

The National Transportation Research Center (NTRC), created by CTR's partnership with ORNL, DOE, UT-Battelle and the Development Corporation of Knoxville, is a state-of-the-art facility dedicating two-thirds of its 90,000 square foot space

to research labs. NTRC has ongoing research projects in the areas of intelligent transportation systems, logistics, safety, vehicle technology and environmental



impact and safety issues. For additional information, visit the NTRC web site at <http://www.ntrc.gov>.

Through programs such as the NTRC and STC, the CTR provides outlets for students and researchers to make valuable contributions to the future of transportation. CTR is associated with the UT departments of civil and environmental engineering; marketing, logistics and transportation; and geography.

Transportation research activity at UT and other universities is likely to expand. Studies indicate that between 2000 and 2025 the vehicle-miles of travel will increase by 68%. CTR and its programs are prepared to anticipate the transportation needs that will accompany such growth.

## Contact Information

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THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE

College of Engineering

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# center for transportation research



<http://ctr.utk.edu>

## Message from the Director

Thank you for your interest in the Center for Transportation Research (CTR). The center has been a nationally and internationally recognized research entity at the University of Tennessee for over 30 years. Our group has been the research venue for some of the brightest and most innovative faculty, researchers and graduate students in the nation's transportation arena.



The CTR has experienced steady growth, and today has over \$17 million currently under contract. The recent formation of the National Transportation Research Center (NTRC), in partnership with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is attracting new industrial and government projects. These ventures provide increased opportunities for students and researchers. Considering the breadth of our transportation system, the quality of newly graduated transportation students must be of the highest caliber. CTR is supporting the college's responsibility to supply well-educated transportation students to the growing field of transportation professionals.

Transportation research, education and technology transfer activities will continue to be vital if we are to rebuild the nation's ageing transportation infrastructure and encourage solutions to tomorrow's transportation problems. These initiatives present new technical challenges, involve specialized personnel skills and require innovative partnerships and management approaches. CTR strives to address these needs for the nation, our region and our community.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Stephen H. Richards, P.E., CTR Executive Director

## Background and Focus

The Center for Transportation Research was created in 1970 to foster and facilitate interdisciplinary research, public service and outreach in the field of transportation at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. It began full-time operations in 1972, and since then has contributed greatly to the overall research program of the university. As a research center under the auspices of UT's College of Engineering, CTR oversees various programs associated with the educational, research, training and industrial aspects of the transportation field.

The center has three goals. The first is to conduct a program of research in transportation that is recognized for its excellence, comprehensiveness, innovation, productivity and national leadership. The second is to develop and sustain the technical expertise for high quality transportation research by the faculty and students within the various departments and colleges of UT. CTR's third goal is to serve the transportation research, service and training needs of state and local government, business and industry in Tennessee, the southeast region and the nation.

## Programs and Initiatives

CTR has several programs beneficial to members of industry, business, government and educational organizations including:

The **Tennessee Transportation Assistance Program (TTAP)** fosters a safe, efficient and environmentally sound transportation system by providing training, technical assistance and technology transfer materials to all cities and counties across Tennessee. TTAP is staffed to provide local roadway agencies with direct technical assistance on highway and traffic engineering issues. Thus, TTAP serves as a sort of extension service for small town and rural county highway agencies. One of TTAP's major functions is to provide training workshops and short courses that address the needs of local transportation agency staff and other transportation professionals.

The **Tennessee Van Program** is a statewide commuter vanpool service that provides vehicles, insurance, maintenance and



fleet management assistance to public agencies and private non-profit groups that need a cost effective means of travel. Tennessee Vans are used to transport individuals to and from work sites, to and from job-training sites, or to other events and activities that facilitate the mobility of persons served by the sponsoring organizations.

The **Tennessee Traffic Safety Resource Service (TTSRS)** provides training and educational/informational programs and materials to traffic safety educators and law enforcement agencies, advocates and concerned citizens. TTSRS is focused on reducing traffic fatalities, injuries and costs on Tennessee roadways. The materials distributed are diverse and cover child passenger safety, occupant protection, teen driving, aggressive and distracted drivers as well as alcohol related issues. Funded by a grant through the Governor's Highway Safety Office, TTSRS has been in existence since 1991 at the UT CTR.



Other programs include the CTR's Railroad Training Program and Campus Traffic and Parking Support.

## Research and Education

Through the CTR, the University of Tennessee is the lead institution for the **Southeastern Transportation Center (STC)**, a consortium of 10 universities from five states in the U.S. Department of Transportation's Region IV (Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina).

The STC is dedicated to training professionals to address the transportation needs of the region and nation. Operating under the theme of "Transportation Safety," the STC is a national leader in safety research and training in both highway transportation and public safety modes. It also supports approximately 80 students in transportation related disciplines at member universities and sponsors outstanding individuals pursuing graduate degrees. For additional information, visit the STC web site at <http://stc.utk.edu>.