



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Railroad
Administration**



**Michigan
Technological
University**

Michigan Tech Transportation Institute

Workshop on Infrastructure Life-Cycle Carbon Emissions Assessment for Railway Track Maintenance: Supporting Sustainable Decision-Making for Railway and Transportation Infrastructure

November 1st 2022, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CDT
Location: Urbana, IL (in conjunction with the 24th
Railroad Environmental Conference)

This workshop concentrates on establishing strong industry dialog and participation in a project, funded by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), to develop a framework for Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) of emissions from railroad track and infrastructure maintenance and construction. Specific topics to cover include shared goals, data, tools and eventual implications of emissions LCA for multi-modal transport decision making. The main objectives of this workshop are to:

- Explain the reasoning for development of rail infrastructure construction and maintenance emissions LCA framework, including its potential uses, relevant legislation, links to decision making, etc.
- Introduce similar development conducted on the highway transportation side
- Obtain insight from the industry and key stakeholders on the current status of industry activities in the area, including perceived pressures and institutional barriers and challenges
- Discuss project boundaries, goal and scope with the industry
- Establish an industry advisory council for the project

The workshop will consist of invited plenary presentations to frame the issues and pose the questions to be answered surrounding life-cycle emissions of rail infrastructure, followed by participatory workshop sessions to discuss and develop stakeholder responses. **We want your input on these important issues**, and your organization will benefit from participating in this effort by learning from other industry and agency contacts involved in infrastructure emissions LCA, and helping to shape future guidance and tools to conduct emissions LCA for rail construction and maintenance projects.

This workshop is supported by the FRA and hosted by Michigan Technological University and the University of Texas at Austin, in conjunction with the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Rail Transportation and Engineering Center (RailTEC). Lunch will be provided for workshop attendees registered in advance (option on UIUC conference registration, but space is limited. Remote online access to the workshop plenary presentations will be provided, but involvement in discussions by remote participants is likely to be limited, so in-person participation is encouraged.

For more information, contact Pasi Lautala (ptlautal@mtu.edu), 906-487-3547



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Session and Time	Topic
08:00 am – 08:30 am	<u>Continental Breakfast (Provided)</u>
08:30 am – 09:30 am	<u>Project Introduction and FRA perspectives:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction – Pasi Lautala (Michigan Tech) - FRA perspectives (importance, policies, long-term objectives) Michael Johnsen (FRA)
09:30 am – 10:45 am	<u>Experiences and Lessons Learned from Other Modes</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moderator – Amlan Mukherjee (Michigan Tech, USDOT) - FHWA Sustainable Pavements Program: The Movement Toward More Sustainable Pavement Systems - LaToya Johnson (USDOT) - Sustainability Initiatives in the Concrete Industry – Brian Killingsworth (NRMCA)
10:45 am – 11:00 am	<u>Break</u>
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	<u>Industry Perspectives and Current Activities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAR Environmental Committee - AREMA Committee 13 -Environment – Kari Harris (CN) - ASLRRA Environmental Committee – Kevin Keller (HDR, Inc.)
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	<u>Lunch (provided)</u>
01:00 pm – 01:15 pm	<u>Introduction to Goal and Scope</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Team
01:15 pm – 02:15 pm	<u>Breakout Discussions on Goal and Scope</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breakout groups
02:15 pm – 03:00 pm	<u>Breakout Reports and Industry Advisory Council</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary Breakout sessions and discussion of Industry Advisory Council
03:00 pm	<u>Adjourn</u>

