

# Technology Deployment Initiatives and Partnership Program Request for Funding FY 2005

**FHWA Strategic Goal Area:**           Productivity

**Focus Technology:**   None

**Project Title:** Enhance report generation capabilities of Materials MLT and QL-PAY

**Problem Statement:** Current versions of in-house Materials MLT and QL-PAY programs produce reports that at best are sent directly to a specific printer, and in many cases are in 'raw', unformatted ASCII text. It often is necessary only to view reports on a computer but in some cases this cannot be done; a printed copy must be produced. In cases where reports must be sent elsewhere, transmitting them requires mailing, faxing, or scanning printed copies. "Raw" ASCII documents are considered less than professional by present-day standards.

**Proposal:**       MLT and QL-PAY programs will produce reports in the form of PDF files. Programs will use the Acrobat Reader to view and print reports. PDF output will be accomplished by modifying the appropriate programs to produce PDF files as output (as opposed to outputting directly to a printer, or to ASCII files. Programs that currently produce unformatted output will be modified to format their output.

**Benefits:**       Reports will have a more professional appearance with modern formatting. They will be produced without dependence on specific hardware and will be easily transferable via such means as email. Local users will more easily access them. Local and remote users will need only the Acrobat reader to view or print reports.

**Resources/Cost:**       \$10,000

**Duration:**       March 2005-September 2005

**Organization/Method:** PDFLib software will be acquired and incorporated into MLT and QL-PAY software to produce reports in the form of PDF files. In-house programmers will accomplish this work.

**Submitter:**

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