

Oregon Infrastructure Construction

SAFETY SYMPOSIUM

SALEM CONVENTION CENTER



FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Learn more at www.apao.org

OREGON ROADWAY WORK ZONE CONSTRUCTION SAFETY SYMPOSIUM

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BREAKFAST & WELCOME, 7:30AM

KICKOFF, 8:00AM

ODOT & Industry Working with High Schools to Improve Safety & The Federal Highway Administration's Efforts to Improve Work Zone Safety
Billboard Contest Speakers: ODOT & Industry Representatives
FHWA Speaker: Martha Kapitanov, Transportation Specialist, Federal Highway Administration

In 2023 ODOT and its industry partners rolled out an innovative competition to engage creative high school students to help make work zones safer. The top competitors will present their finished product and talk about the lessons they learned. Do not miss this session!

The Federal Highway Administration Work Zone Management Program's mission is to help states improve safety in and around work zones – which aligns perfectly with the purpose of the Safety Symposium. Martha helped develop FHWA's strategies on the issues and will tell us about what FHWA has seen across the Country and where its efforts align with our efforts and goals in Oregon.

SESSION ONE, 8:30AM

New Technologies & Smart Work Zones
Speaker: Damian Casados, Coral Sales

Smart Work Zone technology can now be used in almost any roadway work zone because it can be connected to existing traffic control devices. The new technology will change messages automatically based on conditions and communicate with navigation apps. The communications can now include details about the work zone such as whether human or automated flaggers are present. This session will demonstrate effectively using technology to better protect workers.

BREAK, 9:15AM

SESSION TWO, 9:30AM

Safety Culture in Practice
Speakers: Shane Prohaska, P.E., ODOT, Trevor Davis, Riverbend Materials, and Matthew Phillips, P.E., DOWL Engineering

Shane, Chris, and representatives from Dowl Engineering will walk us through a project where ODOT, industry, and consulting engineers collaborated while a project was being performed to improve safety. Together, they were able to transform a plan that placed live traffic right next to workers into a work zone that provided enough separation that workers felt as safe as they have ever felt working in a roadway work zone. Their work shows that with the right approach and attitude there are real opportunities to make work zones safer.

SESSION THREE, 10:15AM

Work Zone Temporary Traffic Control – The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly
Speakers: Justin King, P.E., and Safety Professionals from Industry

Justin is ODOT's Work Zone Engineer and is constantly strategizing how to design and implement work zone traffic control measures to create and maintain a safe work environment. Justin will address his Office's design concerns, how ODOT approaches temporary traffic control issues, and what he has seen in the field. Justin and experienced industry professionals will address best practices and what can go wrong.

SESSION FOUR, 10:45AM

Shift Work/Sleep Cycles & Safety
Speaker: Andrew McHill, Ph.D., & Nicole Bowles, Ph.D., Oregon Health & Science University

Andrew is an expert in sleep and circadian physiology (yes, he will explain what that means), and has worked with individuals from a wide range of working environments that require night work. Due to ever-increasing traffic volumes, many individuals in the infrastructure construction industry work nights on and off over the construction season. Andrew will help us understand the health, safety, and emotional issues that can arise from such a schedule and share strategies that may help.

LUNCHBREAK, 12:00PM, EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATIONS OUTSIDE

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SESSION FIVE, 1:00PM

Automated Speed Enforcement in Work Zones

Speakers: Chris Christopher, WSDOT Const. Div. Director, Tony Leingang, WSDOT ITS Eng., and Billy Wallace, Wash & N. Idaho Council of Laborers

Speed enforcement in and around work zones is difficult. Police presence unquestionably results in more attentive driving behaviors, but there simply aren't enough officers to be present on all projects during every work shift. Other states have successfully used automated speed enforcement systems and Washington will be starting to use the technology in 2024. Chris, Tony, and Billy will discuss why Washington decided to use the technology and the process to get its program approved by the Legislature and ready to go.

BREAK, 1:45PM

SESSION SIX, 2:00PM

Rethink the Drink & Opioid Use and Abuse in the Construction Industry

Speakers: Max Margolis, Construction Suicide Prevention Partnership & Lines for Life

Alcohol and drug use directly and indirectly affect safety. Although drivers under the influence of alcohol and drugs are a very serious concern, workers under the influence can be just as dangerous. Max will talk through some of the unsettling statistics, why alcohol and drug use persists, and strategies that can be employed to change the way we think about alcohol and drug use. We promise Max will not tell everyone to stop drinking!

SESSION SEVEN, 3:00PM

Oregon State Police on Distracted Driving & New Initiatives to Improve Roadway Safety

Speaker: Captain Evan Sether, Oregon State Police

The Oregon State Police are major partners in helping make work zones safer and are constantly dealing with many of the issues that concern ODOT and the construction industry. Evan will talk about the evolving staffing challenges within the Oregon State Police, provide feedback on automated work zone speed enforcement, how the industry can best communicate with the Oregon State Police about specific concerns, and strategies the agency are contemplating to respond to dangerous driver behavior.

SESSION EIGHT, 3:30PM

Maintaining Mobility While Maintaining Safety

Speakers: ODOT Commerce and Compliance Division, Oregon Trucking Association, and the Department of Motor Vehicles

Restriction notices have time requirements that are restrictive to contractors, but ODOT's Commerce and Compliance Division needs time to ensure that permit holders can plan. This session will focus on the tension between allowing for contractor flexibility and providing enough notice to users. Additionally, speakers will address how the recently implemented permitting changes have been working and provide an update on best practices to ensure compliance with timelines.

SAFETY SYMPOSIUM CONCLUDED, 4:00PM