

Pavement Condition Information Systems

(Including support for UKPMS, Visual Surveys & SCANNER)



Newsletter 13 September 2009

PCIS website: www.pcis.org.uk



The new PCIS website is now up and running. We will be adding content to it and extending the functionality to make it fully operational over the next few weeks. For the moment, we will be continuing to use UKPMS as the main reference site, but soon we will move across fully to www.pcis.org.uk and the UKPMS site (www.ukpms.com) will then become an "archive" site (accessed through the PCIS site) – available for searching, but frozen in time.

The new site is intended to help you, so please have a look at it and send your comments and any suggestions for improvements to us at ukpms@trl.co.uk.



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Getting the most from PCIS

The first three regional PCIS seminars were held in Newcastle, Manchester and Bristol, and the fourth, in London on 9th October is now fully booked.

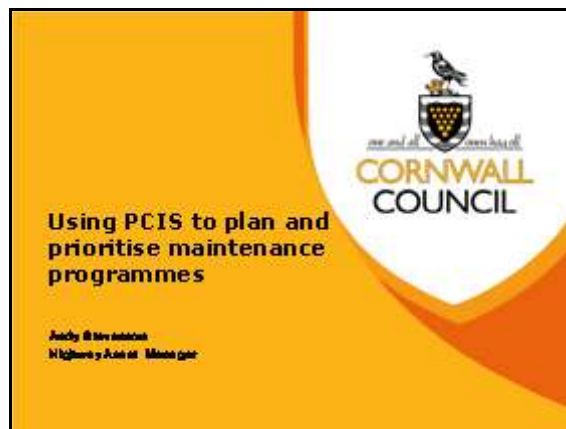
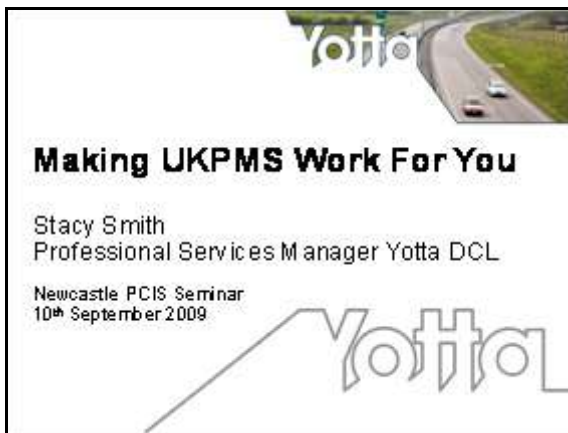
Each seminar followed the same basic format:

Welcome and aims for the day	Chair
PCIS – the wider context	Roads Board speaker
The PCIS support contract	Stuart McRobbie
Using PCIS for maintenance and management	Guest speakers
Forward look – the future of PCIS	Andrew Gallagher
Benefits from using PCIS and discussion	Chair

Those attending said they particularly liked the presentations by local authority guest speakers, and the lively discussions that followed. We are very grateful to those who responded to our invitation and shared their experience with us.

All the presentations will be made available in PDF files on the new PCIS website. They included:

Newcastle, 10th September:



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Manchester, 11th September:

UKPMS - USING CONDITION DATA

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Where Everyone Matters

Stephen D Finley
Senior Engineer
Rotherham MBC
Streetpride

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Streetpride

**ASSET MANAGEMENT
&
BLACK BOXES**

Paul Jennings
Engineering Operations Manager
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Bristol, 24th September:

Gloucestershire HIGHWAYS

UKPMS in Gloucestershire

Scott Tompkins - Asset Manager

**United Kingdom
Pavement Management
System**

A brief history of its use in
Birmingham and its potential for
the future

Harry Wilcox

Footway Network Survey

The Footways and Cycletrack Management Group proudly announces the new **Footway Network Survey (FNS)**. (During the first stage of development this was called the "Coarse Network Survey (CNS)" but the UK Roads Board suggested this name might be misleading, hence the new name).

We previously reported the work of the FCMG in January (Newsletter 5). The new survey (as CNS) was also described in Surveyor last year (11th September 2008) and further details will be forthcoming from the FCMG in the near future through technical notes, magazine articles and conferences.

The Footways Network Survey (FNS) will provide a cost-effective approach to footway surveys. It is intended that the survey will be developed in future years to incorporate additional features. It does not require an inventory to be useful but the value of the data is enhanced if inventory is available. To provide a controlled development of the survey and ensure a smooth roll out in the first



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phase it currently categorises the footways network into 4 condition bands, summarised in Table 1:

Condition Level	Description	Examples	Notes
1	As New	Brand new footway Recently reconstructed	Equivalent to the existing "Not Defective" DV code
2	Aesthetically Impaired	Sound footways with patching Modular footways with sound bituminous patches Modular footways with elements of different colour/age/material Faded bituminous materials (especially coloured bituminous)	No equivalent in the existing surveys
3	Functionally Impaired	Cracked but level flags/blocks Minor surface deterioration/fretting/fatting	Based on existing DVI 'minor' defects
4	Structurally Unsound	Cracked and/or uneven flags Major fretting and potholing Major cracking Poor shape etc.	Based on existing DVI 'major' defects

Table 1: Footway Network Survey (FNS) condition levels

It is understood that the *Aesthetically Impaired* condition level may not be needed by all authorities but is a major driver for some, particularly in "high profile" areas.

The new FNS is being incorporated in UKPMS as part of the 2009 development and improvement cycle:

- FNS has been included in Rules & Parameters RP9.01 and will form part of the 2009 Annual Health Check (AHC) (see below);
- Technical Note 3 (HMDIF File Structures and Content) has been amended to include FNS;
- Two new Technical Notes 47 (FNS Network Performance Report) and 48 (Introduction to FNS) have been prepared;
- The UKPMS Visual Survey Manual is being amended to include FNS;
- UKPMS Inspector training and accreditation is being extended to cover FNS; and
- DCD software accreditation is being extended to include FNS.



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In the pilot tests and trials, the FNS proved to be a simple, efficient and reliable survey that will enable authorities to obtain a picture of the condition of their whole footway network. The survey will be available from the start of the next financial year (2010/2011) and authorities need to **start thinking about the introduction of this new survey within their budget planning processes.**

Although the coverage requirements are not specified, it is clear that it would be beneficial to obtain full network coverage. The FCMG has suggested covering the whole footway network within a 2 to 4 year cycle as a reasonable target. Some authorities will opt to continue with DVI surveys for the whole network or use locally developed bespoke footways surveys but, in the longer term, they might wish to migrate to the FNS, particularly in view of the need to economically collect the data required for the new (HAMFIG) financial reporting. The FNS will have core functionality through UKPMS and in future it is intended that it become the standard approach.

Further information is available on the FCMG website at www.footways.org.

Reporting Road Condition

The Department for Transport has set up two new "task and finish" working groups, the Road Condition Publication Group (RCPG) and the Unclassified Road Condition Data Group (URCDG), reported in Newsletter 12 (August).

The groups met for the second time in London on 3rd September.

- The RCPG considered the potential data items (including skid data and questionnaire) for publication; the proposed technical guidance document; the structure of the group's report and a possible new name for the publication.
- The URCDG considered the national reporting requirements; the proposed approach for 2009; the future options for condition surveys on unclassified roads; the structure of the group's report; and the conclusions and recommendations to the Roads Board.

The URCDG decided to consult the Roads Board Advisory Group (see below) on its findings and recommendations.

The two groups will meet for the third time on 13th October.

Roads Board Advisory Group

The RBAG met for the third time, in Derby on 30th September 2009.

The main topics were national statistical reporting of the condition of roads, including the condition of unclassified road carriageways, and the introduction of the new Footway Network Survey (see above). The outline agenda is below:



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Welcome and arrangements for the day	Mike Bordiss
PCIS support contract progress report	Barry Cleave
Roads Board and sub-groups update	For Chris Capps
Reporting road condition:	
Progress report from Road Condition Publication Group.	Alex Wright (TRL)
Findings and recommendations from Unclassified Road Condition Data Group.	Anna Heyworth (DfT)
Measuring and reporting the condition of unclassified roads – advice for Roads Board	Discussion
Development of the Footway Network Survey (Development of survey)	Kevin Fuller (Chair FCMG)
Implementing the FNS - advice for the Roads Board	Discussion
How can we put research findings into practice?	Lila Tachtsi Discussion
RBAG work-plan for future meetings	Mike Bordiss

Copies of the slides used to report progress, and to introduce the discussion will be available on both the UKPMS website and the new PCIS website. It was agreed that the RBAG should report back to the Roads Board as a matter of urgency on two important topics regarding SCANNER and research information that were discussed at the meeting.



Kevin Fuller presenting the new Footway Network Survey



UKPMS 2009 Annual Health Check started

The UKPMS 2009 Annual Health Check has started. There will be three main changes this year (which will be available to users early next year):

- Incorporating a method of calculating Depreciated Replacement Cost from CVI, DVI or SCANNER survey results, using a method developed on behalf of HAMFIG (see Newsletter 9 – May 2009);
- Incorporating the new Footway Coarse Network Survey, developed by FCMG (see above);
- Introducing Edge Treatment Rules based on the SCANNER Edge Condition Indicator.

These are interim changes, intended to keep UKPMS up to date until there is a decision on implementing the recommendations of the review of core functionality.

The following documents have been issued to developers of UKPMS accredited systems:

- **2009AHC_Req_v1_03**: This provides the requirements for the Annual Health Check.
- **2009AHC_Instructions_v1_03**: This gives the instructions for the Annual Health Check.
- **2009AHC_TestData_v1_01**: This provides the test data for the Annual Health Check.
- **2009AHC_Results_v1_01**: This provides the results for the Annual Health Check.
- **2009AHC_Checklist_v1_02**: This checklist is completed by each Developer and accompanies their results.

And the issue of the revised Rules & Parameters 9.01:

- **RP9_01Spec_v1_01.pdf**: This is the release version of the RP9.01 specification.
- **RP9_01 Release.zip**: This is the release version of the RP9.01 database.
- **071v0110.pdf**: This is the updated version of the SCANNER HMDIF specification for 2010.

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Contact details

You are welcome to pass a copy of this newsletter on to anyone else who may be interested in the subject.

If you wish to be added to (or removed from) the circulation list please email your details to us at newsletter@ukpms.com.

We welcome your comments and questions at:	newsletter@ukpms.com
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