

**NCHRP 20-68A – “US Domestic Scan Program”**  
Scan 11-01 Best Practices in Privatization of Maintenance Functions

The nation’s transportation assets require continuing maintenance effort to keep them in a condition to provide safe and efficient service to the motoring public. The effort needed tends generally to increase as the assets age, as the level of their use increases, and as new facilities are developed and new technology is adopted to meet growing demands for service. Many agencies face budget constraints that make it very difficult to increase or even hold steady the scale of their maintenance staff and in-house programs. Some agencies have turned to outsourcing of maintenance activities to private-sector contractors as a means of coping.

This scan will focus on agencies’ experience with outsourcing of maintenance activities, considering contractual arrangements, actual maintenance operations and management practices employed, and consequences for resource utilization and system performance. The team will meet primarily with the state, county or city officials involved in the day to day interaction with contractors hired to perform the maintenance activities. The team may also engage maintenance contractors in discussions at some locations and may visit facilities used by the contractors.

The scan team will explore:

- The practices being used
- How the practices were implemented
- What obstacles had to be overcome to privatize maintenance functions
- Performance measures used to monitor maintenance activity
- Lessons learned from privatization experience, particularly regarding implementation
- Agency assessment of advantages and disadvantages of privatization of maintenance functions

Agencies considering privatization of maintenance functions could benefit from this scan. The scan team’s report may be prepared to serve as a supplement to the AASHTO Maintenance Manual. The report would be helpful to senior agency management decision-makers and to maintenance managers, maintenance engineers, technicians, and supervising foremen.

**Original Scan Proposal Title:** Best management of Privatization of maintenance functions.

## Scan Team Membership

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## Execution Schedule

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Anticipated Date</b>
Chairs and Team Members Identified	February 2012
Desk Scan Completed	May 2012
Prescan Meeting Held	May 2012
Scan Conducted	August 2012
Draft PowerPoint submitted by SME	September 2012
Draft Report Delivered to NCHRP and Panel	September 2013
Final Report Delivered to NCHRP	December 2013

## Estimated Scan Cost and Funding

Estimated duration: this scan is anticipated to be conducted as a workshop

*Last Reviewed/Revised September 16, 2013*