

**NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AUTHORITY  
CONSULTANT INSTRUCTION**

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**SUBJECT: REQUIREMENT TO USE TRNS\*PORT ESTIMATOR® PROGRAM FOR  
PREPARING AND SUBMITTING ENGINEER'S ESTIMATES**

**DATE: October 19, 2007**

**CODE: 07-10**

**SUPERSEDES: NA**

**APPROVED:**

  
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**DISTRIBUTION: All**

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This Consultant Instruction establishes the TRNS\*PORT Estimator® program as the Authority's required "Tool of the Trade" for preparing and submitting Engineer's Estimates. TRNS\*PORT Estimator® must be used by all Authority staff and Consultant Designers in accordance with the Estimator® Implementation Schedule below.

Background

The Authority has been working on a project to implement AASHTO's TRNS\*PORT Estimator® software in an effort to provide more estimating functionality and to facilitate the use of this data with other AASHTO TRNS\*PORT modules. Additional information on the various TRNS\*PORT modules can be found at: <http://www.cloverleaf.net/>

The Estimator® program provides the following benefits:

Estimator® supports estimation via cost-based and historical techniques while also permitting ad hoc data entry should historical data not be available. The data to support the creation of estimates for the Authority is automatically provided via the Authority's web-based Estimator® catalog. This catalog will be maintained by the Authority and automatically refreshed on a designer's computer each time they start Estimator®.

The initial Authority Estimator® catalog will only include item information. Future updates to the catalog will include historical bid price information for each item. In addition, it may eventually contain labor rates, production rates and equipment & material costs to support cost-based estimation.

Estimator® Estimates can be combined to allow several designers to work independently on different engineering shares (or even parts of shares) then later merge them into a single estimate.

Estimator® verification functionality assists with finalizing the estimate by identifying errors such as incompatible or incomplete data.

Computer-based training for Estimator® is available to allow designers to learn Estimator® without needing to travel.

Estimator® can be installed stand-alone or in a networked environment with managed user access (within your firm). Either installation model will use the Authority's web-based Estimator® catalog.

Estimator® is a mature product which has been in production for nearly ten years and is currently being used in over twenty State DOTs, including Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Virginia.

#### Estimator® Implementation Schedule

TRNS\*PORT Estimator® will be implemented as follows:

- December 2007 - Self-learning, Computer Based Training (CBT) will be available to both in-house and consultant staff.
- Late December 2007 - Designers will begin submitting engineer's estimates prepared using TRNS\*PORT Estimator®.
- It is anticipated that all Engineer's Estimates prepared for lettings in February, 2008 and beyond will be developed using TRNS\*PORT Estimator®.

#### Acquisition of Estimator® software

Consultant's can purchase the Estimator® software from Info Tech, the developer of the AASHTO TRNS\*PORT products. Information on purchasing the software can be found at [http://www.infotechfl.com/software\\_solutions/estimator\\_pricing.php](http://www.infotechfl.com/software_solutions/estimator_pricing.php). Currently, the annual fee for each license is \$429. Note that Consultants who produce estimates for more than one State or Agency are required to purchase a separate license for each organization. The cost of these licenses will be considered an overhead expense.

#### Training for the Estimator® software

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has developed a CBT module regarding using the Estimator® program for NYSDOT projects. As the Authority's processes are similar to NYSDOT's, this module is applicable to Authority projects as well. The CBT module is available to consultants free of charge from NYSDOT, either on CD or, for those with high-speed connections, from the NYSDOT website:

<https://www.nysdot.gov/portal/page/portal/main/business-center/trns-port/training>

#### Procedures for Transmitting Engineer's Estimates on Estimator® Files

Consultants shall submit estimates to the Authority's document management system through the Authority's ProjectWise web interface, developed by Bentley Systems, Inc.