Collaborative Information Services Between Minnesota Public Agencies

CTS Transportation Research Conference
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Minnesota Transportation Libraries

- Goal: To make transportation information more readily available throughout Minnesota

- Collaborative effort of Mn/DOT, the Center for Transportation Studies, and the Local Road Research Board (LRRB)
Our Customers

- Mn/DOT staff and U of M faculty
- City and county employees
- Students (civil engineering, planning,...)
- Consultants
- Lawmakers
- Other state agencies
- General public
Services and Products

- Loans
- Reference assistance
- Literature searches
- Document delivery
- Periodical routing
- Mn/DOT Library & CTS Library Web sites
- Library Newsletter: New Library Materials
Print Resources

- All AASHTO and TRB Publications
- Standards and Specifications
- Over 400 journals and periodicals
- Conference proceedings and papers
- Environmental impact statements
- Clippings, pamphlets, and brochures
Electronic Resources

- CTS and Mn/DOT research reports
- Scholarly databases (Mn/DOT and U of M staff only)
  - TRANSPORT
  - Compendex
- Free databases
  - TRIS
  - TLCat
  - TRB Research In Progress
  - Google Books/Google Scholar
Reference Assistance

- Literature & database searches
- “Ask a Librarian”
- Newspaper, magazine, and journal articles
Emerging Technology Initiatives

- Social networking
- Chat reference
- Video tutorials
- Kindle e-books
- Public wi-fi access
Knowledge Networks

- Increase collaboration between transportation libraries, data, and other information providers to provide current, credible, and valid information to our customers.

- MTL Libraries are members of:
  • Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network (MTKN)
  • National Transportation Knowledge Network (NTKN)
Minnesota Transportation Libraries

- Current collaborations
  - MTL Online Catalog
  - MTL Video Catalog
  - Directory of State Transportation Dept. Libraries

- Future collaborations
  - Online tutorials
  - Webinars
  - Shared reference wiki
Thank you!

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