



Marion County OREGON

For immediate release: November 24, 2009

Contact: Nelsa Brodie, public information coordinator, (503) 566-3916

Marion County Operations Manager Named Engineer of the Year

The Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES) has awarded Marion County's Operations Manager Don Newell with the "2009 Engineer of the Year" award. OACES, an affiliate of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC), is a professional group of county engineers, public works directors, road maintenance officials, and county surveyors. Its purpose is to share information and to promote public works activities, such as the maintenance of road systems, public surveys, environmental stewardship, and solid waste management.

"Don has exhibited leadership and professionalism in pavement management and in multi-agency resource-sharing, to name just a couple of his accomplishments. I congratulate Don on receiving this prestigious award," said Bill Worcester, Marion County Public Works Director.

Newell's career in public works began in 1989. He has worked on many OACES projects including strategic planning, developing database / mapping systems of road features, aiding in instituting road maintenance environment programs, and working with National Association of County Engineers in conference presentations and administration.

At Marion County, Newell oversees all aspects of the 1,200-mile road maintenance program, as well as emergency management. He also administers a successful program in which multiple Oregon transportation agencies share equipment and other resources, significantly reducing participants' capital costs.

OACES acknowledges Don's ongoing contributions to the counties' public works programs, his innovative ideas for saving tax dollars, and his leadership in helping local government agencies, including Marion County, use their limited resources wisely in providing safe, environmentally conscious transportation systems.

He joins fellow Marion County employees Bill Worcester, public works director, 2000 award recipient, and Mark Riggins, county surveyor, 2003 county surveyor of the year.

#