Concrete certification course to be offered online

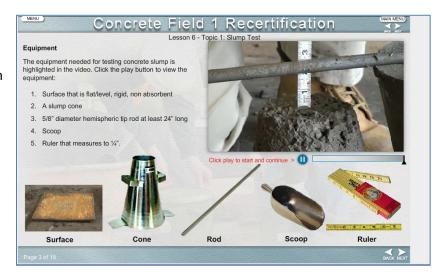
By Nick Busse, Research Services

Beginning November 1, MnDOT's Concrete Field Level I technician re-certification training will be offered as an interactive online course.

The new <u>E-Learning module</u> will provide an alternative to the eight-hour, classroom-based training. The goal is to allow MnDOT personnel, city and county staff and others to re-certify without incurring unnecessary travel costs and lost work time. In addition, students will now be able to work at their own pace, which could lead to better learning outcomes.

"They can go back into this over and over again until they really understand the material, vs. taking the course in the traditional classroom setting," said John Micheau, MnDOT technical certification specialist.

The online course will take approximately six hours to complete, after which learners will be given one hour to complete the 50-question recertification exam. The course and exam must be completed by April 30. Certification cards will be issued as a batch in June.



The project to move re-certification online was funded by the <u>Local Road Research Board</u>. Micheau said city and county engineers would like to avoid sending personnel to a one-day class that could involve traveling long distances and staying overnight at a hotel. He estimates that between 150 and 200 people will take the class each year.

In addition to being more cost-efficient, Micheau believes the online course is more attuned to the needs of a younger generation.

"We're trying to do this for all of our re-certification courses. We just think this is the wave of the future," he said.

Students can get more information by visiting the <u>technical certification website</u>. They can also visit the <u>Aggregate & Ready Mix Association of Minnesota website</u> to register for classes.

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