

Technology Deployment Initiatives and Partnership Program

Request for Funding

FY 2002

FHWA Strategic Goal Area: Corporate Management Strategies

Project Title: Continuing Education for FHWA Field Engineers in Digital Format

Problem Statement:

The Ground Anchor Training CD component of the subject project has recently undergone extensive review by technical experts in the field. As a result it was determined that the overall work done by PSU to date is very good. In fact some of the multi media training techniques are new to FHWA and are anticipated to be very effective state of the art training aids. The technical reviewers also discovered that certain areas of the CD need added content and that part of the CD needs to be restructured for better flow. The reviewers found that the mixture of ground anchors and soil nail training can be confusing. This confusion was not anticipated during the project scoping stage of the project. PSU and FHWA have also found that the review process is not allowing enough time for review or enough review periods to correct problems and issues early.

Proposal: The Sponsor requests a fund extension and revision to the deliverable. A Contract Modification is proposed to a FY 2001 CTIP project developing continuing education procedures for field engineers, Agreement 01-A-17-0088 (PSU 252900) FY 2001-02.

We are proposing to supplement the contract scope as follows:

Prepare 3 separate Multi-media CDs (previously 2). In addition to *Introduction for Field Inspectors to Soil Nails and Ground Anchors* and the *Endangered Species Act in Highway Construction* (both for Construction supervisors) a third CD will cover advanced topics in Ground Anchor technologies. The *Introduction for Field Inspectors to Soil Nails and Ground Anchors* is designed as a pre-requisite to the new Ground Anchor CD, which carries more advanced topics. This additional, third, CD will be called *Field Inspection of Ground Anchors* and will also be coordinated with Mr. Richard Barrows at Western Federal Lands-Highway Division.

The third CD will contain a mix of video, expert commentary, photographs and some self-assessment. This CD will be a very comprehensive training tool for the inspection of ground anchors. It is anticipated that this CD will have national and possibly international significance in the area of ground anchor inspection. The *Field Inspection of Ground Anchors* CD and the *Introduction for Field Inspectors to Soil Nails and Ground Anchors* will share some images and graphics. A larger technical working group is being proposed to insure the highest quality final product. A "Beta" and "Gold" review of *Field Inspection of Ground Anchors* is also being proposed with a minimum of 14 day review periods for each.

The *Introduction for Field Inspectors to Soil Nails and Ground Anchors* will contain a review survey, taken by end users, of the learning methodologies used. A total of 25 masters will be produced of each topic with soft covers. This survey is a new concept that was developed

through recent work at PSU. The survey will be very important in the future development of continuing education techniques for field engineers.

Benefits: Improved images and more comprehensive training tools with possible international application.

Resources/Cost:

Project Management & Technical Expert, (incl. tuition)	\$4,863
Graphics, Programming, Photography, Videography etc.	\$14,000
CD Duplication, Supplies	\$4,200

TOTAL **\$23,063**

Duration: The project completion date is proposed as December 31, 2002.

Organization/Method: Contract Modification to existing contract.

Submitter:

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