

NCHRP 20-68A – “US Domestic Scan Program”

Scan 15-01 Developing And Maintaining Construction Inspection Competence

State transportation agencies face the prospect of losing a tremendous amount of institutional knowledge due to retirements of long-term employees and reductions in overall staffing levels. An area of specific concern is the loss of experienced construction inspectors. Increasing complexity of construction methods and use of more varied contracting methods have added challenges for agencies’ efforts to develop and maintain their competence in construction inspection. For many agencies, these efforts include certification and training programs. This scan will investigate such programs, focusing particularly on leading states, counties, metropolitan areas, municipalities and other transportation agencies adoption of teaching and learning methods such as the following examples:

- Mentoring programs
- Hands on training
- Online training
- Just-in-time training
- Video training
- Public private training partnerships
- Innovative hiring practices
- Certification testing
- Pay for qualifications

The scan team will consider learning outcomes, measure of success, and how agencies plan to maintain competence in the future.

The scan is envisioned to be conducted as a Type 3 Scan (peer exchange). The scan team may interview trainers and construction inspectors from the states identified to have innovative practices. States to review might include Florida, Texas, Virginia, Oregon, South Carolina, Michigan, California, and Pennsylvania. Consideration should also be given to investigating successful programs offered by universities, contractor associations, materials trade associations, and other organizations. The scan will gather information on innovative methods of implementation and performance measurement, including determining competency.

Original Scan Proposal Title(s): Practices to Develop and Maintain competence in Construction Inspectors

Last Reviewed/Revised July22, 2015

Execution Schedule

Milestone	Anticipated Date
Chairs and Team Members Identified	September 2015
Desk Scan Completed	January 2016
Prescan Meeting Held	February 2016
Scan Conducted	June 2016
Draft PowerPoint submitted by SME	July 2016
Draft Report Delivered to NCHRP and Panel	October 2016
Final Report Delivered to NCHRP	January 2017

Estimated Scan Cost: \$150,000

Anticipated Duration: 1 week (type 3 scan)

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