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TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH FORUM
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**CANADIAN TRANSPORTATION
RESEARCH FORUM**

APPENDICES

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Transportation Research Forum is an independent organization of transportation professionals. Its purpose is to provide an impartial meeting ground for carriers, shippers, government officials, consultants, university researchers, suppliers and others seeking an exchange of information and ideas related to both passenger and freight transportation. The Forum provides pertinent and timely information to those who conduct research and those who use and benefit from research.

The exchange of information and ideas is accomplished through international, national, and local TRF meetings, and by publication of professional papers related to numerous transportation topics.

The TRF encompasses all modes of transport and the entire range of disciplines relevant to transportation, including:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Economics | Urban Transportation and Planning |
| Marketing and Pricing | Governmental Policy |
| Financial Controls and Analysis | Economic Development |
| Labor and Employee Relations | Equipment Supply Regulation |
| Carrier Management | Safety |
| Organization and Planning | Environment and Energy |
| Technology and Engineering | Physical Distribution |
| Education Transport Operations | Intermodal Transportation |

HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION OF THE TRF

A small group of transportation researchers in New York started the New York Transportation Forum in March 1958. Monthly luncheon meetings were established at that time and still continue. The first organizing meeting of the American Transportation Research Forum was held in St. Louis, Missouri, in December 1960. The New York Transportation Research Forum sponsored the meeting and became the founding chapter of the ATRF. The Lake Erie, Washington, D.C. and Chicago chapters were organized soon after and have been joined by chapters in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Boston, Roanoke, Seattle, Hampton Roads, Southwest Virginia and North Carolina. The TRF currently has over 700 members.

With the expansion of the organization into Canada, the name was shortened to the Transportation Research Forum. The Canadian Transportation Forum now has approximately 300 members.

TRF organizations have also been established in Australia and Israel. In addition, an International Chapter was organized for TRF members interested particularly in international transportation and transportation in countries other than the U.S. and Canada.

Interest in specific transportation-related areas has recently encouraged some members of TRF to form other special interest chapters, which do not have geographical boundaries—Agricultural and Rural Transportation, Personal Computer Users,

High-Speed Ground Transportation, and Cost Analysis. A chapter on aviation transportation was recently formed. TRF members may belong to as many geographical and special interest chapters as they wish.

A student membership category is provided for undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in the field of transportation. Student members receive the same publications and services as other TRF members.

TRF ANNUAL MEETINGS

In addition to monthly meetings of the local chapters, national meetings have been held every year since TRF's first meeting in 1960. Annual meetings generally last three days with 25 to 35 sessions. They are held in various locations in the United States and Canada, usually in October or early November. The Canadian TRF also holds an annual meeting, usually in the spring.

Each year at its annual meeting, the TRF presents an award for the best graduate and undergraduate student papers. Recognition is also given by TRF annually to an individual for Distinguished Transportation Research.

Annual TRF meetings generally include the following features:

- Members are addressed by prominent speakers from government, industry, and academia.
- The research papers are published and distributed before the meeting so those interested can read them in advance and be prepared to discuss and critique them.
- Speakers typically summarize (not read) their papers, then discuss the principal points with the members.
- Members are encouraged to participate actively in any session; sufficient time is allowed for discussion of each paper.
- Some sessions are organized as debates or panel discussions.

The *Journal of the Transportation Research Forum* is a volume of approximately 500 pages. It is published twice annually. A copy of the current *Journal of the Transportation Research Forum* is mailed to each member before the annual meeting. The annual *Journal of the Transportation Research Forum* is widely recognized as an indispensable resource document in transportation. Copies of recent *TRF PROCEEDINGS* are available from the headquarters office.

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