Fostering Innovation in Kentucky: Success through People and Partnerships

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Jason J. Siwula, P.E.

Assistant State Highway Engineer - Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
KYTC Mission

To provide a **safe, efficient, environmentally sound** and **fiscally responsible** transportation system **that delivers economic opportunity and enhances the quality of life in Kentucky.**
Encouraged and Enabled at All Levels
KYTC UAS Program – Department of Aviation
Managing Utilities in Kentucky SHRP2 CASE STUDY

Managing Utility Conflicts in Kentucky through the SHRP2 Solution: Identifying and Managing Utility Conflicts (R15B)

Challenges in addressing utility conflicts
Utility relocations are a significant investment for departments of transportation (DOTs) and utility companies. This investment in Kentucky can annually be in the tens of millions, so minimizing the cost has an immense value to the DOT. As a result, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is working to streamline and create standard procedures for its designers and utility experts, while minimizing utility conflicts.

Although the KYTC has worked effectively with its utility companies in this past, the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) opened the door to an opportunity to improve this coordination. By incorporating new methodologies developed through Identifying and Managing Utility Conflicts (ident), the agency is enhancing and updating its current tracking database while offering training to all potential users.

Under KYTC’s prior utility program, roadway projects were often designed to a significant degree before utility companies were actively involved. Consequently, utility relocations could not be completed prior to road construction. In some cases, this situation set up serious consequences, such as increasing the potential for utility strikes, these strikes can delay the roadway and traffic, be a safety concern, and result in a loss of utility services. The possibility of utility strikes and larger construction and design time frames can also lead to added costs.

No clear standards or policies for utility conflict identification existed to help designers communicate and mitigate utility conflicts during the design process. Now, in addition, with 12 separate KYTC Districts, the process of identifying and managing utility locations was inconsistent.

What is the SHRP2 Solution, Identifying and Managing Utility Conflicts?
Identifying and Managing Utility Conflicts (ident) was developed through the second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) to help public agencies, utility companies, and transportation professionals improve the overall process of minimizing utility conflicts on highway improvement projects.

By using the tools and methodologies outlined in this product, these agencies can identify, resolve, and manage utility conflicts, which will ultimately reduce the project development process. The materials included are:

- Utility Conflict Data Model and Ident Solution Guide
- Utility Conflict Matrix (UCON) Training Course

Kentucky’s implementation activities have led to the development of new, “smarter” software that may be applicable to other states.

KYTC developed a new vision for executing its utility program based on initial SHRP2 research findings conducted by the Transportation Research Board (TRB). Working with its information technology (IT) staff, analysts, and central and District office utility branches, they designed...
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Questions?

Contact Information:

Jason J. Siwula, PE
Assistant State Highway Engineer
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Jason.Siwula@ky.gov