

Technology Today

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2009 Louisiana Transportation Conference

Over 1500 transportation professionals from 24 states and Canada attended the three-day 2009 Louisiana Transportation Conference (LTC). This year's theme was *Transportation Innovation: Solving Tomorrow's Challenges*. Representatives from the public, private, and academic sectors of the transportation industry convened at the Baton Rouge River Center on February 8-11 to attend workshop sessions, panel discussions, and networking receptions.

The LTC is held on a biennial basis to foster a better relationship and understanding among the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the transportation industry (contractors, consultants, universities, suppliers, parish/local agencies, etc.) by providing an interchange between the public and private sectors relative to transportation policy, practice, and problems.



LADOTD Secretary Dr. William D. Ankner welcomed this year's attendees at the keynote luncheon and introduced this year's keynote speaker Dr. Joseph M. Giglio. Dr. Giglio teaches corporate strategy at the Graduate School of Business at Northeastern University in Boston and has authored many books relating to the transportation industry, such as "Fast Lane to the Future," "Mobility," and "Driving Questions." Dr. Giglio discussed his most recent book, "Judges of the Secret Court," a fast-paced fiction novel that considers ways to stimulate economic growth by transforming America's transportation system.

Following the luncheon, attendees dispersed into various concurrent sessions throughout the River Center. The Program Committee organized more than 70 sessions, several personal development courses, and informative panel discussions. Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Research Engineer and LTC speaker Randy Battey, P.E., said, "I really enjoyed the conference; the organizing committee should be commended for putting on such an excellent and informative event. It is by far the best state agency led transportation conference that I have attended."



Featured Speakers Recognized

Over 200 speakers led discussions on topics ranging from research to innovative solutions in today's transportation industry. Speakers play a key role by providing educational enhancement of the transportation engineering community by relating the engineering activities, progress, and special projects of the Department as well as presenting information on innovative technologies and offering professional development opportunities. The following speakers served on panel Session 7: *Transportation Innovation—Solving Tomorrow's Challenges* and discussed new solutions to current problems and goals to implement in the future:

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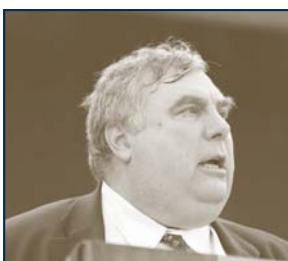
Joseph M. Giglio

Giglio is professor of Corporate Strategy at the College of Business, Northeastern University and author of “Fast Lane to the Future,” “Mobility,” “Driving Questions,” and “Judges of the Secret Court.” He has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Intelligent Transportation Society of America and as Chairman of the Public-Private Division of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association.



John Horsely

Horsley is executive director of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). From 1993 to 1999 he served at the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). As associate deputy secretary, he was an advocate for intermodal policies, quality of life initiatives, and liaison to State and Local Governments, U.S. Congress, and transportation constituencies.



William Ankner

Dr. Ankner was appointed secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development in 2008 by Governor Bobby Jindal. Dr. Ankner comes to Louisiana from the Missouri Transportation Institute, where he had served as executive director since 2004. Prior to that job, he was the director of the Rhode Island Department of Transportation from 1996-2003.



Jack Schenendorf

Schenendorf's practice concentrates on transportation and legislation with a particular focus on legislative strategy, legislative procedure, and the federal budget process. He recently served on the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, where he served as Vice-Chairman. For nearly 25 years, Mr. Schenendorf served on the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the U.S. House of Representatives.



Mike Savonis

Savonis is Project Lead for the Gulf Coast Study. He has been the team leader for air quality in the Office of Natural and Human Environment of the Federal Highway Administration since 1996 and has 25 years of experience in transportation, air quality, planning, and emerging environmental issues. Savonis oversees FHWA's policy development for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program and transportation/air quality research program.



LTRC would also like to recognize **James “Jimmy” Gill, Jr., JD**, a consultant and business advisor, who presented the Ethics presentation at the beginning and end of the conference, which focused primarily on professional ethics. Gill is an international and national lecturer in the area of business and personal ethics. Trained by the American Arbitration Association, he is selected often to mediate and/or arbitrate construction and commercial disputes.

LTRC would like to thank all the speakers who contributed to the success of this year’s conference making it one of the most informative and innovative to date. For the more information on this year’s featured speakers, go to http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltrc_09/.

Featured Session Attracts Large Numbers

With over 800 seats set up in the River Center Ball Room and attendees gathered at the door, Session 9: *Design Build* was one of the most successful and highly attended sessions of the conference. The session was divided into three discussions: *I-12 Widening (O’Neal Lane to Range Road)*, presented by Jeff Burst with LADOTD; *Design-Build Procurement of the John James Audubon Bridge Project*, presented by Louisiana TIMED Managers’ Chuck Duggar; and Randy Battey with the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) presented *MDOT’s Maintained (Performance Warranty) Pavement Program*.

The I-12 widening discussion led by Burst was centered around the decision to utilize a Design-Build-Budget methodology for the project based on a line item dedicating \$100 million in State Surplus funding to the I-12 widening project (O’Neal Lane – Walker) that was approved in a special legislative session. The decision was made in order to save time and money as well as allow for both design and construction innovation.

Duggar led the discussion of the John James Audubon Bridge Project which described how the parameters of Louisiana’s enabling legislation for design-build procurement were implemented to successfully procure the state’s first design-build project—the \$347.8 million John James Audubon Bridge. Duggar also discussed lessons learned and subsequent changes to Louisiana’s design-build legislation. The Audubon Bridge project consists of 12 miles of new roadway and eight bridge structures, including a cable-stayed steel bridge over the Mississippi River. Once completed, the 1,583-foot long cable-stayed main span will be the longest in the Americas.



Battey discussed the performance of the MDOT’s pavement warranty program to date, explained MDOT’s warranty enforcement methodology, and examined the effect warranty specifications have had on construction practices, bid prices, and pavement performance in Mississippi. Since 2000, MDOT has awarded 18 paving projects with performance warranty specifications. Both new construction and overlays have been warranted for rigid and flexible pavements.

2009 Louisiana Transportation Conference (cont'd)

Sessions were broad in topic ranging from design strategies to customer service. Many transportation professionals at the 2009 conference were able to receive credit for up to 19 professional development hours (PDH), including the biennially required hour in Professional Ethics.

In addition to the numerous sessions, conference attendees were also able to attend the 2009 Vendor Exhibition that was held in the Baton Rouge River Center Exhibition Hall on Monday and Tuesday, February 9-10. Over 180 vendor representatives were present with over 80 vendor booths displays.

Transportation professionals were able to visit a variety of booths that were set up from 5-8 p.m. on Monday and all day Tuesday to learn more about the different facets of the transportation industry and receive vendor company materials.

The transportation conference concluded on Wednesday, February 11, with an awards luncheon where over 20 awards were given to outstanding industry professionals. Dr. Eric Kalivoda, DOTD assistant secretary for planning and programming, closed the conference by thanking all those in attendance for making this one of the most successful conferences to date and reminded the crowd of the next conference that will be held **January 23-26, 2011** at the Baton Rouge River Center.

If you would like to download the entire conference program, browse photos, or read more about the featured speakers, please visit LTC's Web site at http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltrc_09/.

Transportation Awards Presented at Closing Luncheon

The closing luncheon for all conference participants was held in the River Center Ballroom on Wednesday, February 11.

Dr. Eric Kalivoda moderated and delivered the Welcoming Remarks followed by Joe Stroud, DOTD District 58 training coordinator, who gave the Invocation.

The FHWA Pavement Smoothness and Louisiana Work Zone Excellence Awards were presented by FHWA Program Delivery Team Leader Mary Stringfellow. William Temple, DOTD chief engineer, then presented the DOTD SASHTO Scholarship Awards and DOTD Transportation Excellence Awards.

Finally, Dr. Kalivoda, gave the Closing Remarks signaling the end of the three-day conference.

2009 Conference Presentations Now Available

If you attended the 2009 conference and would like a copy of the session presentations, please fill out the conference evaluation form you received by e-mail following the conference. Once the survey is complete, you will have access to all the presentations provided to LTRC by speakers from the technical sessions during the conference. If you have not received the survey, please visit online at http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltrc_09/survey.html.

If you have any questions about accessing presentations once the survey is complete, please contact LTRC Public Information Director Jenny Speights at 225.767.9183 or jenny.speights@la.gov.



FHWA PAVEMENT SMOOTHNESS

Single Lift

Jerry White – D & J Construction Co.
John Eason and Gang 245

Multi Lift

Diamond B. Construction Co.

Rural NHS Routes

Nick Verret, District Administrator
LADOTD District 08 – Alexandria

Urban NHS Routes

Michael Stack, District Administrator
LADOTD District 02 – New Orleans

LOUISIANA WORK ZONE EXCELLENCE

Work Zone

Gary Gisclair and Gang 292
Murphy Ledoux, Jody Fontenot, and Gang 253
Mohammed Borazjani and Gang 253
Steve Christner and Gang 234
Todd Landry and Gang 247

Urban Work Zone

Philip Graves and Gang 236
Jim Hollier and Gang 224

DOTD SASHTO SCHOLARSHIPS

Southern University

Courtney Rome
Lauren Collins

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Nicholas Broussard

Louisiana State University

Michael Jenks

McNeese State University

Mauria Caldwell
Dane Dupont
Joy Abshire
Brian Rogers

Louisiana Tech University

Benny Herrington

DOTD TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE

Design

LA 23 Overlay in Plaquemines Parish – Road/Bridge Construction under \$10 million Award
Nelson Capote, Project Engineer
Peter Wilson, President, North Shore Division
Bertrand Wilson, President, South Shore Division
James Breland, Manager, North Shore Asphalt Division – Barriere Construction

Front Street in Natchitoches – Road Design Project Development Award

Val Horton, Project Manager
Paul Napoli, Consultant – HTB, Inc.

Front Street in Natchitoches – Context Sensitive Solutions/Public Involvement Award

Val Horton, Project Manager
Jonathan Lachney, Environmental
Elizabeth Davoli – DNR
Paul Napoli, Consultant – HTB, Inc.
Thurston Hahn, Archeology – CEI

Lake D'Arbonne Dam Inspection – Use of Innovative Product or Technology Award

Bo Bolourchi
Ron Riley, Riley Co.
Ken Lebry
C.H. Fenstermaker

Construction

PCC Paving Award – Us 167 – Ruston to Vienna
John Kelly, District Administrator, and PE Gang
Charles Poole – James Construction

Asphalt Paving Award – La 15 – Winnsboro to Baskin

Ricky Moon, District Administrator, and PE Gang
Jerry White – D & J Construction

Structure Bridge Award – I-12 – Juban Road Interchange

Tom Landry, District Administrator, and PE Gang
Jeff James, Denton – James LLC

LTRC Thanks 2009 LTC Conference Sponsors

LTRC would like to thank all the sponsors who contributed to the success of this year's event. In order to defray the costs of the conference, LTRC initiated sponsorship packages for the first time in the conference's history. The response was overwhelming as industry leaders, private sector organizations, and local agencies came together to offset a significant portion of the conference's costs.

LTRC would like to recognize the following sponsors for their generosity and outstanding contributions made to the 2009 Louisiana Transportation Conference:

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PLATINUM Sponsor



GOLD Sponsors



SILVER Sponsors

Concrete & Aggregates Association of Louisiana
Ergon Asphalt and Emulsions, Inc.
Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association

BRONZE Sponsors

The LPA Group Incorporated
Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
TRC Companies
URS Corporation
Wilbur Smith Associates

For more information on LTC's sponsors or to visit their Web sites, visit http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltc_09/, and click on the logo of the company you would like to visit.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar if you are interested in becoming a sponsor for the 2011 Louisiana Transportation Conference that will be held at the Baton Rouge River Center on **January 23-26, 2011**; be sure to check for sponsorship updates as the date approaches at <http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/index.html>.

LTRC Launches New Identity



LTRC's Publications and Electronic Media Department has officially launched a new identity for the research center by unveiling LTRC's latest logo. The new brand was designed to increase cohesiveness within LTRC and serve as a visual tool to build its reputation within the public and private sectors of the engineering industry as well as in the community.

The new logo first appeared in the 2009 Louisiana Transportation Conference programs that were distributed during the conference February 8-11. Within the next months, LTRC plans to incorporate the new logo into all published material, such as newsletters and final reports as well as print collateral including letterhead, business cards, PowerPoint presentations, and CD covers.

Designers of the new logo felt that it was important to create a clear and consistent image that is easily remembered and best reflects the character of the center for years to come. The fleur de lis was chosen to emphasize LTRC's history and important contributions to the state.



The top portion of the logo focuses on transportation by incorporating roads within the fleur-de lis as well as the surrounding text “Louisiana Transportation”; the bottom portion of the logo reflects the research aspect of LTRC by depicting the lower half of the fleur de lis as markings on graph paper or a grid as well as the text “Research Center.” The flowing line that connects the upper and lower portions represents the seamless interdependent relationship of research and transportation within Louisiana. The colors of the logo were also thoughtfully considered. Navy blue signifies intelligence, stability, and unity, while green symbolizes balance and harmony. These two colors paired with white work well together to give the logo an overall modern feel and reflect LTRC’s professionalism. Finally, the logo’s font selection was chosen to echo much of the progressive technology used at LTRC on a daily basis and the innovative transportation solutions discovered at LTRC as a result.

Along with access to the new logo, LTRC employees received information on acceptable and unacceptable usage of the logo. If you have any questions concerning the new logo, updated letterhead, or latest PowerPoint, please contact the Public Information Department at 225.767.9183.

Recently Published

Technical Assistance Reports

08-4TA Assessing Performance of Alternative Pavement Markings

Final Reports

425 Evaluating the Effects of Heavy Sugarcane Truck Operations on Repair Cost of Low Volume Highways

436 Air Void Analyzer for Plastic Concrete

433 Analysis of Louisiana Vehicular Input Data for MOBILE 6

430 Development of Uniform Sections for Pavement Management System Inventory and Application

Technical Summaries

425 Evaluating the Effects of Heavy Sugarcane Truck Operations on Repair Cost of Low Volume Highways

436 Air Void Analyzer for Plastic Concrete

433 Analysis of Louisiana Vehicular Input Data for MOBILE 6

Project Capsules

08-5GT Measurement of Seasonal Changes and Spatial Variations in Pavement Unbound Base and Subgrade Properties

07-2C Determination of Coefficient of Thermal Expansion Effects on Louisiana’s PCC Pavement Design

07-1P Finite Element Simulation of Structural Performance on Flexible Pavements with Stabilized Base/Treated Sub-base Materials under Accelerated Loading

09-2SS Enhancing Calibrated Peer Review for Improved Engineering Communication Education

09-1B Characterization of HMA Mixtures Containing Recycled Asphalt Pavement Modified with Crumb Rubber Asphalt

08-1P Cost Effective Prevention of Reflective Cracking of Composite Pavement

To view a complete list of LTRC publications, visit <http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/new.html>.

Upcoming Events

Migrating to Microsoft Outlook classes are now available. To register for one of these classes, registration forms are available for download on the intranet at <http://ladotnet/training/forms.html>. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Lee at 225.767.9155 or melissa.lee@la.gov.

The **2009 AASHTO Subcommittee on Bridges and Structures annual meeting** will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana from Sunday, July 5 through Thursday, July 9 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. For more information on the conference, go to <http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/bridge09>.

Visit www.ltrc.lsu.edu for more upcoming events.

Staff Updates and Accomplishments

LTRC would like to welcome **Paden Shilling**. Shilling joined the LTRC staff in the Geotechnical Department as an engineering technician February 12, 2009. Shilling was previously employed by LSU as a research associate for Louay Mohammad. You can reach Shilling at 225.767.9113 or paden.shilling@la.gov.

Sandra Romero, training & development program staff manager, retired from DOTD after 33 ½ years of service. Upon retirement, Romero has taken a position with GEC, Inc. as office engineering technician. She can be reached at 225.612.4267 or sromero@gecinc.com.

LTRC Concrete Research Engineer **Tyson Rupnow**, Ph.D., was selected as Chair of TRB Committee AFN 30 Durability of Concrete. Rupnow's duties will include conducting the annual committee meeting, selection of papers for publication and presentation, and overseeing the development of research needs statements in the area of concrete durability.

Sandy Brady, LTRC librarian and transportation research advisor, was elected as the new chair of the Eastern Transportation Knowledge Network (ETKN). Brady's responsibilities will include presiding over ETKN meetings, coordinating ETKN activities, handling membership requests and recruitment, and acting as liaison between the ETKN and the National Transportation Knowledge network (NTKN).

Dr. Louay N. Mohammad, LTRC Engineering Materials Characterization Research Facility (EMCRF) director and professor of civil engineering, was invited to speak at the 4th International Gulf Conference on Roads in Doha, Qatar November 11-13, 2008. Dr. Mohammad's presentation was entitled "Permanent Deformation Analysis of HMA Mixtures Using Simple Performance Tests."

Since completing her year as president of the National Local Technical Assistance Program, **Marie Walsh** has continued to participate in national efforts related to work force development and road safety. She was invited to serve on a panel to develop a scope of work and select a contractor for a National Cooperative Highway Research Program project to identify best practices for transportation workforce development strategies and their implementation.

LTAP's **Spencer Boatner** served on the core leadership committee supporting the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission's annual Click It or Ticket campaign to be conducted in May. This year's expanded campaign is focusing on involving more local and state stakeholders in an unprecedented collaborative effort to highlight Click It or Ticket's high visibility enforcement and education efforts.

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