

Trenchless Technology Center Newsletter

July 1999

Center Funding Levels Remain Steady

As shown in the accompanying bar chart, total annual funding for TTC programs remained at approximately \$600,000 for calendar year 1998.

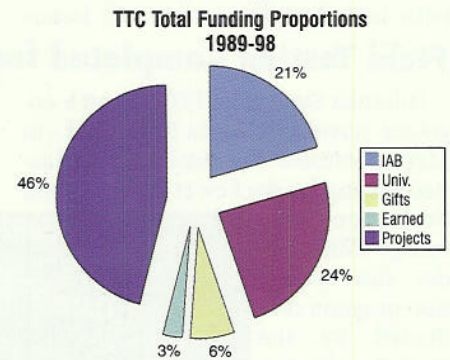
The funding level is expected to rise somewhat in 1999 as new projects received in 1998 have reached their full

level of activity in 1999. The financial support is provided partly by Louisiana Tech University in terms of facilities and the release of time of key faculty for TTC activities.

Research project income is the principal source of funding with project funding coming from federal agencies,

state agencies and private industry. Earned income from conferences and sale of publications is a minor contribution to center funding.

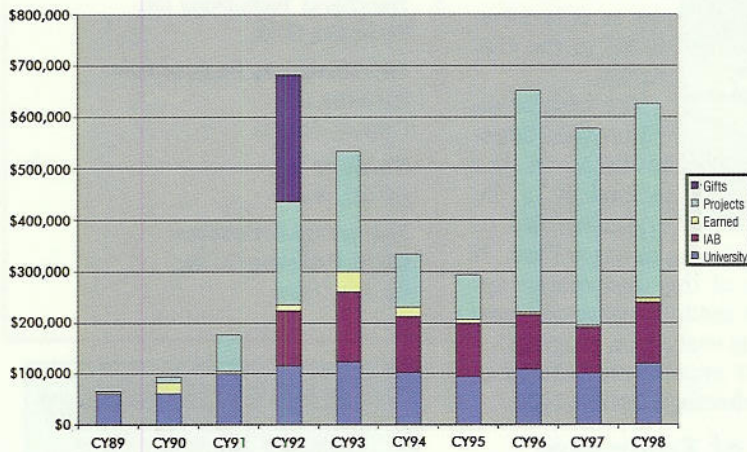
The support of the



Center's Industry Advisory Board together with other industry support received is approximately equivalent to the University's contribution but is the key ingredient in making the center's programs possible.

As shown in the pie chart of funding proportions over the lifetime of the center, each dollar contributed by industry to the center has resulted in approximately \$5.00 of total center activity.

TTC Funding History by Calendar Year



Proposal to NSF for Center for Trenchless Infrastructure Systems

It was learned in April that a preproposal for the creation of a Center for Trenchless Infrastructure Systems (CeTIS) under the Engineering Research Center (ERC) Program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) is one of 29 preproposals selected for submission of a full proposal. There were 89 preproposals received by NSF across the many engineering disciplines and it is expected that 5 to 6 centers will be funded.

The proposed center funding will be around \$3 million annually from NSF matched by a similar level of funding from participating universities, state agencies, industry, and municipalities. Louisiana Tech University is the lead university in the proposal with Louisiana State University as a core research partner. Southern University in Baton Rouge and Grambling State Uni-

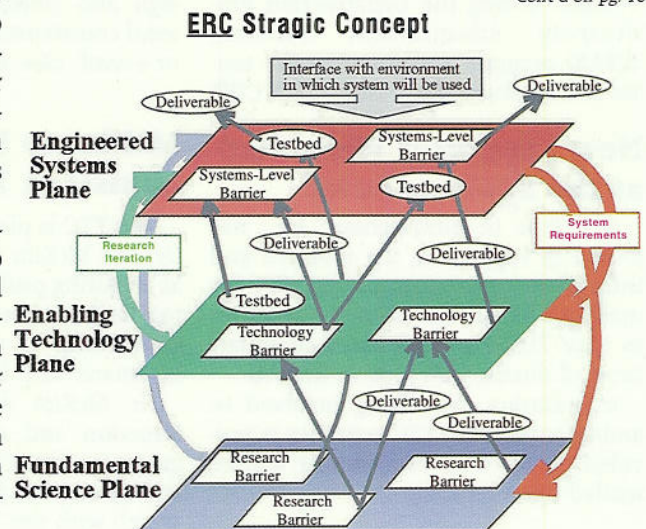
versity in Grambling, La., are educational outreach partners.

The full proposal will be submitted in late August 1999, and a decision on funding is expected to be reached in April to May 2000. A key feature of the NSF center program is a strong industry participation in the research activities in each center.

The attached diagram is used by NSF to describe the expected components of an Engineering Research Center funded under their program. The center is driven by a system-level need (in the case of this pro-

posal - to provide integrated systems for installing, assessing, managing, rehabilitating and replacing underground utility systems with minimal

Cont'd on pg. 16



Proposal -concluded

excavation and disturbance to existing surface uses and the environment.) To meet this need requires the development of enabling technologies and these in turn require improved understanding in basic science and engineering topics. The many barriers to the development of the basic science, enabling technology and system improvements must be addressed and the resulting system carried into practice. Education of future engineers to deal with interdisciplinary research issues

Field Testing Completed for SSET Project

Jadranka Simicevic, TTC research engineer, traveled to Santa Rosa, Calif., in May to witness the final field evaluation testing for the Sewer Scanning and Evaluation Technology (SSET) under the evaluation program conducted by the Civil Engineering Innovative Technology Evaluation Center (CEITEC) of the Civil Engineering Research Foundation.

The TTC is cooperating in the evaluation with the CEITEC and the final report of the evaluation is expected to be completed during the summer. Thirteen cities have cooperated in the eval-



is an important allied goal of the ERC program.

The CeTIS proposal includes strong municipal participation in the research and guidance from the many national associations and research organizations connected with underground infrastructure. Companies, associations, and public works agencies interested in participating in the proposal and the research program are encouraged to contact Ray Sterling, TTC Director, before the end of July.

uation and the extensive field experience this work provided together with the suggestions of the city engineers involved have already resulted in improvements to the SSET technology as it is introduced to the U.S. market.

The wish to include the latest advances in the technology in the evaluation led to the additional testing in Santa Rosa. It is an example of the cooperative approach to new product evaluation possible under this evaluation program.

Note: The SSET system was featured in *Trenchless Technology*, March 1999.

Guidelines Work Starts for the Corps of Engineers

The TTC has recently started a cooperative project with the Waterways Experiment Station of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prepare a set of Guidelines for Pipe Bursting, Pipe Ramming and Impact Molding.

These guidelines will be prepared in a similar format to the guidelines developed during the Construction Productivity Advancement Research (CPAR) program and covering the topics of microtunneling, mini-HDD, CIPP

and fold-and-formed pipeline rehabilitation techniques.

Input is welcomed from public works agencies, contractors, manufacturers, suppliers and others who can provide specific field experiences with pipe bursting, pipe ramming and impact molding that raise important design and construction issues. Please send contributions to the TTC via mail or e-mail. (See sidebar for address.)

New Supporter Welcomed at the Sponsor Level

U.S. Pipe in Birmingham, Ala., has joined in supporting the research and information programs of the TTC by making a \$2,000 donation to the center in May. U.S. Pipe is a major manufacturer of ductile iron pipe in the U.S.

Information on getting involved in and/or supporting TTC activities is provided on the TTC Web Site or will be mailed upon request.

McKim to Stay at Louisiana Tech

The TTC is pleased to announce that Dr. Rob McKim who joined the faculty as a visiting professor of civil engineering in December 1998 has accepted a continuing appointment with Louisiana Tech University.

Dr. McKim will teach in the construction and civil engineering programs in the College of Engineering and Science and also will conduct research with the TTC.

Industry Advisory Board

BRH-Garver Inc.
Houston, Texas

Gulf Coast Trenchless Association
Houston, Texas

Hobas Pipe USA Inc.
Houston, Texas

Insituform Technologies Inc.
Chesterfield, Mo.

Lamson Vylon Pipe
Cleveland, Ohio

Reichhold Inc.
Research Triangle Park, N.C.

SAIC/Science Applications Int'l Corp.
Las Vegas, Nev.

SunCoast Environmental International Inc.
Chipley, Fla.

Trenchless Technology Inc.
Peninsula, Ohio

TRS/Trenchless Replacement Services Ltd.
Calgary, Alberta

Ultraliner Inc.
Oxford, Ala.

**Underground Construction/
Oildom Publishing Co. Inc.,**
Houston, Texas

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