

November 98

CALTRANS turns to AutoTURN

California D.O.T. Engineers Agree "It's the best model we are aware of."

Transoft Solutions, makers of the AutoTURN turn simulation software, are pleased to announce that the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) is now using AutoTURN and has recommended the software to all District Division Chief for Traffic Operations and Project Management.

AutoTURN is an easy-to-use software tool that simulates turning vehicles (and aircraft) in CADD drawings. It operates in AutoCAD and MicroStation and includes libraries of standard AASHTO vehicles. It is used in the planning and design of intersections, parking garages, loading areas, service stations, airport taxiways and other vehicular facilities.

CALTRANS, by selecting AutoTURN, joins 42 State D.O.T.s and over 2000 road design specialists already using the software. When asked why CALTRANS chose AutoTURN, Transportation Engineer Maggie O'Mara explained,

"AutoTURN is the best model we are aware of. It helps us determine whether certain State highway segments or intersections can accommodate certain trucks and buses. Our office must determine the offtracking characteristics of vehicles on turn of various radii and central angles. We've purchased copies of AutoTURN for all of our Districts."

Another factor in the decision was how easily AutoTURN fit into CALTRANS' CADD system. Eskinder Taddese of the Truck Size and Weigh-In-Motion Branch of Traffic Operations applauded AutoTURN's "accuracy and compatibility with our (current) CADD system."