

With the ratings we gathered using Road-Soft, the Emmet CRC can develop five-year plans to aid in project selection that help to maximize our available road funds.

—Brent Shank, P.E., Operations Engineer Emmet County Road Commission

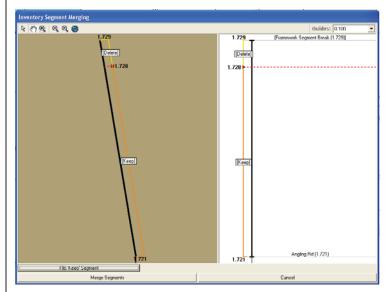
## New Small Segment Tool Helps Streamline Pavement Management: Locate and eliminate unwanted small road segments from the Framework Basemap

A new feature that will be included with the next major version release of *RoadSoft* will simplify the process for users to find and eliminate unwanted, small road segments from the *RoadSoft* map. The Small Segment Tool will provide a streamlined method for users to locate and reduce the number of small segments within their road network in *RoadSoft*, which will make networks easier to work in. This can help users with their asset management tasks in *RoadSoft* related to roads and pavement management, like collecting PASER ratings or creating and analyzing road networks. The tool is a result of suggestions and comments from *RoadSoft* users.

The creation of small road segments — sometimes as short as 5.28 feet — can occur when the Framework Basemap is updated in RoadSoft. Each new version of the map contains corrections to roadways, for example, Act 51 changes. These changes can cause roads to shift on the *RoadSoft* map, which can, in turn, create those small segments. The small segments often occur near jurisdictional boundaries or where roads' functional classification changes.

"RoadSoft users may want to eliminate these short segments in an effort to make asset management activities less cumbersome," said Chris Pinnow, a Road-Soft software engineer with the Michigan Tech Technol-

Inventory Segment Merging using the new Small Segment Tool.



ogy Development Group (TDG). "Until now, locating and eliminating short segments was time consuming and users have reported the problem as prohibitive to their work. The new Small Segment Tool will allow users to locate and remove the segments quickly."

Currently, the only way to manage small segments is by using a combination of tools in *RoadSoft*. Users have to merge each small segment with longer segments one by one in the road module. This multi-step process can be very time consuming.

Upon its release, the Small Segment Tool will be ac-

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cessible in *RoadSoft's* Tools menu. Users will be able to set a maximum length for the segments they want to find, depending on what segment length the user considers too small to be practical. The tool will locate all segments within a selected road network that are less than the length set by the user. The segments can then be inspected and merged with longer, adjacent segments.

The Small Segment Tool will be especially useful for *RoadSoft* users with several years of pavement management data (e.g. PASER ratings). The new Small Segment Tool can help to clean up and reduce the number of road segments that need to be managed and give users a clearer view of their road networks.

## **Upcoming RoadSoft Events**

## Advanced RoadSoft Training:

Building a Pavement Management Plan Using RoadSoft

This training is comprised of three consecutive sessions over three days; each session will build off the previous sessions. Registrants should plan to attend each of the three sessions; all sessions are scheduled for 9:00 AM to noon on the following dates:

Monday, December 14, 2009 Wednesday, December 16, 2009 Friday, December 18, 2009

Instructor Tim Colling, P.E., will guide participants through the process of working with RoadSoft's pavement deterioration model and strategy analysis engine to determine a network-wide pavement management strategy. The training sessions are all presented online in an interactive format, using participants' own pavement data to demonstrate how *RoadSoft's* modeling tools can answer your pavement management questions and develop viable projections. At the end of the class, students should have a basic pavement model set up to run scenarios of their own data. Cost to attend is \$40 per connection.

EMail Itap@mtu.edu or call 906-487-2102 for details or to register.



