AASHTOWare Project TRACER™

Preliminary Cost Estimation for Construction Projects

TRANsportation Cost EstimatoR software (AASHTOWare Project TRACER™), created by AECOM, is a parametric cost estimating tool created to help plan and budget for transportation construction, renovation, and demolition projects at the predesign and preliminary design phases. TRACER employs pre-engineered model parameters and construction criteria to accurately estimate project costs with limited design information.

The parametric approach to cost estimating differs from traditional methods by allowing users to input a minimum amount of information in order to create an accurate and comprehensive cost estimates. This is achieved by establishing default quantities (inherent to the software) based on similar projects and experienced engineering assumptions. Predefined and documented engineering relationships link preliminary parameters to detailed design assumptions and associated engineering qualities.

Features of TRACER

- Users can develop detailed cost estimates based on minimal design information. Additional project knowledge can be incorporated to further refine the accuracy of the cost estimate.
- Cost estimates are location specific and include general conditions, overhead and profit, risk allowance, and escalation.
- Engineering assumptions can be easily modified as site conditions change.
- Updates and enhancements to the software ensure current construction and cost data.

Benefits of the System

- **Estimating Accuracy**—TRACER is built upon AECOM’s industry proven parametric estimating technology and architecture.
- **Estimating Speed**—Detailed estimates can be generated with very little up-front design information and effort (cost effective).
- **Estimating Consistency**—The estimating process is standardized and promotes consistent estimating methodology.
- **Estimating Alternatives and Value Engineering**—Allows users to compare costs of different projects and run “what if” scenarios.
Cost Models Available in TRACER

Road and Highway Cost Models
- Construct Road and Highway Cost Model
- Renovate Road and Highway Cost Model
- Demolish Road and Highway Cost Model
- Signs and Signals Cost Model

Bridge Cost Models
- Construct Bridge Cost Model
- Renovate Bridge Cost Model
- Demolish Bridge Cost Model

Site Preparation Cost Models
- Construct Bridge Cost Model
- Renovate Bridge Cost Model
- Demolish Bridge Cost Models

Earthwork Cost Models
- Excavation, Cut, and Fill
- Excavation, Trench/Channel
- Material Plant

Utility Construction Models
- Gas Distribution
- Water Distribution
- Sanitary Sewer
- Storm Sewer

Electric Distribution Cost Models
- Underground Electrical Distribution
- Overhead Electrical Distribution Retaining Walls, Noise Barrier Walls Cost Models

Fencing Cost Model Treatment Plants/Lift Stations Light Cost Model

System Specifications

For details about system specifications for all AASHTOWare Project™ products, please refer to: www.cloverleaf.net/sys_arch/. The figure below depicts the interaction of the AASHTOWare Project modules.

For more information about this product contact AASHTO or the AASHTOWare® contractor: