

The **Transportation Engineering and Road Research Alliance**, or **TERRA**, brings together government, industry, and academia in a dynamic partnership to advance innovations in road engineering and construction, including issues related to cold climates. TERRA's research program is built on the principle of collaboration to meet research needs, and focuses on transforming the MnROAD facility from a Minnesota resource to a regional, national, and international research center. TERRA's partnering efforts reach beyond Minnesota to include transportation organizations in other states and in Europe.

Mission

TERRA's mission is to develop, sustain, and communicate a comprehensive program of research on pavement, materials, and related transportation engineering challenges, including issues related to cold climates.

Strategic Directions

Expand productive partnerships by attracting funding and leveraging the unique research capabilities of the MnROAD facility. TERRA is open to partnerships to carry out research under the federal SHRP II program, as well as other research initiatives.

Support effective research in transportation engineering and road construction by developing short-term and long-term research plans, providing direction on improving the MnROAD facility, and fostering research partnerships that produce innovative results.

Communicate about research activities by providing up-to-date information about ongoing research, and marketing research results to a variety of audiences worldwide. TERRA works to engage stakeholders in a dialogue on road research and implementation activities, and actively solicits input on future research needs.

Projects and Initiatives

The **TERRA website** contains descriptions of TERRA-initiated research projects and links to a wide range of research activities carried out by member and partner organizations. It also provides detailed information about partnering with TERRA.

TERRA E-News, a quarterly electronic newsletter, shares information about research, activities, and events with the members of TERRA and others interested in transportation research.

The **TERRA Innovation Series** communicates TERRA activities, innovations, and products through knowledge transfer, exchange, and demonstration. These transportation engineering and road research events have a technical focus and address research results, trends that affect or improve productivity, innovative partnering and contracting models, and hot topics that may lead to new research related to TERRA priorities.

TERRA has an annual process for **collecting project ideas** from partners and friends to help provide a comprehensive program for research on pavement, materials, and related transportation engineering challenges.

MnROAD Lessons Learned, one of the first TERRA-initiated research projects, highlights many of the contributions of the Minnesota Road Research Facility (MnROAD) to the understanding of pavement design and performance.



TERRA General Assembly Member Organizations

Industry

Aggregate and Ready Mix Association of Minnesota
American Engineering Testing, Inc.
Braun Intertec
Caterpillar
Flint Hills Resources, LP
Mathy Technology and Engineering Services
Midstate Reclamation and Trucking
Minnesota Asphalt Pavement Association
National Ready Mixed Concrete Association
Road Science, A Division of ArrMaz

National Transportation Agencies

Norwegian Public Roads Administration
United States Federal Highway Administration

State and Local Transportation Agencies

Iowa Department of Transportation
Michigan Department of Transportation
Minnesota Department of Transportation
Minnesota Local Road Research Board
North Dakota Department of Transportation
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

University Research Organizations

Iowa State University
Michigan Technological University
National Center for Pavement Preservation
University of Minnesota

TERRA Leadership

Chair: Jim Grothaus, Senior Director of
Technical Assistance and Customized
Training, Center for Transportation Studies,
University of Minnesota

Past Chair: Jill Thomas, Executive Director,
Minnesota Asphalt Pavement Association

How to Participate

- 1. Join TERRA** by committing resources over a sustained period of time. With membership on the TERRA general assembly, an organization will have the opportunity to define research needs of members, choose high-priority potential projects, solicit research funds and project funding partners, participate in planning the reconstruction of the MnROAD test facility, and sponsor marketing, communications, and outreach activities for member organizations on research results and implementation.
- 2. Partner with TERRA** as a participant in specific research projects. As TERRA grows, the general assembly is seeking to bring together stakeholders from industry, government, and academia to join in projects initiated by TERRA members.
- 3. Become a Friend of TERRA** and receive periodic updates on TERRA activities, new research opportunities, and research findings.

More Information

To work with TERRA, please contact:

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