

# **I. INTRODUCTION**

## **A. National**

### **Origin**

The American Society of Highway Engineers was incorporated in 1958 when a small group of engineers from the Pennsylvania Department of Highways, private consulting firms, material suppliers and contractors from the Harrisburg, PA area chartered the first ASHE Section.

The need for such an organization was realized by the enormous growth of the highway industry in the 1950's, coupled with the passing of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways Act of 1956.

### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the American Society of Highway Engineers is to provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry that supports education, innovation, and fellowship; promoting a safe and efficient highway system for mobility now and in the future.

## **B. Regions**

### **Purpose**

As a result of significant growth in membership and in the number of Sections, in 1996 ASHE added a nine region structure between its National and Section organization. *The Region Organization Plan is in the Appendix.*

The goals for the region organization structure are:

- ...To more effectively serve ASHE's geographic interests
- ...To encourage greater Section participation and communication
- ...To maintain a more cost effective approach for serving ASHE membership
- ...To advance the stature and growth of the Society

The following regions were established and include Sections as follows (see map on following page):

- Region 1:** Central Dacotah, Central Ohio, Cuyahoga Valley, Lake Erie, Northwest Ohio, Triko, Western Reserve
- Region 2:** Clearfield, Franklin, Mid-Allegheny
- Region 3:** North Central West Virginia, Pittsburgh, Southwest Penn
- Region 4:** Altoona, Harrisburg
- Region 5:** East Penn, Northeast Penn, Williamsport
- Region 6:** Delaware Valley, First State, North Central New Jersey, Southern New Jersey
- Region 7:** Chesapeake, Old Dominion, Potomac, Greater Hampton Roads
- Region 8:** Carolina Triangle, Georgia, Carolina Piedmont
- Region 9:** Central Florida, Tampa Bay, N. East Florida, Gold Coast, North Florida

## **C. Sections**

### **Goals/Objectives**

The American Society of Highway Engineers operates through local Sections that report to a Regional Board, which in turn, reports to the National Board of the organization. Officers and directors elected by their peers and each local Section elects a representative to the Regional Board governing local Sections.

The local Sections are the backbone of the organization. This is where all the technical educational opportunities, networking, social functions and other activities take place. The local Section is allowed a great deal of flexibility in serving its members. Varied activities and programs are encouraged. Technical programs and seminars that develop the professional expertise of the members are essential, as are social functions such as picnics and golf tournaments that enhance networking between members.

Local Sections should be developed around the Society's goals of promoting the highway industry and developing the professionals that make up the industry. A mix of educational opportunities and social activities are the ideal means for achieving these goals.