhance the value of quality research and innovation to AASHTO, the transportation community, and the public.
2. Lead research planning and programming.
3. Ensure the development and application of successful research of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP).
4. Continuously review and improve Committee functions and activities.

RAC Task Groups

- (A) RAC Administration
- (B) Value of Research
- (C) Education and Training
- (D) Research Funding
- (E) Research Coordination and Collaboration
- (F) Program Management and Quality
- (G) Future Needs
- (H) Peer Exchange

RAC Transportation Knowledge Network
Task Force

Established March 2008

The Goal

The AASHTO RAC TKN TF serves as a forum to develop the concept, understanding, and application of transportation knowledge networks for the transportation sector. The AASHTO RAC TKN TF advocates and supports the rapid and efficient exchange of information resources through development of strategies and the innovative use of technology.

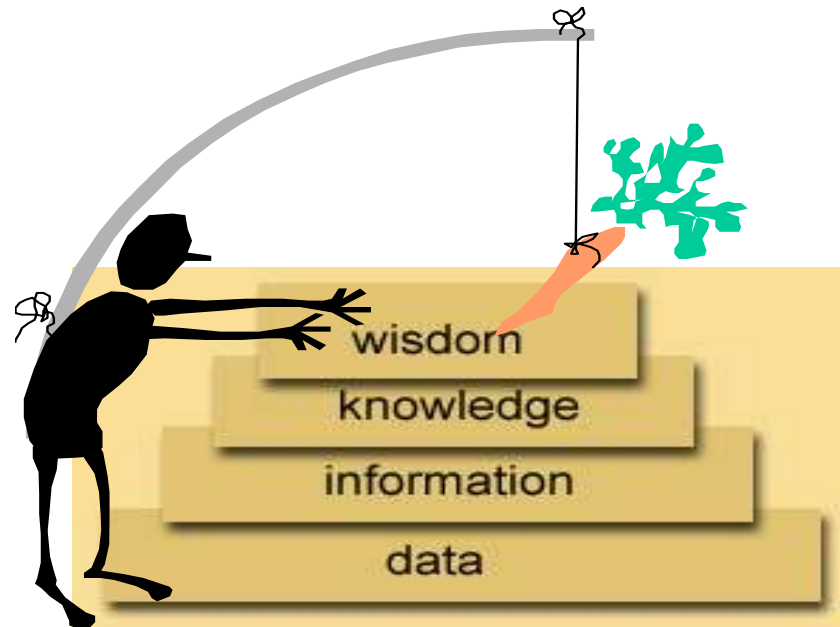
The Objectives

1. Support the formation of the transportation knowledge network to address business needs.
2. Advocate for an effective TKN and supporting information infrastructure.
3. Enhance knowledge exchange within the transportation community.
4. Develop strategies to actively monitor, support, and encourage methods for effective creation, capture, synthesis, transfer, application, and preservation of transportation knowledge.

Current Tasks

- TKN Reauthorization Briefing Paper – early action and early achievement
- Climate Change information resource
 - Creating a user-focused clearinghouse of transportation-related climate change information
- Defining the difference between current information resources and those available with a Transportation Knowledge Network

Reaching for Wisdom



Wisdom: The capacity to choose worthwhile objectives

Knowledge: The ability to use information to achieve objectives

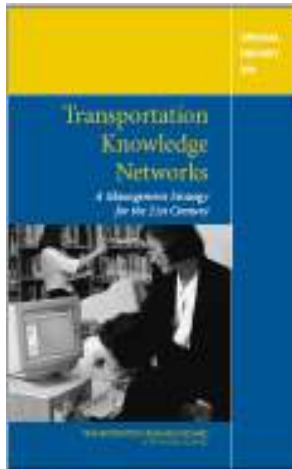
Information: Structured data

Data: Pure and simple facts

<http://www.systems-thinking.org/dikw/dikw.htm>

Getting Connected

Engaging the National Knowledge Resources



TRB Policy Report
 WSDOT Participates
Implementing Transportation Knowledge Networks
 (NCHRP 20-75)



AASHTO Research Advisory Committee
Special Task Group on Transportation Knowledge Networks



Transportation Knowledge Networks



Library Connectivity Pooled Fund

TPF-5(105)
 23 member states
 3 partners

