



*Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
National Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP)*

What's New:

February 10, 2005

New RTAP Resources Available

National RTAP has just completed and distributed several new training and information resources. The new *Roles and Responsibilities of Transit Managers – Leading the Rural Transit Agency* Training Module is tailored to provide quick and easy-to-understand guidance for new transit managers, to refresh the knowledge of experienced managers and to provide greater understanding of management demands. The videos and lessons center around advice and best practices provided by community transit leaders at the local and state level.

In addition, National RTAP has completed a CD-ROM version of the online [National RTAP Training Resources Catalog](#) to provide State RTAP Managers with both a great training resource as well as an outreach and promotional tool. The CD-ROMs contain the same database of training resources found on the National RTAP website, that can be loaded onto your computer and provide you with a private resource that you can update at will.

Finally, National RTAP has sent to the State RTAP Managers, the TCRP Annual Report. This is another important resource that will provide managers with information on the activities of TCRP and can act both as a resource to inform local activities as well as giving a clear picture of the work areas and priorities occurring on a national level.

New Additions to Bus Transit Safety Resource Guide Website

Several new documents were recently added to the Bus Transit Safety Resource Guide Web Site. See below for links to the new resources and visit www.cutr.usf.edu/bussafety to see all the resources available.

State Policies and Plans - [Indiana Comprehensive Safety Response Plan](#) - Indiana Comprehensive Safety Response Plan is a compilation of sample policies, procedures and forms, to help Community Transportation Systems to construct a System Safety Program Plan (SSPP) to meet its unique safety needs.

Best Practices - [Minnesota – Transit System Safety/Security Workbook](#)

Safety Data Acquisition and Analysis - [Texas - Safety Data Acquisition and Analysis Guide](#)

Driver/Employee Training - [PennSCORE- Operator Training Manual](#)

Security - [Immediate Actions for Transit Agencies for Potential and Actual Life-Threatening Incidents](#) - (FTA Guidance Document)

NEW! National RTAP Training Resource Catalog **NEW!**

The National RTAP Program is proud to unveil the National RTAP Training Resource Catalog. You can access the catalog by using the link on the left side of this page or go to:

<http://www.nationalrtap.org/ResourceCatalog/>

The catalog is an excellent resource when you're looking for the latest training available. The catalog provides you with the ability to search more than 650 training resources. You can search by resource name, type, subject, author, agency, or keyword. The output of your search will tell you about each resource (i.e. how to access the resources, how much it might cost etc). You also have the option to update the materials in the catalog. So be sure to search through the catalog and find your own resources that might be available and make sure all the information is correct.

In order to keep the catalog up to date and relevant we vitally need your help. You have the capability to add new resources to the catalog. We hope you will take the time to add any resources that you might have available. The intent of this catalog is to keep it as a living document – ever growing in size and relevance. So be sure to come back often as new resources will be added.

FTA Emphasizes *United We Ride*

United We Ride -- a new five-part initiative-- to break down the barriers between programs and set the stage for local partnerships that generate common sense solutions and deliver A-plus performance for everyone who needs transportation.

The *United We Ride* initiative includes:

- *A Framework for Action*. Created by a panel of experts from around the country that convened in August 2003, this publication is a self-assessment tool that States and communities can use to identify areas of success and highlight the actions still needed to improve the coordination of human service transportation.
- *State Leadership Awards*. These initial awards have recognized a select number of States that have accomplished significant progress in human service transportation coordination.
- *National Leadership Forum on Human Service Transportation Coordination*. This conference, held in late February 2004, brought together Governor appointed senior leadership teams seeking to raise the visibility of the issue among State leaders and secure commitments to action. The forum was used to provide technical assistance, as well as to recognize those States that have already taken significant steps to improve human service transportation services.
- *State Coordination Grants*. States participating in the United We Ride National Leadership Forum will be eligible to submit an application for State Coordination Grants, to address gaps and needs related to human

service transportation in their geographic regions.

- *Help Along the Way.* This ongoing technical assistance program will build on the work of the Community Transportation Assistance Program (CTAP), the Rural Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP), Easter Seals Project ACTION and other stakeholders to provide hands-on assistance to States and communities in the development and delivery of coordinated human service transportation programs.