**What is 5.1.2?** AASHTOWare Bridge Management software (BrM) 5.1.2 is AASHTO's bridge inspection software tool, providing a means for agencies to inventory and inspect their structures following AASHTO's Guide Manual for Bridge Element Inspection, and meet National Bridge Inspection standards. The software expands upon the existing software architecture and incorporates and builds off of features included in previous versions.  In addition to providing agencies with the tool to complete their National Bridge Element (NBE) inspections, this new version lays a foundation for the future 5.2 release. The software has been carefully developed under the guidance of State DOT representatives.

**Also known as Pontis 5.1.2, the software improves the ability to collect inspection data including the new National Bridge Elements in both a standalone and web-based enterprise mode.**

**What can 5.1.2 do for me?** Agencies operating version 5.1.2 can implement the AASHTO NBE and Bridge Management Elements (BME) and access new features and capabilities.  This software's development is based on advancements in state-of–the-art technology, current agency best practices, and extensive user feedback.  Version 5.1.2 provides the following:

- **Fully incorporates AASHTO's new National Bridge Elements**
  In 2011, AASHTO adopted the Guide Manual for Bridge Element Inspection, which supports a new inspection approach built off of the previous AASHTO Guide for Commonly Recognized (CoRe) Structural Elements.  5.1.2 incorporates these new elements, allowing agencies to create a detailed NBE/BME based bridge inventory and inspection program.  Also, agencies can migrate their existing CoRe elements with an easy-to-use, supplemental AASHTO Migration tool.  The NBEs and BMEs provide an improved method for recording bridge condition information and will be the foundation for improved bridge management tools in version 5.2 (described in more detail in a separate White Paper).
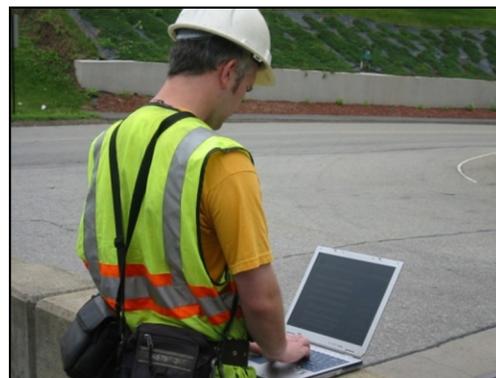
- **Easier data transfer capability**
  Version 5.1.2 supports bridge inspection data transfers and imports.  In addition to the standard Pontis Data Interface (PDI) text files, 5.1.2 now supports XML import and output of information. This new capability provides easier and more efficient integration of the software with other programs and transfer of data between field computers.

- **Speed and Usability Enhancements**

  Numerous user-requested enhancements have been provided in this release.  Changes to improve the speed and performance of the software and a number of minor features and enhancements were made based on user feedback.  These enhancements include better picture handling via a new multiple photo uploader, integration of element manual pages, and new layouts, fonts, and icons to improve element identification and data entry.

- **Prepares Inspection Data for Use by BrM 5.2 Release**

  5.1.2 improves the utility of agencies' bridge inspection data and lays the groundwork for the next generation of AASHTO's Bridge Management Software requirements by ensuring data is in the correct format. BrM 5.1.2 prepares agencies' inventory data for the multi-objective, risk assessment, trade-off analysis, and deterioration modeling tools in 5.2.

## What are the Advantages of 5.1.2?

The AASHTOWare Bridge Management software is fully supported and maintained by AASHTO. Its' development and features are consistent with AASHTO guidelines and meet FHWA regulatory requirements. As with other AASHTOWare products, BrM is administered and overseen by a task force of State DOT representatives. Version 5.1.2 has undergone numerous enhancements that will provide distinct advantages to the users. These advantages include:

- *Better representation of bridge conditions with National Bridge Elements*
- *Agency flexibility to meet specific needs with support for agency defined Bridge Management Elements*
- *Inclusion of new Protective Systems and Defect Flags that may be attached to individual elements*
- *Improved installation and updated user manuals*
- *Speed and performance improvements*
- *Improved customer support for technical and administrative questions*



**AASHTOWare Bridge Management fully incorporates AASHTO's National Bridge Elements including Protective Systems and Defect Flags (above). New features such as the multiple photo uploader have been added (below).**



## How can I Implement 5.1.2?

Current AASHTOWare licensees can request 5.1.2, or newer releases, via the AASHTOWare Bridge Management Support Desk at the website shown below. New entities interested in obtaining or evaluating 5.1.2 can request a copy from AASHTO. For agencies currently running an earlier version and wishing to upgrade, the following steps should be taken in regards to the software:

- Use the AASHTO migration tool to convert existing CoRe element data into NBE/BME data.
- Ensure that your agency database is in SQL or Oracle (Sybase no longer supported).
- Convert any legacy InfoMaker reports into Crystal Reports format.

AASHTO offers full support during the conversion process. Additionally, new and existing licensees that have advanced customization, on-site training, data migration services, and integration with other agency systems can purchase and use AASHTO service units with the BrM designated developer and support provider.

## What is the Future Direction of AASHTOWare Bridge Management?

The software is currently undergoing a major set of enhancements. The foundation and research for this particular effort has been established over the past several years. 5.1.2 represents the first phase of a vastly improved software suite as a prelude to 5.2 development efforts. For the latest information and training videos please refer to the website at: http://aashtowarebridge.com/.