

ABSTRACT

A Road Maintenance Management System For St. Lucia

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Traditionally, maintenance has been and is still, the "Cinderella" of most Caribbean Governments as regards funding and related resources of research, training and its professional 'Image'.

With the economic transition of some Caribbean territories and global recession, this pattern of maintenance needs to be discontinued. The situation is compounded by the increasing cost of replacing existing road infrastructure which have been allowed to disintegrate.

Within recent times the road network in St. Lucia has been deteriorating at a rapid rate. This has been due mainly to a lack of organised and controlled maintenance along with, *inter alia*: (1) an increase in heavy freight traffic and (2) inadequate funding for maintenance. This situation has therefore created a strong case for a systematic and coordinated approach to road maintenance.

This study seeks to introduce a professional approach to road maintenance in the Caribbean Region through the development of a computerized model of a Road Maintenance Management System (RMMS) for St. Lucia.

The system is a computer model developed in Lotus 1-2-3 Release 3.1, a proprietary spreadsheet software.