

T.I.C. marks 15th year

This fall the Transportation Information Center celebrates 15 years of helping make your roadway job easier. Wisconsin was among the second group of 10 centers begun by FHWA.

Now Local Technical Assistance Program centers are operating in 50 states, Puerto Rico, and six Native American sites.

We face many of the same challenges in 1998 that we did in 1983: limited budgets, pavement and drainage problems, snow plowing operations, staff management, and communications with elected officials and citizens.

But over the years we have developed a generous supply of print materials, video resources, computer programs, training workshops, and other tools that help make the job easier and more efficient. Thanks are due, in large part, to the many streets and highways professionals who shared their experience and wisdom with each other through the medium of the T.I.C.

From a modest beginning—part time director, four to six workshops a year, and a quarterly newsletter—the T.I.C. has grown into a rich and effective resource.

In 1997 we mailed out 4262 reports and fact sheets and sent 596 videos from our lending library. We held 39 days



Happy 15th Birthday!

of T.I.C. workshops for 2114 participants, ran four workshops for 415 local participants, and sponsored two satellite workshops for 107.

Over the years we have developed and continue to offer 18 fact sheets, three PASER Manuals and a SAFER Manual, and the PASERware pavement management software. Since the first **Crossroads** newsletter appeared in December 1984, we've published 54 quarterly issues, growing from four to eight pages. The latest addition is our Web site <http://www.engr.wisc.edu/centers/tic>.

T.I.C. now has six part-time staff: Don Walker, who has been the Center's director since the beginning, along with coordinators Steve Pudloski and Bob Fey, clerical staff Mercy Ranum and Donna Fenske, and computer support staff Judy Pounders. Writer/editor Lynn Entine and graphic artist Susan Kummer complete the team.

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