

**REPORT ON: TBWG/EBTC DATA WORKSHOP
NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 28,29,30 & MAY 1, 2003**

EBTC had agreed, at the fall 2002 TBWG Meeting, to coordinate on behalf of TBWG, a data workshop to enhance the capability of data analysts to understand and manipulate transborder data files. In particular, the objective was to enable data analysts and transportation planners to maximize the usage of the significant amount of data assembled in the 1999 EBTC Transborder Trucking Study, as well as any data which is or may become available from subsequent studies.

Ontario MOT took the organizational lead on behalf of EBTC, creating a workshop outline, contacting a company to host the event, contacting the consultant who prepared the EBTC Study to arrange for his participation, and coordinating with Transport Canada, FHWA and others.

FHWA and Transport Canada agreed to cover the costs of the workshop. In conjunction with EBTC, they sent out invitations and TC recorded the replies. FHWA and TC also looked after logistics such as reserving a block of hotel rooms, arranging for transportation between the hotel and the workshop, contracting with the instructors, as well as convening conference calls to coordinate arrangements.

The workshop was held at the training facility of Caliper Corporation in Newton, Mass. with 13 trainees attending (list attached).

The first two days of the workshop were devoted to familiarization with Transcad software, with training being led by Jim Lam of Caliper Corp.

The last two days, led by Rick Donnelly of Parsons Brinckerhoff, were devoted to demonstrating how Transcad could be used, in conjunction with the EBTC database, to produce a number of truck flow maps. It was shown how these outputs could be varied to address particular input parameters such as certain commodities, certain border crossings, certain corridors etc.

Although, the level of prior familiarity and experience of the trainees with data analysis varied, there was good participation and discussion during the training. All of the participants were very positive in their assessment of the value of the training. One comment from a trainee..." over the years, I have attended many workshops and training sessions, but this one was by far the best one I have attended".

At the end of the training, a discussion was held on how future truck studies might be undertaken .

Walter Steeves , on behalf of TBWG and EBTC thanked Caliper Corp., Jim Lam, Rick Donnelly, David Smith, Rob Tardif, Transport Canada and FHWA for making the workshop possible, and he thanked the participants for their attendance.

**Walter Steeves
EBTC Managing Consultant**