



AASHTOWare Bridge User Group Combined Charter

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Why Combine User Groups Meetings

- Provides a unified voice for all user communities of AASHTOWare Bridge.
 - Preserve product specific discussion, prioritization, and voting.
- Strengthen collaboration between the Management, inspection, Rating and Design communities.
- Provide unified technical support, knowledge exchange, and training.
- Cost savings by hosting one meeting rather than two.
 - More money for enhancements.

Updated Charter

- Based on the combined user group meeting, an updated charter is needed to address;
 - User Group Leadership
 - Representation from both products
 - Enhancement Voting
 - Define how voting for different products will work at a combined meeting.

Article IV – Governance

Section 1 – Board of Directors

The Users Group shall be governed by a five-member Board of Directors, with each member holding equal voting authority unless otherwise specified. The Board is responsible for coordinating Users Group business, ensuring balanced representation of Bridge Rating, Bridge Design, and Bridge Management communities, and communicating prioritized needs to AASHTO and the applicable AASHTOWare Bridge Task Force(s).

- President
- Vice President – Management
- Vice President – Inspection
- Vice President – Design
- Vice President – Rating

Section 2 – Terms and Eligibility

- The President shall serve a one-year term. Vice Presidents for each product area shall serve two-year terms.
- Vice Presidents are automatically eligible candidates for President after serving one year or more. The President shall be elected from eligible Vice Presidents through the approved election process.
- The presidency shall alternate between BrM and BrDR. BrM may serve first as President of the combined Users Group unless leadership objects.

Article VIII – Enhancement Prioritization and Voting

- Voting on product enhancements is restricted to AASHTO member agencies holding an active license for the relevant product area.
- Enhancement balloting shall be conducted separately for Bridge Rating, Bridge Design, and Bridge Management when applicable. One ballot is allowed for each relevant product licensed by an agency.
- Enhancement voting sessions should be scheduled to avoid unnecessary conflicts so member agency representatives can participate in the product discussions and voting sessions relevant to their licenses.
- For general Users Group business not tied to enhancement funding or product-specific prioritization, each member agency has one vote as described in Article III.
- For enhancement funding that affects more than one product area among BrD, BrR, and BrM, ballots may be weighted based on the license fee paid by the agency for the licensable product in the applicable fiscal year. If weighting is used, the weighting method shall be communicated to eligible voters before

ballots are due. The current rank-based weighting method is: $(\text{license fee} \div 1,000) \times (11 - \text{item rank})$. Duplicate listings on a ballot are reduced to the highest-ranked instance; blanks are not reweighted.

Discussion and Mock Voting

- After questions and discussions, we will perform an unofficial vote to gauge the adoption of the new charter.
- This will allow us to proceed with the updated voting procedures for at the individual product conclaves over the next 2 days.