

Technology in Rural Transportation



A recent study documented more than eighty proven, cost-effective, “low-tech” solutions to rural transportation needs, most developed or implemented by local transportation professionals. One of these solutions is outlined below:

Learn all about the simple solutions on the Internet at <http://inform.enterprise.prog.org>

The simple solutions report is available from Hau To at (503) 892-2533, or email: to@crc-corp.com

Portable Rumble Strips

Overall goal:	To encourage drivers to slow down when entering work zones.
Technical approach:	Portable rumble strips must be very durable, as well as lightweight and easily relocated. Two mechanisms are when used in combination can prove successful, rubber mats and multiple ropes. Rubber mats sheets of metal with attached raised bars that create the vibrating effect. Multi-rope devices use ropes attached to a neoprene mat to create the rumble effect.
Current status:	Device is in use.
Location / geographic scope:	The devices were tested around work zones located in Gravelbourg and St. Louis, Canada.
Agencies involved:	Saskatchewan Highways and Transportation, Regina University
Cost information:	Cost per unit of the multi-rope devices is estimated at \$250 Canadian dollars.
Key contacts:	Please visit http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/rumblestrips/resources/providers.htm for a list of rumble strip retailers.
Have goals been achieved?	Yes. On average, a 22% reduction in speed was recorded. This corresponds to a decrease of 34% in stopping distances. Motorist feedback towards the devices was positive.
Solution timeline:	The multi-rope portable rumble strips were tested over the course of one construction season.

