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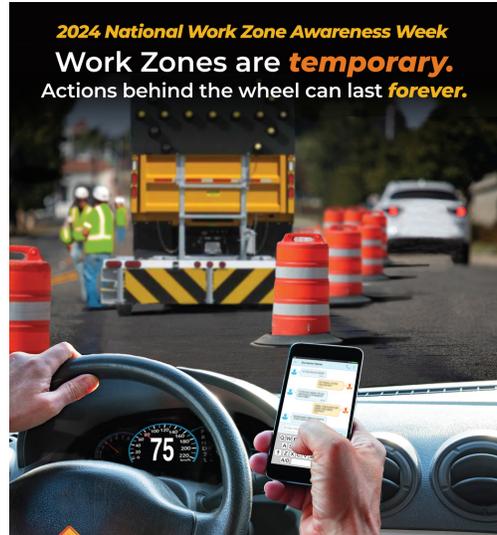
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EMPLOYEE NEWS & UPDATES

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**2024
National
Work Zone
Awareness
Week**
April 15-19

GO ORANGE DAY is Wednesday, April 17, 2024. It is our goal to **“turn the state of South Dakota orange”** by encouraging SDDOT employees, along with schools, businesses, and communities, to wear orange and then upload pictures to our social media sites to demonstrate support for roadway safety in work zones.



[Click to Play Video](#)



Luke Neville, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker, Philip talks about work zone dangers and the importance of slowing down, and putting down distractions. Luke's video will be featured on social media during NWZAW.



The Secretary's Corner



The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is conducting an Amtrak Daily Long-Distance Service Study to evaluate the restoration of daily long-distance intercity passenger rail service and the potential for possible new Amtrak long-distance routes. Congress required this study as part of IIJA, and FRA is meeting the requirements by forming regional studies to consider changes to the existing routes. These studies will ultimately collaborate in the formation of a national long-term vision for long-distance passenger rail service as well as creating a capital project list that will identify funding needed to fully implement the vision. Long distance is defined as routes over 750 miles, between endpoints that Amtrak operates.

The outcomes of the study will be:

- Evaluate options for restoring or enhancing daily services for intercity passenger rail service along concept routes.
- Select preferred options for restoring or enhancing service and then set the criteria to evaluate the routes.
- Develop a prioritized inventory of capital projects and other actions required to restore or enhance the service, including cost estimates for those projects and actions.
- Develop recommendations for methods by which Amtrak could work with local communities and organizations to develop activities and programs to continuously improve public use of intercity passenger rail service along each route.
- Identify Federal and non-Federal funding sources required to restore or enhance the service.

There have been two stakeholder meetings held to date, with one more to occur before the draft report is completed. As presented, the study has identified two routes through South Dakota.



•Twin Cities – Sioux Falls – Rapid City –
Cheyenne – Denver route

•Twin Cities – Sioux Falls – Sioux City –
Omaha – Kansas City route

Secretary's Corner - FRA Passenger Rail Study continued . . .

There are several hurdles to overcome before any passenger rail could become a reality in South Dakota. First, the soils in many of the proposed routes in South Dakota are not conducive for high-speed trains. For this reason, the existing railroads near these proposed routes operate at speeds of 25 mph or less. The average speed of an Amtrak train operates at 80-120 mph. To construct infrastructure to accommodate these high-speed trains would be very expensive (over \$1 billion). Therefore, funding will be a big issue.

Second, to construct any new railroad lines that would closely follow the proposed concept routes will be difficult as these properties would be in private hands. Therefore, acquiring right-of-way is likely to be very controversial.

Third, if instead, FRA elected to use existing private railroads, this also would be problematic as the Amtrak trains would likely need to take priority over freight. We would expect the private railroads may be very hesitant to give up their full authority over their private lines.

Fourth, if the routes ever do come into existence, there will need to be ongoing maintenance, and this too would be costly. If Amtrak doesn't pick up all of this cost, this would likely need to be subsidized by the taxpayers in South Dakota, again very problematic.

Finally, because South Dakota is one of three states that does not have Amtrak service, we receive federal **Special Transportation Circumstance funds (STC)**. With the STC funds, South Dakota has funded numerous shortline railroad projects to promote and enhance economic development and rail improvements in our state, which is a great use of these funds.

For FY2022 and FY2023, these allocations were close to \$27 million per year. These funds were granted to numerous entities that enabled them to make improvements for: adding sidings, expanding rail segments, making bridge upgrades, adding switches, and installing crossings. These improvements have a direct impact on South Dakota, residents, and businesses and have enabled railroad freight to expand. Thus, these funds have benefitted this mode of transportation and the state.

Our sincere gratitude is given to Commissioner Zander, of Pierre, for her ten years of steadfast service to the Transportation Commission. She was appointed in 2014 by Governor Dennis Daugaard. Commissioner Zander always placed the interest of South Dakotans at the heart of every discussion and decision. Her last official commission meeting was Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024.



Transportation Commissioners pictured left to right: **Chris Frick**, Yankton; **Jaf Karim**, Rapid City; **Austin Simons**, Mobridge; **Kathy Zander**, Pierre; **Ron Rosenboom**, Sturgis; **Lynn Jensen**, Arlington; **SDDOT Secretary Joel Jundt**; and **Mike Vehle**, Mitchell.

Maintenance Equipment Management System (MEMS)

By Mark King, Maintenance Inventory Management Specialist

The SDDOT has been working with a company called SADA Inc., to develop a new system that will include equipment, parts inventory, asset management, and maintenance management. MEMS will replace the old mainframe systems that were developed in-house during the 1970s – 90s. **The new system uses a Google product called ATOM.** The overall goal of MEMS is to improve the flow of information for users; which will assist area engineers and maintenance supervisors to better analyze and utilize available resources.

MEMS processes include:

- Equipment management and scheduling
- Analysis of maintenance
- Annual maintenance planning
- Track maintenance work/inventory, assets, and equipment
- Ability to track work orders for both equipment and maintenance activities
- Store and analyze data (road condition ratings, maintenance expenditures, etc.)



MEMS allows users to access and analyze maintenance data, and easily create reports from the data.

UAT - Atom

uat-sddot.uat-atom.io/inventory/65ce7902e2806d63d6a16ec9?activeView=assetInfo¢er=44.368074,-100.347878&zoom=14

State of South Dakota Technology Use Poli... South Dakota Offic... google maps - Goo... South Dakota Offic... Government Emplo... 511SD KELOLAND.com | SL

Test Environment Search

CH378 2 of 3

Inventory Name: CH378 Type: Sept 2023 Equipment
Last Updated: 02/22/2024 20:05:48 GMT Location: 700 E Broadway Ave, Pierre, SD 57501, USA

INFO SUB ITEMS WORK FILES PHOTOS

General Information

Status	Active
Equipment Class Code	CH
Class Description	
Make	Chevrolet
Model	k1500
Serial Number or VIN	12345
Barcode	
Plate Number (if applicable)	
Unit	780
Location	Aberdeen
Assigned or Available	Assigned
Responsible Person's Name	Brian Wacholz

Search Maps

CH378
700 E Broadway Ave, Pierre, SD 57501, USA
44.3680744, -100.343431

Fort Pierre

Keyboard shortcuts Map data ©2024 500 m Terms Report a map error

42°F Sunny Search 10:37 AM 02/26/2024

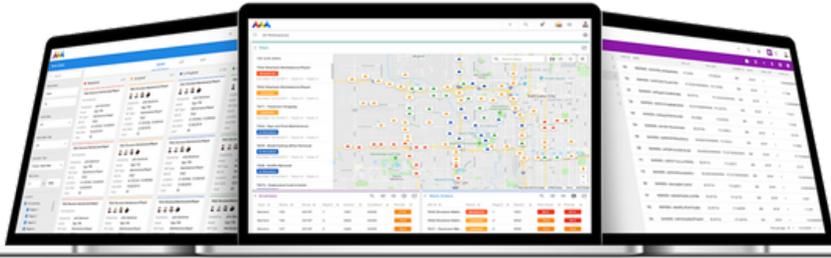
MEMS continued on next page

MEMS Project Schedule: MEMS training is planned to begin before May 2024. The development team has been conducting interviews and discovery meetings with maintenance staff for the last couple of months to make sure MEMS meets user needs. The discovery process is almost completed with just a few follow-up discussions on equipment, parts inventory, and stockpiles.

Full implementation for equipment management, parts inventory, and stockpiles is expected around **July 1, 2024.**

Key Benefits

- 1 Asset independent; Create custom datasets
- 2 Native mobile app with full offline functionality
- 3 Link inspection and maintenance data
- 4 Intuitive and easy-to-use
- 5 Scheduling and analytics with reporting
- 6 Integration with other systems
- 7 Data Management
- 8 Supports LOS and budgeting



Save the Date: 2024 South Dakota Airports Conference



Conference Dates:
Wednesday, April 10 -
Thursday, April 11, 2024
Conference Location:
The Lodge, Deadwood



For more information visit:
<https://dot.sd.gov/transportation/aviation/airport-conference>

Finance Corner

DOT NEGOTIATED CONTRACTS

\$\$\$ PAYMENT PROCEDURES \$\$\$

<p>STEP 1) FILL OUT DOT 904 PAYMENT VOUCHER FORM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FILE LOCATION: M:\DOT\Common\All DOT Forms\DOT Forms 900-999</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SEE THE '<u>INSTRUCTIONS</u>' TAB FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO COMPLETE FORM.</p>
<p>STEP 2) DETERMINE FUNDING TYPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ IF THE CONTRACT INCLUDES FEDERAL PARTICIPATING FUNDS, SEE STEP 3. ✓ IF THERE ARE <u>NO</u> FEDERAL PARTICIPATING FUNDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTRACT, SKIP TO STEP 4.
<p>STEP 3) NEGOTIATED CONTRACT PAYMENTS - FEDERAL PARTICIPATING FUNDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ATTACH DOT 904 FORM, INVOICE & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TOGETHER & SUBMIT TO CENTRAL OFFICE – ATTN: INTERNAL AUDITS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ INTERNAL AUDITS ENTERS CONTRACT PAYMENT INFORMATION INTO THE NEGOTIATED CONTRACT SYSTEM. ✓ INTERNAL AUDITS APPROVES INVOICE FOR PAYMENT & FORWARDS TO THE CENTRAL FINANCE OFFICE TO BE ENTERED INTO ACCOUNTING SYSTEM FOR PAYMENT. ✓ ONCE PAYMENT IS ENTERED, FINANCE ENTERS VOUCHER # & APPROVES PAYMENT IN THE NEGOTIATED CONTRACT SYSTEM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A COPY OF ALL DOCUMENTATION IS THEN SCANNED INTO FILE DIRECTOR & PUT INTO THE FEDERAL PROJECT FILES BY THE FINANCE OFFICE. ✓ ALL PAPERWORK IS THEN SUBMITTED TO STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE FOR FINAL PAYMENT APPROVAL.
<p>STEP 4) NEGOTIATED CONTRACT PAYMENTS - <u>NON</u>-FEDERAL PARTICIPATING FUNDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ CENTRAL & REGION OFFICES ENTER CONTRACTS FOR NON-FEDERALLY FUNDED PAYMENTS INTO ACCOUNTING SYSTEM. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (EXAMPLES: JANITORIAL SRVCS, COPIER RENTALS, ETC) ✓ THE DOT 904 FORM, INVOICE(S) & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE SUBMITTED TO THE CENTRAL FINANCE OFFICE. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ THE INFORMATION (PAYMENT/CONTRACT INFO) IS ENTERED INTO THE NEGOTIATED CONTRACT SYSTEM BY THE FINANCE OFFICE. ▪ ALL DOCUMENTATION SHOULD BE SCANNED INTO FILE DIRECTOR BY THE ORIGINATING OFFICE. ✓ ALL PAPERWORK IS THEN SUBMITTED TO STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE FOR FINAL PAYMENT APPROVAL.
<p>*QUESTIONS S/B DIRECTED TO: CENTRAL FINANCE OFFICE FAITH KONGSLIEN @ 773-4285 or BRANDY HANSEN @ 773-5615</p>

***This information can be found on the DOT intranet at:**

<https://intranetdot.sd.gov/docs/fin/NegotiatedPaymentContractFAQ.pdf>

BRANDING	Useful Links
STIP DEVELOPMENT	Finance Contact List - Contact Information & job descriptions for the
STRATEGIC PLAN	DOT Accounting Frequently Asked Questions
TECHNOLOGY	Negotiated Contracts Payment Frequently Asked Questions
TRAVEL	Applications - Web enabled applications for the purpose of finding a information from DOT programs.
TRIBAL INFO.	FY 2024 Center Structure
POLICIES & MEMORANDUMS	Maintenance Shop Codes
	Financial System Policies
	Accounting Procedure Manual
	Finance Tips

March Mentoring Minute

**“Um”... “Like”... “Did that make sense?”...
“In all honesty”... “I think”...**

By Ariana Griffey and Brad Norrid

The Mentoring Program hosted the latest event in January, **Communication in the Workplace and Beyond**, led by the SDDOT Communication Team.

In a world that is filled with texting, email, and social media – good communication skills can become rusty and replaced with emojis and abbreviations. Technology will never replace the need for good customer service, common courtesy, and simple everyday manners in the workplace. The standards of professionalism are higher for public servants. It’s just a fact. And it’s easy to forget that our co-workers deserve to be treated with the same dignity and respect as our external customers.

At the Mentoring event, we learned a few phrases that make people question your credibility, keep reading below to find out what Christina Helena, a public speaking expert, speech coach, and TEDx speaker has to say about some of the phrases:

- 1. “Um”** – This is the most common crutch word. It suggests that you’re unprepared, lack confidence, or are at a loss for what to say next.
- 2. “Like”** – We’ve all heard this sprinkled in sentences: “So, like, I was thinking we could, like, start the session with a round of introductions.” But, similar to “um” and “uh,” it causes you to sound less prepared or less confident.
- 3. “Did that make sense?”** – I’ve seen people say this after they’ve tried to explain something but didn’t feel like they did a good job. A better phrase would be: “I hope that made sense.” Give people at least 15 to 30 seconds to digest, then ask if they have questions.
- 4. “In all honesty”** – People use “in all honesty” or “I’m not going to lie to you” to convey sincerity, although it could be read as the opposite. The audience already knows that your intention is to tell the truth. Reiterating it will only make them question why you’re trying to assure them of your honesty.
- 5. “I think”** – this phrase makes you sound tentative and unsure of what you’re saying – it’s not a fact, but a thought. If you know you are presenting a well-researched argument, lead with confidence and conviction.

Overall, the discussion centered around the **positive things we do every day**, and things we can improve on to be the best communicators we can be.

A special thank you to the SDDOT Communication Team for executing an excellent presentation.

If you ever get the chance to sit in on a presentation by the DOT Communications Team, you will certainly not be disappointed!

Mentoring Minute continued . . .

Mentoring Program January Event:

Mentoring Program participants engaged in the “Communication in the Workplace and Beyond” presentation in person and via Microsoft TEAMS.

**Make Time for Mentoring!****UPCOMING MENTORING EVENTS:****March 27-28, 2024 - March Mentoring Event****Executive Team Meeting**

- Wednesday, March 27, 2024, from 1 – 5 p.m. (CT) in DOT Commission Room

DOT Commission Meeting

- Thursday, March 28, 2024, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. (CT) in DOT Training Room B-17

Extra Mile Mentoring Book Club

The Cure for Stupidity: Using the Brain to Explain Irrational Behavior at Work by Eric M. Bailey

Discussion Led by Jana Uhrig

- Tuesday, April 9, 2024, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. (CT)
- DOT Large Training Room B-17 and Microsoft TEAMS

**Project BISON | “Intent to Award” Announcement**

After a thorough and collaborative review process, the Evaluation Committee has reached a pivotal point in the ERP system selection. Along with the invaluable support of our consultants at ISG, the Project BISON team is excited to announce that we are transitioning into the "Intent to Award" phase with Sierra-Cedar for the implementation of Oracle Fusion Cloud.

Sierra-Cedar's commitment to excellence and their experience implementing the Oracle Fusion Cloud solution align with our project objectives. The implementation plan is projected to span approximately two years, reflecting the complexity and scope of the task at hand. We are confident that this strategic partnership with Sierra-Cedar will bring about necessary transformative change in our state's financial management landscape for years to come.

Please accept our sincere gratitude for the support and engagement from all of you throughout this process. Your active participation, reflected in the impressive attendance during the vendor demonstrations, has played a crucial role in shaping the direction of Project BISON.

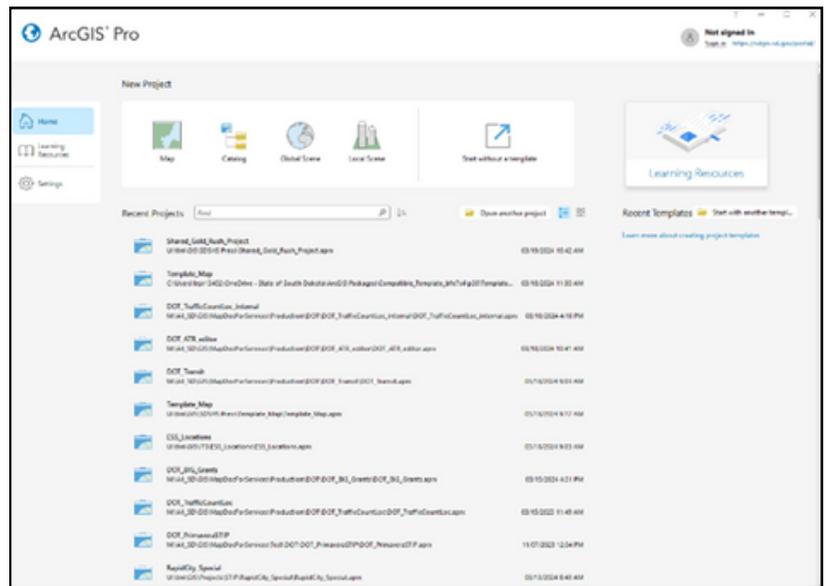
As we progress through the implementation phase, your input and collaboration will remain pivotal to the project's overall success. We are committed to keeping you and your teams updated on Project BISON developments, and your feedback will always be welcomed.

Getting Started with ArcGIS Pro

By Kimberly Zerr and Kathryn Wesson

BIT is in the process of upgrading GIS servers, and soon ArcGIS Pro 3.1.0 will be the state standard. ArcMap will stay on your computer, but Esri is phasing it out. If you haven't opened ArcGIS Pro yet, get started!

One very important thing about the new version of Pro will be the discontinuation of DataHound. BIT is in the process of moving DataHound data into an internal GIS portal. More information on accessing data in the GIS portal will be available in upcoming articles and videos on LMS.



If you have special tools for ArcMap, please contact the GIS Team and start testing your tools in Pro. We don't want you to be unprepared if they stop working in ArcMap!

Some key differences in transitioning from ArcMap to ArcGIS Pro:

- No more MXD extensions; work is organized into "Projects" — consisting of maps, scenes, layouts, data, tables, tools, and connections to other resources — which are stored in a folder within the project.
- A "ribbon feel" like Microsoft Office (i.e., menu items at the top of the page, and tools appear and "activate" depending on what kind of item is selected).
- No more starting and stopping the Editor; it's turned on by default.
- Schema changes to the data are possible, such as renaming a field, without going through ArcCatalog.

Noticeable benefits:

- Creating multiple definition queries for one layer and toggling them on/off.
- More efficient for creating a series of maps. You can create multiple layouts within one session.
- Existing MXD files can be imported into ArcGIS Pro.

Even though ArcMap is still around, it won't be around forever. Get started with ArcGIS Pro so you're not left behind. Contact the GIS Team with questions or ideas!

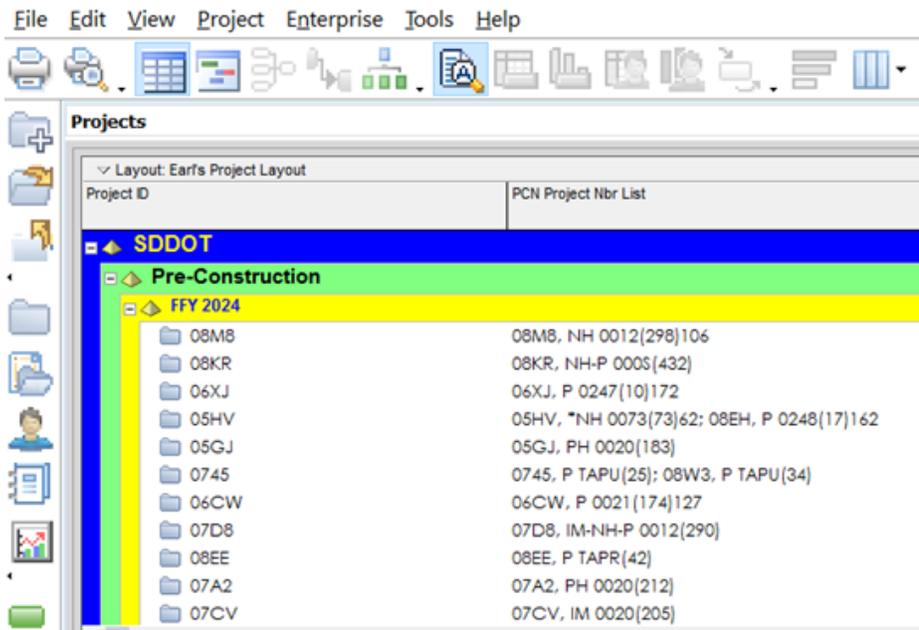
Primavera Tips/Tricks

By Earl Berg and Kathryn Johnson

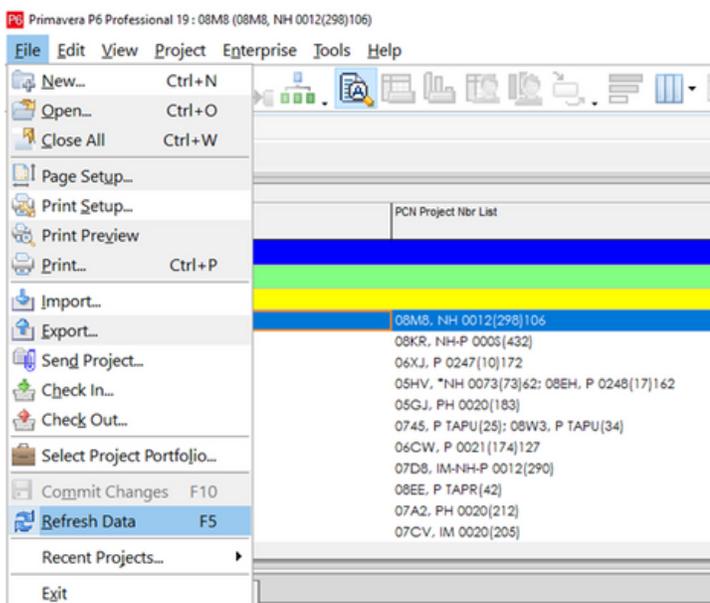
SDDOT utilizes Primavera P6 scheduling software for the design phase of a project. Additionally, Primavera software is utilized for various aspects of project management to help with managing resource workloads (current & future) and to assist in the delivery of projects in a timely matter. Through the SDDOT newsletter "Connecting the DOTS", the Project Delivery Team will begin providing periodic tips to help staff utilize the Primavera software.

This tip demonstrates how to Refresh the data within the software.

1. Go to the Main Page that displays the Projects or Activity tab.



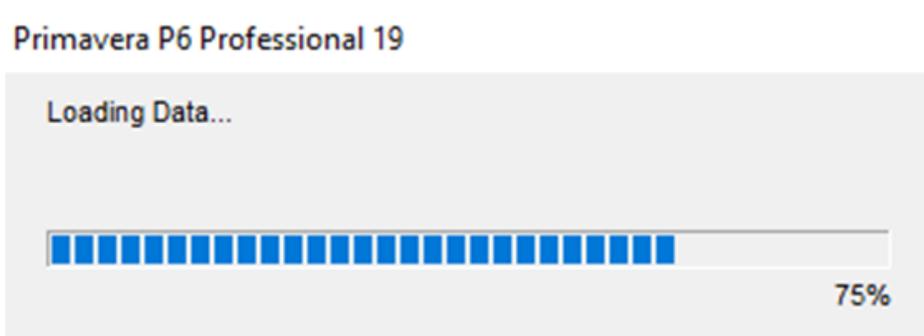
2. Push the "F5" button on your keyboard or use the menu at the top of the screen and
a. Select "File", then Select "Refresh Data"



Primavera continued on next page

Primavera Tips/Tricks continued

The following pop-up will appear:



After the pop-up disappears, the data will be up to date.

If you have questions about the Primavera software, please reach out to the Project Delivery Team.

Earl Berg via email at earl.berg@state.sd.us or 605-773-7191

Kathryn Johnson via email at kathryn.johnson@state.sd.us or 605-773-3567



TRAINING UPDATE

Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve
March 2024



Ergonomics Safety

Take just three minutes to watch this video designed for the health and safety of all SDDOT employees.

Today I will . . . make safety **my** priority.

<https://sdlearn.csod.com/ui/lms-learning-details/app/course/b22e329a-2766-44bd-bb1d-0979d00acd0a>

TRAINING UPDATE

Learn ~ Engage ~ Improve
March 2024

**NHI 380032A: Roadside Safety Design**

April 16-18 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Rapid City

NHI 130053 Bridge Inspection Refresher Training

April 16-18 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Sioux Falls

NHI 135048: Countermeasure Design for Bridge Scour & Stream Instability

May 29-31 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Pierre

**About ADA & ABA Public Right-of-way Accessibility Guidelines**

April 9 | 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Zoom

Modern Asphalt Paving Equipment & Technologies

April 17 | 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Zoom

Aggregate Roundtable Conversation

April 18 | 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Zoom

Pavement Preservation Practices for the Urban Environment & Best Practices with RAP

April 25 | 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Zoom

**DOT U - Administrative Staff**

April 16 | 1-5 p.m. and April 17 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Pierre

Chainsaw Safety Training

April 17 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Rapid City

First Aid/CPR/AED

April 17 | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. | Belle Fourche

Advanced Welding

May 20 – 23 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Mitchell

New Employee Orientation

May 22 | 1-5 p.m. and May 23 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Pierre





Sharing Files with OneDrive

[Overview of Sharing with OneDrive](#)

OneDrive for Business offers us a centralized and secure place to store, share, and collaborate on work files. Sharing files from OneDrive allows us to collaborate with others and never worry about document versions or lost data. Sharing with OneDrive should be limited to one to three people. If you need to share and collaborate with large groups of people, consider using Microsoft Teams or SharePoint Online.



Share Large Files

Work faster and smarter with anyone inside the agency. Securely share files, applying additional sharing protections like expiration dates. OneDrive has a file upload limit of 250 GB making it the premier app for sharing large files.

[Share a Document](#)



Collaborate with Peers

With Office and OneDrive multiple people can work together on a Word document, Excel spreadsheet, or PowerPoint presentation. When everyone is working at the same time, it's called co-authoring.

[Co-Author Documents](#)

For more training content, visit our dedicated Evolve 365 resource library. Evolve 365 is on-demand training where you can find thousands of easily searchable videos, printable cheat sheets, and trackable courses.



Sunrise in Cottonwood



A beautiful sunrise photo was caught by our cameras in Cottonwood on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

Photo provided by **Jared Fosheim, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, of Phillip.**

Snowplow Contest Winners Meet Named Plows

Visit <https://dot.sd.gov/inside-sddot/of-interest/sddot-snowplow-naming-contest> for additional pictures and information from Name the Snowplow Contest meet and greet events!



"Salt Rattle Roll"

Yankton Area - Submitted by Michael Benson



"Snow Crusher"

Mobridge Area - Submitted by Crystal Saylor



"South-Da-Snow-Ta"

Sioux Falls Area - Submitted by Jenna Welbig



"Frostimus Prime"

Watertown Area - Submitted by Mrs. Brink's Advisory Group

While our state may not have lived up to the newest name in the Sioux Falls Area this year, **South Da-Snow-Ta** will be ready to handle any spring snowstorms Mother Nature hands us!

South Da-Snow-Ta was the name submitted by Jenna Welbig from Colman! Jenna, her husband Brian, and daughter Anna were able to stop by the Flandreau SDDOT shop recently to meet their newly named plow.

Jenna's father was a longtime SDDOT employee and snowplow operator, Tim Sorsen. Tim worked for the SDDOT for over 30 years in Plankinton. The Welbig family is pictured with Tom Paradeis, SDDOT plow operator of "South Da-Snow-Ta." The new name will adorn Tom's plow which operates on Interstate 29 between the Ward and Dell Rapids exits.

For the latest Blizzard Bracket updates:

<https://dot.sd.gov/inside-sddot/of-interest/sddot-snowplow-naming-contest>



The Watertown Area staff stopped by Watertown High School as their newly named snowplow “**Frostimus Prime**” and its operator **Larry Schanbeck** held a meet and greet with Mrs. Brink's advisory students.

Left to right: Jeff Brink, Project Engineering Supervisor; Matt Brey, Watertown Area Engineer; Craig Christeson, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker; Larry Schanbeck, Highway Maintenance Worker; Bill Huffman, Highway Maintenance Worker; Justin Toering, Highway Maintenance Worker; and Brian Burke, Highway Maintenance Worker.

SDDOT Employee News and Updates

March 2024 Longevity:

- Rip Ray, Auditor/Accountant – 25 years (Central Office – Audits)
- Sam Gilkerson, Consultant Management Engineer – 25 years (Central Office – Road Design)
- Brad Gall, Road Design Lead Engineer – 30 years (Central Office – Road Design)
- Stacy Bartlett, Road Design Engineering Manager – 30 years (Central Office – Road Design)
- Gary Olivier, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker – 30 years (Pierre Region)
- Kelly Boland, Project Technician – 30 years (Rapid City Area)
- Dan Vockrodt, Highway Construction Project Engineer Manager – 35 years (Pierre Area)



Brad Gall received his **30-year** plaque from his supervisor, **Mark Malone, Road Design Engineering Manager**. Brad is a **Grading Design Lead Engineer in the Road Design Office**.

John Rehorst, Rapid City Region Design Engineering Manager, (right) celebrated 30 years with the SDDOT. He recently received his plaque from **Todd Seaman, Rapid City Region Engineer**.



SDDOT Employee News and Updates



Stacy Bartlett, Engineering Supervisor, (left) received her 30-year longevity pin from **Scott Rabern PE, Road Design Engineer Manager.**



Sam Gilkerson, Consultant Manager, (right) received his 25-year longevity pin from **Scott Rabern PE, Road Design Engineer Manager.**



Kelly Boland (left) Project Technician in the Rapid City Area received his 30-year plaque and pin from **John Gerlach, Engineering Manager.**



Mike Voelsch, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker in Hayti, celebrated 15 years with the SDDOT.



SDDOT Employee News and Updates

SDDOT New Hires, Promotions, and Lateral changes:

March New Hires:

- Owen Hunnel, Journey Transportation Technician - Yankton
- Erin Mullen, Senior Secretary - Aberdeen
- Anna Buse, Consultant Management Engineer - Sioux Falls
- Craig Ginn, Journey Transportation Technician - Sioux Falls
- Leander Austin, Asphalt Mix design Journey Transportation Technician - Pierre
- Thomas Viktora, Highway Maintenance Worker - Pierre
- Katie Wilkerson, Right of Way Technician - Pierre
- Alyssa Sterrett, Right of Way Technician - Pierre
- Andrew Erickson, Highway Maintenance Worker - Lennox

March Promotions & Lateral Changes:

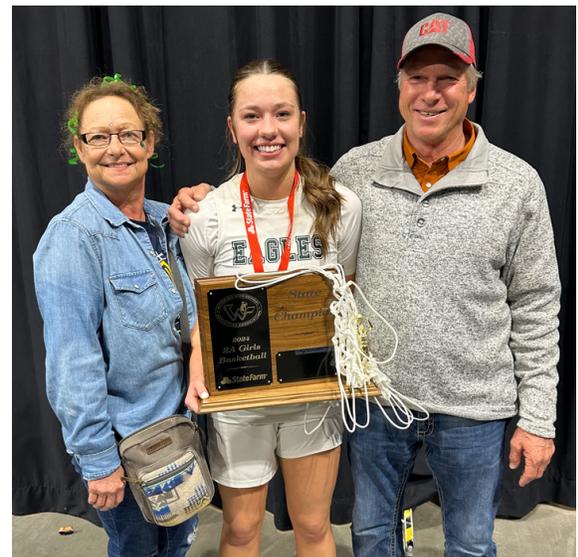
- Chet Collins, Lead Highway Maintenance Worker - Isabel (Promotion)
- Kirk Henderson, Highway Construction Project Engineer Manager - Sioux Falls (Promotion)
- Dennis Brooks, ROW Analyst - Rapid City (Lateral)



Dan Vockrodt, Pierre Area Engineering Manager, celebrates a new granddaughter. Pictured is his older granddaughter Addie holding the newest addition to the family, **Harper Faith Vockrodt,** born on Feb. 27, 2024.



Jim and Rita Lolley with their granddaughter Jazlin. Jazlin Ryan was a member of the Dayton, Wyoming High School Class 2A Championship game played in Casper, Wyoming. **Jim is the Highway Maintenance Supervisor in Murdo.**



In Sympathy:



Sympathy is extended to friends, family, and former SDDOT co-workers of **Leonard "Pete" Petersen**.

Leonard "Pete" Petersen, of Pierre, South Dakota, passed away on Saturday, March 2, 2024. A memorial service was held on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at the Oahe Presbyterian Church in Pierre.

Pete was the Pierre Region Operations Engineer, in addition to holding several other positions in his approximately 38-year SDDOT career. Pete was a mentor to many!



Sympathy is extended to **Marilyn and Terry Patterson** on the recent passing of Marilyn's son, Ryan Taylor. Marilyn is a Work Program Coordinator and Terry is a Senior ROW Acquisition and Relocation Agent, both in Pierre.

Ryan's father, **Brad Taylor**, is a retired SDDOT employee who worked for Materials and Surfacing.

Ryan passed away on Monday, March 18, 2024. A memorial visitation was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre. A memorial service was held on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at Faith Lutheran Church.



Sympathy is extended to **Jack Dokken, Air, Rail, & Transit Program Manager (Pierre)** on the recent passing of his grandmother.

Janice Marilyn Fuglie Dokken passed away on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, in La Crescent, MN.

A celebration of Janice's life will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2024, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Caledonia, MN.