



WE WANT TO REWARD YOU FOR YOUR INNOVATIVE IDEAS!

HOW IT WORKS

The challenge is open to all full-time M&O employees. All innovations must be in use and showing desired results. Regional competitions run from March to March wrapping up with the statewide challenge in April. Employees are welcome to submit innovations at any time on the webpage. If you have questions regarding the challenge program or a specific best practice, please email us at: challenge@wsdot.wa.gov

TOOLS & EQUIPMENT BEST PRACTICES

Innovations include items fabricated or modified by WSDOT employees. The best practices have been broken into categories to help you zero in on your area of interest.

TECHNOLOGY BEST PRACTICES

Includes ideas resulting in exceptional results for transportation employees internally or externally (i.e. HATS, I-PADS, Data Collection, culvert replacements).

TECHNIQUES BEST PRACTICES

Includes improvements to office and field processes, materials and products. This can range from automating or streamlining a time consuming process to purchasing innovative materials or products to get work done better, faster and safer.

Some Example Categories:

- Bridge Maintenance
- Drainage
- Pavement Marking
- Preventive Maintenance
- Roadsides
- Signing
- Winter Operations



Innovations Challenge

Program Overview

The Innovations Challenge is designed to identify and share the best innovations for all areas of Maintenance & Traffic Operations.

- This challenge is open to all full-time M&O employees.
- All innovations must be in use within the department and showing desired results.
- Regional competitions run from March to March, but employees are welcome to submit innovations at any time through the challenge web page.
- Innovations will be grouped into three categories:
 - o **Tools** – This will include items fabricated or modified by WSDOT employees.
 - o **Technology**– This will include ideas resulting in exceptional results for transportation users or internally (i.e. Hats, IPADS, Data Collection, Culvert Replacement etc.).
 - o **Techniques**–This will include office and field processes, better way to do tasks, efficiency & effectiveness, materials and products.
- Innovations will be evaluated on the following:
 - o **Originality** – How new is it to WSDOT?
 - o **Transferability** – How likely is it to be used by other areas?
 - o **Conservation of Resources** – How much time or money does it save?
 - o **Organizational Impact** – How will it impact performance especially tangible results?
- Each region can select as many as six submissions in each of the three categories as first-round winners for a total of up to 18 per location.
- **First-round winners will receive \$50 per person or a maximum of \$200 per team.**
- Regional office coordinators will choose as many as 10 innovations to compete at the Innovations Challenge Showcase. The showcase will be held in April, winners will be invited to attend the Statewide Maintenance Managers Meeting in May and share their Innovations.
- Regional judges will select up to three innovation winners per category at the showcase.
- **Showcase winners will earn \$100 per individual or a maximum of \$400 per team plus from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for the maintenance area budget.**
- The Maintenance Director's Safety Award shall be given to the innovation making the greatest impact to employee and customer safety.
- Showcase visitors will vote for their favorite innovations with the top vote getter receiving a People's Choice Award trophy.