



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



PTASP TAC Update February 2022

Learn. Share. Engage.

This issue of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Update focuses on Safety Management Systems (SMS) techniques for monitoring operations and maintenance procedures.

Featured Resources

New! SMS Techniques for Monitoring Operations and Maintenance Procedures (February 24, 2022):

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Video Recording](#)

[Monitoring Compliance and Sufficiency of Operations and Maintenance Procedures](#) provides information on the PTASP requirements for compliance monitoring.

[Guide to Developing the Safety Assurance Component of a Public Transportation ASP](#) contains details about safety performance monitoring.

[Sample Agency Safety Plan \(ASP\) for Bus Transit Providers](#) offers sample content for compliance monitoring on pages 25-31.

[Introduction to Safety Performance Indicators and Targets](#) helps agencies develop safety performance indicators and targets as part of their ongoing safety performance monitoring and measurement activities for Safety Assurance.

Compliance Monitoring Webinar (September 16, 2020):
[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Video Recording](#)

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's [PTASP TAC website](#).

Need Assistance?

Contact the PTASP TAC at
PTASP-TAC@dot.gov



Contact the TAC for **one-on-one technical sessions** for ASP development and implementation support.

Transit Safety and Crime Prevention

See train-the-trainer course offerings of [Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators](#) and [Violence in the Transit Workplace](#) on the [National Transit Institute's course schedule](#).

Visit [FTA's website](#) for more information on the Enhanced Transit Safety and Crime Prevention Initiative.

Upcoming Webinar

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Changes to PTASP Requirements

When: Tuesday, March 1,
3:00 p.m. EST

[Register Here](#)



Q & A Highlights

Question 1:

Do you have any suggestions on ensuring sufficiency of operations and maintenance procedures? Should this review solely be focused on desk reviews of reports or should it include physical observations of operations and maintenance procedures?

FTA Response:

You can use several different methods to monitor the sufficiency of your procedures. You can review data and completed inspection reports. Reviews could also involve other activities, such as field observations, interviews with employees and managers, and review of training materials and records. For example, an agency may determine that the current routine bus brake-inspection process is insufficient after reviewing reports of brake failures and employee safety reports from operators. These reports may highlight issues with braking performance related to how maintenance technicians diagnose and resolve bus brake problems. The agency also could discover this issue through supervisory observations of maintenance technicians' bus brake inspections. Workshops with employees and managers could help identify issues and challenges with inspection procedures and collect information that may be used to develop a solution.

Question 2:

How should our agency monitor compliance and sufficiency with pre-trip inspections?

FTA Response:

The PTASP regulation requires transit agencies to monitor their system for compliance with, and sufficiency of, the agency's operations and maintenance procedures ([§ 673.27\(b\)\(1\)](#)) but gives agencies flexibility to decide which activities work best for their operations.

For pre-trip inspections, examples of compliance monitoring activities include:

- Periodic observations of pre-trip inspections by supervisors, safety department representatives, or other qualified personnel;
- Desk audits of pre-trip inspection records;
- Observing pre-trip inspection training; and
- Interviewing operators on how they conduct pre-trip inspections.

Examples of activities to monitor the sufficiency of pre-trip inspection procedures include:

- Desk audits of vehicle failure reports and maintenance requests; and
- Interviews of mechanics and operators on common mechanical issues they have experienced.

ASP Implementation Workshop Replay

The [recorded version](#) of the workshop and its accompanying [Participant Workbook](#) are available in the TAC Resource Library.