

TO: The NTCIP Community

AASHTO, ITE, and NEMA Announce Two New NTCIP Working Groups

(July 10, 2002) AASHTO, ITE, and NEMA are pleased to announce that the Joint Committee on the NTCIP has initiated the formation of two new working groups -- one for Electrical and Lighting Management Systems and one for Testing and Conformity Assessment. Potential working group participants are now being invited to reply to the WG chairs if interested in the new work areas.

Ed Seymour, chair of the Joint Committee on the NTCIP, named Karl Burkett (Texas DOT) as the chair of the new Electrical and Lighting Management Systems (ELMS) WG. The ELMS WG will finish the development of a highway lighting control protocol that has been started by the lighting control manufacturers. What will then be an NTCIP-based data dictionary control protocol will operate between traffic management centers and lighting control "field data loggers" serving a group of luminaires. The FDL will then use either power line carrier or spread spectrum radio links to communicate with the luminaire heads. The goals of ELMS include energy management, control of light pollution, maintenance monitoring, and troubleshooting. Highway lighting engineers and lighting control manufacturers have already developed a draft standard.

If interested in participating with the ELMS WG, please email Karl Burkett, KBurkett@dot.state.tx.us.

Ed Seymour also named Steve Dellenback (Southwest Research Institute) and Joe Stapleton (Georgia DOT, retired) as the co-chairs of the new Testing and Conformity Assessment (TCA) WG. The Joint Committee approved formation of the TCA WG in December 2001, with their first work item the development of a template for NTCIP roadside device test procedures. All of the NTCIP working group chairs, along with the Joint Committee, have considered several actions to help manufacturers and users with NTCIP compliance, including documenting test procedures, evaluating testing tools, and liaison with the FHWA's standards testing activities. The new NTCIP TCA WG will now be the focus of the NTCIP testing-related work activities.

If interested in participating with the TCA WG, please email both Steve Dellenback, sdellenback@swri.org, and Joe Stapleton, lpsjr510@yahoo.com, to be considered for the roster.

The Joint Committee on the NTCIP now has fifteen working groups, plus the Technical Coordination Forum of NTCIP working group chairs.

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