National Transportation Knowledge Network: An Overview

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What Is NTKN?

The National Transportation Knowledge Network (NTKN) is a voluntary alliance of transportation organizations, which supports a network of transportation information professionals, who collaborate to expand, improve access to, and preserve the domain of transportation knowledge. The purpose of NTKN is to coordinate with transportation research centers, transportation libraries, information providers, and technical assistance centers to develop a comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network that supports the activities of its members.
What is a Knowledge Network?

A knowledge network is an ecosystem of information and knowledge professionals, the organizations that they serve, and the knowledge assets for which they are responsible. These professionals are motivated by a commitment to generate, disseminate, and share knowledge within a particular domain. The nodes on the network are spatially and geographically distributed and could be individuals, libraries, research departments, entire organizations, or web-based tools and resources. Connections among the network nodes can be social, formal, or technological. The term can be extended to include concepts, semantic relationships, data tables, and other machine-readable knowledge assets or components. Goals of a knowledge network include coordination of resources and efforts; teaching and learning; developing knowledge assets; innovating methods, tools, and services; adapting knowledge assets for local use; and supporting individual members.
Transportation Knowledge Infrastructure

What is our grade?

NTKN is the only entity committed to ensuring an A+.

So many ways for you to get involved.
NTKN History

Minneapolis 2001

Midwest Transportation Libraries Library Consortium

Three regional TKNs


*Transportation Knowledge Networks 10 Years after TRB Special Report 284.* AASHTO white paper

*Implementing Transportation Knowledge Networks.* NCHRP 643
A Bigger Tent

Our challenge: to broaden our membership to include as broad a range of transportation knowledge-and-information professionals as possible.
NTKN’s Organizational Structure

NTKN Coordinating Committee; chair is NTL director or director’s designate

Regional chairs and executive committees

National (central) governance

Secretariat

Working groups
  Communications
  Education and professional development
  Directory
  Recruitment
  Cooperative digitization
  508 compliance/document accessibility
NTL’s Legislative Mandate


To support the information management and decisionmaking needs of transportation officials at the Federal, State, and local levels, there is established in the Bureau a National Transportation Library which shall—coordinate efforts among, and cooperate with, transportation libraries, information providers, and technical assistance centers, in conjunction with private industry and other transportation library and information centers, with the goal of developing a comprehensive transportation information and knowledge network that supports the activities described in section 6302(b)(3)(B)(vi).
NTKN’s Partners

Eastern Transportation Knowledge Network
Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network
Western Transportation Knowledge Network
AASHTO RAC CCTF TKN Working Group
TRB Information Services
AASHTO Information Services
Special Libraries Association Transportation Division
Transportation Research Board Library and Information Science for Transportation Committee
National Transportation Library
Products/Activities

Resource guides

Knowledge and Information Professionals Directory
http://transportation.libwizard.com/know_info_pros

Librarian’s Toolkit (to be updated)

Literature searches

Webinars and professional training

Communications and outreach

Partnerships and alliances; interpersonal networking

Preservation of historical and scholarly record

Copyright and IP advice
Tools

Literature (books, reports, serials)
Public access
Persistent identifiers (ORCIDs, DOIs)
Bibliographic databases
Social media
Interpersonal networking
Social media
Shared subscriptions and licensing
digitized collections
Email lists
Join us!

Help us build the transportation knowledge infrastructure
https://transportation.libguides.com/NTKN.

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