CUTR Connections [May 2021]

CUTR

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CUTR named as a team member for $571m contract with ENSCO, Inc.

The Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) at the University of South Florida (USF) is part of a team of surface transportation research organizations led by ENSCO, Inc. (ENSCO) that was recently awarded a $571 million USD contract by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to provide research, testing, engineering, and training services at the Transportation Technology Center (TTC). The team will focus on initiatives that support FRA and U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) objectives to establish TTC as a vibrant, engaging, and modern center for railroad and ground transportation safety, security, and innovation. Transfer of TTC operations to the
"The faculty and student researchers at CUTR have a 30-plus year track record of transportation excellence," said Robert Bishop, dean of the College of Engineering, home to CUTR. "The interdisciplinary academic collaborations with other universities as well as their work with departments of transportation throughout Florida and the United States over those years have positioned them well to take on these initiatives."

CUTR has entered into an agreement with ENSCO to lead the Center for Surface Transportation Testing and Academic Research (C-STTAR) consortium. This consortium of eight (8) universities and academic research centers was established to provide expertise in research focus areas across all modes of surface transportation, including intermodal transportation, which will support TTC growth initiatives.

CUTR will conduct and participate in research and testing across key surface transportation safety technology areas including:

- Intelligent transportation systems
- Infrastructure civil design
- Transit vehicle crashworthiness and thermal event testing, design modifications and standards development
- Autonomous and connected vehicle research, testing, and evaluation
- Human factors research
- Artificial intelligence, machine vision, video analytics and “big data” science
- Advanced sensor research and development
- Unmanned aerial vehicle applications
- Grade crossing safety
- Trespasser and suicide detection and prevention
- Transportation emergency/hazardous response and recovery

"The opportunity to support the FRA's and DOT's surface transportation research, testing and training programs conducted at TTC is a significant accomplishment for USF/CUTR. We look forward to expanding the offerings that USF/CUTR has been providing for state departments of transportation, the Federal Transit Administration and other USDOT modal

May is Bike Month! For the Bike Month Challenge it doesn't matter if you ride every day or if you haven't been on a bike in years. You only have to ride for ten minutes to take part. We'll be starting some friendly competition with other local organizations. There are some great prizes to win too! Register online.

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month! Show your support this year by placing a "Watch for Motorcycles" sign on your lawn. Visit Ride Smart Florida to view motorcycle safety educational materials, and place your order for your FREE yard signs!

The Florida LTAP Center offers trainings throughout May including Complete Streets, FHWA Emergency Relief Program, and much more. For a full list, visit their training calendar.

The CUTR-ITE Friday Transportation Seminar Series concluded its discussions for the semester. We look forward
fiscal sustainability and increase our visibility and prominence both nationally and internationally," states Lisa Staes, CUTR Associate Director.

Awards and New Projects

The Handbook of Public Transport Research is now available for purchase! The Handbook brings together the latest research from the world’s top public transport researchers.

Congratulations to CUTR’s Sean Barbeau on his contribution to this work!

Also, a special congratulations to our friends and colleagues Susan Shaheen, James Wood (co-authors) and Kari Watkins, Candace Brakewood, and Aaron Antrim (co-authors with Dr. Barbeau).

Yu Zhang, Ph.D. and doctoral student Hualong Tang’s research paper "Design of an automated advanced air mobility flight planning system (AAFPS)" was selected to receive the Amazon Research Award (ARA). The team is one of 101 award recipients!
ITS, Traffic Operations & Safety Research Associate Mouyid Islam, Ph.D. had a very busy spring.

- He passed the Road Safety Professional Exam, Level 1
- Dr. Islam was selected as the Secretary of the Transportation Safety Committee at the American Society of Civil Engineers
- He was recently published in the Journal of Safety - "The Effort of Motorcyclist' Age on Injury Severities in Single-Motorcycle Crashes with Unobserved Heterogeneity" is now available online.
- Dr. Islam will also give two presentations at the ASCE International Conference on Transportation and Development in June 2021.

Brian Staes, E.I., Nikhil Menon, Ph.D., and Robert L. Bertini, Ph.D.’s paper "Analyzing transportation network performance during emergency evacuations: Evidence from Hurricane Irma" was recently published.

Stay Safe!

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