

RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING: 1st

Wisconsin Department of Transportation
DT1241 2009

Research, Development and Technology Transfer	
Program: (Choose One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Pooled Fund TPF #
<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin Highway Research Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Project Title: Costs and Benefits of Increasing Load Size for Certain Circumstances of Freight in Wisconsin	
Administrative Contact/Phone #: Tom Martinelli/608-333-7563	WisDOT Project ID(s): 0092-08-26
WisDOT Technical Contact/Phone #: Chuck Lorentz/608-266-0264	Other Project ID: CFIRE 01-05
Project Investigator/Phone # (agency & contact): Teresa Adams/608-263-3175	Approved Starting Date: 11/16/2007
WisDOT Comments:	Original End Date: 1/31/2009
	Current End Date: 5/31/2009
Sponsor: Wisconsin Department of Transportation	Number of Extensions: 1

Schedule Status:

- On schedule Ahead of schedule
 On revised schedule Behind schedule (Please explain below)

Total Project Budget	Expenditures Current Quarter	Total Expenditures	% Funds Expended	% Work Completed
\$33,000.00	\$2,409.00	\$33,000.00	100%	80%

Project Description:

The study focuses on the transport of intermodal containers that are moving in international commerce. The current container vehicle load limit in Wisconsin is 80,000lbs including tractors and chassis. This study will make efforts to quantify issues associated with increasing load for international containers. Issues include consistency across borders with neighboring states, compatibility with allowable road load on bridges and impact on road infrastructure, road traffic impact, road safety concerns, permit fees, types of commodities affected, etc.

Progress This Quarter: (Includes project committee meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.)

This quarter, much progress was made concerning Tasks 4 and 5 of the project. We completed several interviews of impacted organizations and businesses. We were able to interview 4 organizations that provided valuable information on the impacts of international container weight limits on their businesses and operations. Detailed notes and write-ups were created outlining the interview.

In addition, steps were taken to create a list of Truck Size and Weight contacts from all of the Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition states. We are going to contact and interview truck size and weight representatives from Illinois and Minnesota, in order to get a detailed understanding of international container weight regulations in these Wisconsin border states.

WisDOT has approved the purchase of 2007 Global Insight Data, as well as the purchase of the International Trade Monitor data for Wisconsin. This data will allow us to analyze international commodity flows moving IN/OUT/THROUGH Wisconsin, which allows us to better complete Task 3 of the study. This data will allow us to analyze the types of freight moving internationally, by mode as well as by origin/destination County. The acquisition of the data however will not be timely enough to develop the necessary information for inclusion in this report. The research team will continue to analyze the data as it arrives and assign this task to an incoming graduate assistant.

Finally, work started on the writing the final report and a poster was prepared for display at the Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition annual meeting.

Anticipated Work Next Quarter:

We will interview truck size and weight representatives to fully understand Illinois and Minnesota weight regulations concerning international containers. We will also attempt to get contact information for businesses in these States, in an attempt to determine how Wisconsin container weight limits impact their businesses or their decision-making models.

Once the international trade monitor data becomes available, we will analyze the data in order to determine Wisconsin international freight flows in terms of volume, mix of commodities and other characteristics in order to further identify impacted industries, sectors

and roads in Wisconsin. This data will allow us to better understand and report on international freight movements going IN/OUT/THROUGH Wisconsin. The inclusion of this information in the final report, however, will likely not occur within the approved timeframe. However, the research team intends to provide the information as soon as possible.

Continue to coordinate activities with the potential implementation of the Wisconsin Truck Size and Weight Study.

Circumstances Affecting Progress and/or Budget:

Data availability has been an issue.

Gantt Chart:

Original Schedule

Task/Month	2008								2009
	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J
Literature Review	█	█							
Survey and Interview state DOTs		█	█	█	█	█			
Examine international container shipping in Wisconsin			█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Evaluate potential savings to existing shippers						█	█	█	█
Evaluate benefits to potential containerization commodities							█	█	█
Final report									█

New Proposed Schedule

Task/Month	2008								2009				
	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
Literature Review	█	█											
Survey and Interview state DOTs		█	█	█	█	█							
Examine international container shipping in Wisconsin			█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
Evaluate potential savings to existing shippers								█	█	█	█	█	
Evaluate benefits to potential containerization commodities								█	█	█	█	█	
Final report												█	█