University of New Hampshire

Technology Transfer Center

Kingsbury Hall #W220
33 Academic Way
Durham, NH 03824

V: 603.862.2826 / 800-423-0060 (NH only)
F: 603.862.0620
TTY: 7.7.7 (Relay NH)

www.t2.unh.edu

June 25, 2021

PRESS RELEASE REGARDING 2021 UNH T2 Build a Better Mouse Trap Competition

DURHAM, N.H.— Josh Brown with the Concord General Services team has won the University of New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center's (T2) *Build a Better Mouse Trap Competition*, which recognizes innovative transportation-related solutions that New Hampshire's public works employees or crews designed and built; it can be anything from the development of tools, equipment modifications, and/or processes that increase safety, reduce cost, improve efficiency, and improve the quality of transportation.

Josh entered a new metal arrow stencil he developed for the purpose of painting arrows on the roadway to identify and point to stormwater drains, to facilitate snow removal from drains in the winter. Josh designed this stencil using an old one-way sign that he bent in a 90-degree angle and attached it to a metal pole to serve as a handle. The team paints hundreds of arrows a day and before this new stencil, a team member would have to bend down to lay the stencil flat, paint, and then bend down again to pick up the stencil. Often, this required a heat gun to remove old paint first, and sometimes during the paint removal process the heat would burn through the nylon cord attached to the prior stencil, resulting in repair to the stencil.

This new innovation eliminated the nylon cord, as well as the action of bending over many times throughout the day. Josh's innovative solution made the painting process more efficient, as well as safer by reducing the ergonomic requirements and time spent in the roadway by the team member.

Concord General Services innovation will be submitted by UNH T2 to the Federal Highway Administration's national LTAP Build a Better Mouse Trap program. The national winner will be announced in late July. UNH T2 looks forward to this potential opportunity to share Concord General Services innovation with public works professionals around the country.

The UNH Technology Transfer Center fosters a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound surface transportation system by improving skills and increasing knowledge of the transportation workforce and decision makers.

As the site of the state's Local Technical Assistance Program, it works to enable local counties, cities and towns to improve their roads and bridges by supplying them with a variety of training programs, an information clearinghouse, new and existing technology updates, personalized technical assistance, and newsletters.

For more information about UNH T2 visit https://t2.unh.edu/ or contact Marilee LaFond at marilee.lafond@unh.edu.

New Hampshire
Technology Transfer Center