Statewide Construction Quality Compliance

Construction quality, as evaluated by VDOT’s Construction Quality Improvement Program (CQIP), measures project compliance with contract quality requirements. The evaluation is made through a critical assessment, guided by a checklist of more than 1,100 construction quality checkpoints. The results show VDOT’s commitment to building quality roads and bridges while seeking opportunity for continuous improvement. Year-to-date first quarter compliance results for both years surpassed the 91 percent target, with FY 2008 achieving 91.8 percent and FY 2009 attaining a 91.5 percent rating.

- **86** construction and maintenance contracts were due for completion by period-end. Of those 86 contracts, 71 (82.6%) were completed both on time and within budget.

- **28** construction contracts were due for completion by period-end. Of those 28 contracts, 24 (85.7%) were completed on time.

- **58** maintenance contracts were due for completion by period-end. Of those 58 contracts, 49 (84.48%) were completed on time.

### Overview

VDOT employees should be proud. The first quarter of the 2009 fiscal year marked significant accomplishments and showcased some of the reasons why VDOT continues to be a leader among the nation’s DOTs. As the agency continues to collect national accolades for our core programs, we are finding ways to improve on delivering services to our customers—ever as we face challenges in funding and changes in the way we do business.

Two of our construction projects recently received national awards, with one winning a prestigious grand prize.

VDOT also received four national communications awards at the annual American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials National Transportation Public Affairs Workshop. The Highway Safety Challenge, a communications campaign launched with our partners last fall to bring awareness to the alarming number of highway crashes and deaths in the commonwealth, earned the premier national award for public affairs campaigns. Our internal newsletter, The Bulletin, also received an award. And, we collected accolades for other elements of our communications programs.

We continue our focus on emergency response—making certain that VDOT is prepared to keep the commonwealth safe. More than 140 key front-line managers and staff have completed the first waves of the Transportation Emergency Response Institute. The new skill sets these key personnel have gained in this training prepare the agency to address winter weather and other emergencies and enhance our ability to keep Virginia moving even during unplanned events.

As we approach the end of 2008, highway safety remains an important part of our work every day. We are seeing the results in fewer crashes and a drastic reduction in highway deaths. Statistics show that the incidence of fatal crashes is high during the holidays, and winter weather can make the possibility of crashes even higher. That is why we continue to work to find new technology, techniques and skills that will keep highways safe all year round.

Transportation is about more than just building new roads, it is about ensuring that our entire transportation network is operating safely and efficiently.

David S. Ekern, P.E.
Commissioner
**QUARTERLY NOTES**

- **VDOT Wins Top Honors at SASHTO** - VDOT received national honors at the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials annual meeting Aug. 8, in Orlando. VDOT won top awards for two Virginia construction projects, the $2.47 billion replacement of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and the New Kent Safety Rest Area and Information Center project. The Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project also received the prestigious America’s Transportation Award Grand Prize presented by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

- **Highway Safety Challenge Wins National Awards** - VDOT received four top national communications awards at the annual American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials National Transportation Public Affairs Workshop Aug. 3, in Nashville. Thirty-two states submitted 117 entries in the 34-category skills contest. VDOT’s top honors included internal newsletter; Web site without consultant; Excel Award (the top national honor for public affairs campaigns) for public relations campaign over $500,000, without consultant; and the Founder’s Award.

- **Transportation Emergency Response Institute** - One hundred and forty VDOT leaders met at Virginia Tech and in Ashland for the first installments of the Transportation Emergency Response Institute (TERI). TERI was created as part of VDOT’s renewed focus on emergency response to train those who will be designated as duty officers during a significant weather- or non-weather-related incident. Duty officers will lead in a crisis, make good decisions and provide timely information to other agencies.

- **Official State Map Released** - The Commonwealth of Virginia’s new official state transportation map was released in August. The 2008 – 2010 map celebrates a variety of activities that can be enjoyed while vacationing in the Old Dominion. VDOT collaborated with the Virginia Tourism Corporation to develop the “Get Away” theme represented through the map’s images and text.

- **Tropical Storm Hanna** - The first weekend of September found VDOT crews responding to reports of heavy rain, flooding, fallen trees and downed power lines as Tropical Storm Hanna passed through the commonwealth. VDOT closely coordinated with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management before and during the storm. Media provided positive news coverage of VDOT’s preparations.

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**FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2009 PERFORMANCE**

**Construction Contracts Completed on Time**

FY 2009 construction contracts completed on time. Note: The number of actual completions may exceed planned completions when contracts are completed ahead of schedule.

**Maintenance Contracts Completed on Time**

FY 2009 maintenance contracts completed on time. Note: The number of actual completions may exceed planned completions when contracts are completed ahead of schedule.

**Construction Contracts Completed Within Budget**

43 construction contracts were completed by period-end. Of those 43 contracts, 39 (90.7%) were completed within budget.

**Maintenance Contracts Completed Within Budget**

113 maintenance contracts were completed by period-end. Of those 113 contracts, 110 (97.3%) were completed within budget.