

Mississippi Valley



State Report

State: MN Report Date: 10/2/2014

Completed By: Ted Coulianos

Permits Issued Prior Year: 89,500

Permits Issued Year To Date: 68,000

Number of Staff Issuing Permits: 9

Does your State offer
Online Requests: Yes No

If yes what percentage
Of permits does your
System issue without
Your review? 32%

New Legislation:
None.

Permitting System Updates: (Please include money or time saving changes)
- Working with our Bridge Office and Bentley to increase auto-issue parameters in overweight categories.

Procedural Changes:
- Created a Heavy Haul section that works on all applications requiring extra or specialized attention.

Innovative or Special Initiatives:
- Starting a study with Cambridge Systematics to determine the feasibility of coordinating statewide permitting between MnDOT and counties/municipalities.
- Working with MnDOT Business Unit to flowchart our heavy haul processes, to look for inefficiencies/gaps that inhibit issuance or communication.

New/Unique Communication Efforts: (Describe any outreach to your carrier population)

- Started an email alert, Constant Contact. Subscribing to this email alert service will send instant notification from MnDOT on issues affecting permit operations or new policies.

Special Challenges Affecting Permit Operations:

- Funding; retiring employees; coordination and communication between office and project field staff.

Uniformity Pursuits:

- WINNDOT Portal deployed in May 2014. Allows one application to be made via web for permits from WI & MN.

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Areas of Concern:

Successes:

- Permit Efficiency Study (Cambridge); identifying key travel flows, process improvements.
- Higher volume of permits issued, with new(er) staff, loss of staff with experience.
- WINNDOT Portal.
- Assigned a bridge ratings engineer on-site at the Permit Office to work directly with staff on overweight loadings. Improved communications and processes with the Bridge Office and Permits.

Other: