



# Challenges, Successes, Needs Overview and Vision for Future Collaboration

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# Background on International Information in TRIS

- Historically two databases TRIS (primarily U.S.) and ITRD (International Transport Research Documentation) had an international focus
- TRIS and ITRD exchanged records
- Availability of ITRD records
  - Fee based services
  - Not available in TRIS Online or TRIS on TRB Website

# Background on International Collaboration for TRIS and TRID

- 2005 – TRB changes the operating system for TRIS
  - Web based SQL Database
  - Allows importing and exporting of records in standardized formats
- 2007-2008 TRB (with the help of many volunteers) conducted survey of users and held user focus groups for TRIS
  - TRIS users wanted increased international information
- 2008 International Scan on Transportation Research Administration in Europe and Asia
  - Heard about collaboration between VTI and TRB
- TRB increased involvement in international transport research

# Accomplishments in Increasing International Records in TRIS

- Exchange of records with international organizations
  - VTI (Sweden); ARRB (Australia); SWOV (Netherlands); TAC (Canada); UITP; FERHL, ICE
  - Commercial publishers – Elsevier and Taylor & Francis
- Merger of ITRD Database and TRIS
  - 2010 - TRIS World – offer English language ITRD records to TRB Sponsors
  - 2010-2011 Merging of TRIS and ITRD Database
    - All of ITRD and TRIS available free on TRB's Website as TRID
    - TRID is a multi-lingual database
    - ITRD is managed on the TRIS platform

# Challenges – Collaboration

- Agreements for cooperation
  - Each agreement different
  - Worked primarily with information professionals
- Technology Issues
  - Importing and exporting records not straightforward
- Language and Indexing
  - Many of the current agencies use the ITRD Thesaurus which is mapped to Transportation Research Thesaurus
  - Language

# Challenges - Gaps

International Coverage in TRID is very incomplete

- ITRD Centers – Less than 20 ITRD member countries
  - Not all ITRD Members submit records
  - Many ITRD members submit only records of their agencies publications
  - Limited ITRD Research in Progress being entered
- No records currently being contributed by United Kingdom, Asian countries, Africa, Spain, Italy, Latin America (except Mexico), Middle East
- Little international university research

## Challenges - Needs

- Identify major organizations performing and publishing transportation research that are not currently accessible to the U.S. transportation research community
- Locate international databases and electronic information resources of transportation research that could augment TRID and develop a better understanding of methods and practices of information sharing internationally
- Facilitate ways to develop exchanges of transportation research information – both research projects and publications

## Role of Conference

- Explore new and innovative practices of information sharing that could benefit the U.S. transportation community.
- Identify strategies for the exchange of international information that could enhance the coverage and depth of the TRID Database.

THANK YOU!