



UT-UTC UPDATE



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The Newsletter of The University of Toledo University Transportation Center



Director's Message

The rise in U.S. international trade has had a significant impact on the transportation systems of the nation, Ohio, and particularly Northwest Ohio-Southeast Michigan. Transportation is a critical engine driving Northwest Ohio's economy and is the thread that knits the region's economy

together. Highways, transit, rail, air, and water systems provide unparalleled access to jobs, recreation, education, health care, and the many other activities that sustain our economy and enrich the lives of our families.

Northwest Ohio, including the region surrounding it (Lake Erie West), is on the threshold of a period of opportunity and innovation unprecedented in our recent history. With its strategic geography and the convergence of major highway, rail, sea, air, and pipeline transportation assets, the area can emerge as an international transportation, logistics, and distribution center. In addition to the region's physical assets, world class transportation expertise, numerous academic centers of excellence, and a critical mass of coordinated public, private, and legislative transportation stakeholders can all be added to the inventory of resources.

How can we take advantage of these assets and this unequalled opportunity? The dynamics of transportation and logistics are complex and constantly evolving as markets respond to shifts in demand, the location of production facilities, and the relative costs of

transportation alternatives. The University of Toledo Intermodal Transportation Institute/University Transportation Center has been working closely with our region's stakeholders. Our goal is to leverage transportation and logistics with economic stimulus efforts in implementing various short and long term Lake Erie West opportunities that take advantage of this evolving process with a primary focus on intermodal development. We look forward to making significant progress in the upcoming year.

Richard S. Martinko, P.E.

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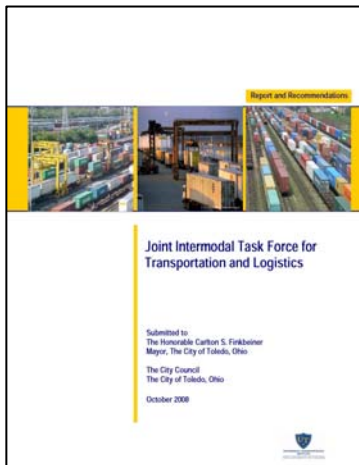
*Transportation for Economic Security and Development:
Alternate Energy, Infrastructure Utilization, and Supply Chains*



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The Joint Intermodal Task Force Report

The Intermodal Transportation Institute and University Transportation Center at the University of Toledo has been actively involved in strategic meetings for the development of intermodal facilities in the region for many years. In March 2008 Rich Martinko, ITI/UTC director, invited business leaders and leading public officials to a brain storming session to present the economic impact of transportation to the community and the opportunities available to the area. The group discussed priorities and possible courses of action.



As transportation in general, and intermodal in particular, grabbed the attention of the press, Director Martinko became involved in educating the larger community on its existing and future potential value. The groups to whom he made presentations and fielded questions included Eggs 'n Issues, (a series of

breakfasts organized by the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce), the board of directors of both the Regional Growth Partnership and the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, the Economic Development Committee of the Toledo City Council, and the Transportation Committee of the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (the area MPO).

As the focus on intermodal grew, the mayor of Toledo, Carty Finkbeiner, formed a committee to study existing opportunities and report back its findings. Pulling together diverse talents among those who had extensive experience with transportation issues, the group began its work in July and issued The Joint Intermodal Task Force Report in October. Director Martinko and the UT-UTC played a significant role in developing the document and presenting it to the public in what proved to be a very compressed time frame. The report can be accessed at http://www.utoledo.edu/research/ITI/ITI_ContribPDFs/final_JITF_Report_Web.pdf

As a direct outcome of the issuance of the report, Director Martinko is the PI on a UT-UTC project to quantify the impacts that the projects identified for the region could have on the economy. The City and the University are strong contributors to the project.

Intermodal In The News

A full listing of the media coverage of intermodal in Northwest Ohio can be found on the University of Toledo Intermodal Transportation Institute web site: <http://www.utoledo.edu/research/ITI/intermodnews.html>

Getting Involved with the UT Solar Car Team

Solar is big at the University of Toledo. With major federal, state and privately funded grants for developing advanced solar photovoltaic technology, UT is an acknowledged leader. Right next door to the Wright Center for Photovoltaics Innovation and Commercialization sits the world class College of Engineering. And, Toledo has been a leader in the automobile industry for over a century. All the pieces seemed to be in place, but where was a team to build a solar car and race in the North American Solar Challenge 2010? That seemed like a missed opportunity to Terry Bigioni, assistant professor in chemistry.

Last fall he tested the waters and invited anyone interested in being on a solar car team to come together; almost 50 students attended the session along with administrators from the Wright Center and the UTC. The task of finding students who would be dedicated to the cause of getting a car to Texas the summer of 2010 was begun. Within a couple of months the applications to become a student organization were

in the works and a logo had been designed and donated to the organization.



The North American Solar

Challenge is a 2400 mile race from Dallas, Texas to Calgary, Alberta to be held the summer of 2010. As stated in the *North American Solar Challenge 2008 Regulations*, "Our Mission includes: 1. The support and encouragement of bright young minds to succeed in the fields of engineering, sciences, mathematics,

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business, in multi-disciplined experiential learning, and in subsequent careers. 2. The creation of public awareness and enthusiasm, both for education excellence and engineering creativity itself, and for the technologies and practices that emerge from that excellence."

The UT Team will consist of students from the College of Business who will create a business plan and handle all business related activities including fund raising, marketing, public relations, accounting functions and the strategic plan for the race. Students from the Department of Art have been invited to help design the exterior of the solar car. Engineering, physics and chemistry students will design the operating system. All involved will help in building and testing.



The 2008 winning car from the University of Michigan.

To get the Team started, seed money was provided by the UT-UTC so initial purchases of equipment and supplies could be made. UTC

staff is also involved in helping the Team with administrative functions and, in the future, provide access to the many contacts developed by the Center. There is a long way to go from this modest start to the finish line in Calgary, but we are on our way

The Toledo Maritime Academy – Training Future Maritime Professionals



There is a national maritime employment shortage and some industry analysts have suggested that a shortage of 6,000 officers and 15,000 unlicensed crew may occur by 2012, just in the United States. The industry is very concerned. With the help of the Department of Labor, MARAD (the Maritime Administration) and other

federal agencies, new ways are being sought to attract and retain workers. Shipping companies and federal agencies are now seeking future employees through high schools programs. The Maritime Academy of Toledo is one of 18 maritime themed schools whose focus is to prepare their students to become part of maritime related jobs. In fact, they are one of three in the country that have grades 5 -12. They were among the schools highlighted in the cover story "School Days" in the July 2008 issue of Workboat magazine. (http://www.maritimeacademy.us/downloads/academic_programs/workboat.pdf)

Realizing the role this local Academy may play in intermodal transportation and development, the UT-UTC has joined in an MOU with The Maritime Academy of Toledo to support the transportation expenses of the vital field trips that bring to the students real life maritime experience and knowledge. These nautical educational activities include trips to working docks and sea going vessels, visits to Lake Erie and the Maumee River, along with hands-on environmental education and outings to relevant historical sites.



As stated in their publications: The Maritime Academy of Toledo (TMAT) is one of Northwest Ohio's newest and most innovative tuition-free public schools. The Maritime Academy students are called cadets to fit with their nautical theme. TMAT commits to 100% student passage of the Ohio Graduation Test and to achieving a 100% diploma and graduation rate by providing students a rigorous, high quality middle/junior/high school education that incorporates Navy Sea Cadet (NSC) formation and, perhaps in the future, a US Coast Guard Junior Reserved Officers Training Corps (JROTC).

TMAT offers students a challenging Ohio standards-based education that promotes teamwork and moral leadership through maritime/nautical focused themes that are interwoven throughout and integrated across the curriculum.

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FOCUS ON

Researcher Snehamay Khasnabis At Partner Wayne State University



Dr. Snehamay Khasnabis is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, specializing in transportation at the Wayne State University (WSU)

College of Engineering. He has directed a large number of studies at WSU sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Michigan Department of Transportation, National Research Council, Next Energy, and the University Transportation Center programs at the University of Wisconsin, the University of Michigan, the University of Detroit – Mercy, and The University of Toledo.

Professor Khasnabis' past and ongoing research encompasses such areas as transportation planning, traffic engineering, transit operation, ITS and highway safety. He has published his research in the journals of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Transportation Research Board (National Research Council), Transportation Quarterly and Transportation Research, and has presented his work in many national and international conferences. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society for Engineering Education, Transportation Research Board, the Institute of Transportation Engineers and the Engineering Society of Detroit. He is a registered professional engineer in the state of Michigan.

Professor Khasnabis is a Fulbright Research Scholar (2004-05). As a Fulbright Scholar, he was in India working on the topic of transportation asset management with fellow faculty members at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. Among his many honors, he received the 1999 Excellence in Teaching Award and the 2003 Outstanding Faculty Service Award at the College of Engineering, WSU.

From 2001 to 2008, Dr. Khasnabis, was the Associate Dean of Research, College of Engineering, overseeing the college's research activities. During his tenure,

research spending increased from \$12 million in 2001 to a college high of \$17.4 million. Earlier during the period 1983 to 1987, he served as the Chairman of Civil Engineering, WSU.

He presently is working on a two-year grant with the UT-UTC which supports work on analyzing ownership scenarios of the proposed second bridge between Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. Two other projects with the MIOH-UTC at the University of Detroit – Mercy involves modeling for a proposed Detroit metro rapid transit system, and an analysis of Transit Oriented Development at Detroit transit stations. He is also working with fellow researchers at Grand Valley State University on a project on traffic incident management strategies. All of these projects are supported by the USDOT through its UTC program.

An interesting thing to know about Snehamay Khasnabis: "If I was not a University Professor, I would have liked to be the person who stacks books at public libraries. I would like to do this upon my retirement, that is if they find me qualified for that job".

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