TRB Snap Search: Rail

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) provides innovative, research-based solutions to improve how we move. TRB is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, an independent, non-profit institution that provides objective advice on scientific, engineering, and medical issues.

A resource to the nation and to the transportation community worldwide, TRB provides an extensive portfolio of services:

- Opportunities for information exchange on current transportation research and practice
- Management of cooperative research and other research programs
- Analyses of national transportation policy issues and guidance on federal and other research programs
- Publications and access to research information from around the world

TRB Research

TRID - The world’s largest and most comprehensive bibliographic source on all modes and disciplines of transportation
  - Click here to view search results on TRB published research Rail within the past year.

Subject Webpage

- Rail Research at TRB

Recent Reports & Publications

- Safety IDEA Program
  - Report 32 - Railroad Bridge Inspections for Maintenance and Replacement Prioritization Using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) with Laser Scanning Capabilities
  - Report 31 - Modeling and Validation of Standards for a Sleeping Compartment on Accessible Passenger Rail Vehicles

- Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP)
  - Report 200 - Contracting Commuter Rail Services, Volume 1: Guidebook
  - Report 200 - Contracting Commuter Rail Services, Volume 2: Commuter Rail System Profiles

- TRB Special Reports

Current & Upcoming Projects

- Current Projects
  - NCHRP 03-131 - Benefits and Best Practices in Implementing Decision Support Systems for Real-time Transportation Management
  - NCHRP 03-128 - Business Intelligence for Transportation System Management and Operations and Agency Decision Making
  - NCHRP 25-50 - Prioritization Procedure for Proposed Road-Rail Grade Separation Projects along Specific Rail Corridors
  - NCHRP IDEA 20-30/IDEA 190 - Self-Deicing LED Signal for Railroad and Highway Intersections
  - Safety IDEA Project 34 - Prototype System for Managing Enterprise Rail Transport Risk for Hazmat
  - TCRP D-07 - Joint Rail Transit Research with the Association of American Railroads/Transportation Technology Center, Inc.
  - TCRP D-16 - Improving the Safety and Sustainability of Stray Current Control of DC-Powered Rail Transit Systems
  - TCRP Synthesis 1-07/Topic SD-05 - Third Rail Insulator Failures - Current State of the Practice
  - Transit IDEA J-04/IDEA 90 - sUAS-Based GeoINTEL for Commuter Rail Parking in Rural and Suburban Areas

- Upcoming Projects
  - NCHRP 03-126 - Operational Standards for Highway Infrastructure
  - NCHRP 20-102(14) - Data Management Strategies for CV/AV Applications for Operations
  - NCHRP 20-115 - Deploying Transportation Security Practices in State DOTs
  - NCHRP 20-116 - Emergency Management in State Transportation Agencies
Reports from the National Academies Press on Rail

- Achieving Rural Health Equity and Well-Being
- Understanding the Long-Term Evolution of the Coupled Natural-Human Coastal System
- Protecting the Health and Well-Being of Communities in a Changing Climate

Committees & Panels

Sign-up to be a committee "Friend"

Technical Activities Division Standing Committees - Search by transportation mode and committee topic

- AHB60 - Highway/Rail Grade Crossings
- AP070 - Commuter Rail Transportation
- AR000 - Rail Group
- AR010 - Intercity Passenger Rail
- AR020 - Passenger Rail Equipment and Systems Integration
- AR030 - Railroad Operating Technologies
- AR040 - Freight Rail Transportation
- AR050 - Railroad Track Structure System Design
- AR055 - Rail Transit Infrastructure
- AR060 - Railway Maintenance
- AR070 - Railroad Operational Safety
- AT010 - Freight Transportation Economics and Regulation
- AT020 - International Trade and Transportation
- AT030 - Agricultural Transportation
- AT035 - Military Transportation
- AT040 - Transportation of Hazardous Materials
- AT045 - Intermodal Freight Transport
- AT050 - Intermodal Freight Terminal Design and Operations

Task Forces - Search for task force under committee here

CRP Panels

- Project Panels Related to Rail

Policy Study

- B0137 - Evaluation of the Federal Railroad Administration Research and Development Program

Councils

- A0040T - Young Member Council

Recent and Upcoming Events

Upcoming Conferences - Left hand menu "upcoming conferences by topic"
(Conferences cosponsored by TRB are denoted with an asterisk.)

2019 Planning for Shifting Trade Workshop*
January 30-31, 2019
Tampa, Florida

14th National Light Rail and Streetcar Conference*
April 7-9, 2019
Jersey City, New Jersey

Innovations in Freight Data Workshop
April 9-10, 2019
Irvine, California

First International Conference on 3D Printing and Transportation
November 20-21, 2019
Washington, DC

Webinars – View upcoming webinars, suggest a webinar or add registration information
TRB’s Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS)

TRIS includes the TRB Library and the TRIS Databases (listed below) which are available free on TRB’s website. The TRB Library provides information services to TRB staff, sponsors, TRB Committee members and panels and researchers. Access to the TRB Library is a benefit to TRB sponsors and TRB committee members.

In cooperation with your State DOT Library or Information Service, the TRB Library provides:

- Reference and research assistance
- Literature searches
- Articles for TRB Committee work

The TRB Library provides training on effective and efficient use of the following TRIS resources:

TRID – The world's largest and most comprehensive bibliographic source on all modes and disciplines of transportation - trid.trb.org

Publications Index (PubsIndex) Database – The papers, articles and reports published by the Transportation Research Board, Highway Research Board, Strategic Highway Research Programs or the Marine Board - pubsindex.trb.org

Research in Progress (RiP) Database – Current or recently completed transportation research projects - rip.trb.org

Research Needs Statements (RNS) – Research needs as identified by TRB Technical Activities standing committees - rns.trb.org

Contact the Library at TRBLibrary@nas.edu or I (202) 334-2989