

**Productivity First-Round Winner**  
Innovations Challenge

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Prepared by Transportation Planning  
Missouri Department of Transportation

## Laser Range Finder



### Description

A Laser Range Finder is used to make preliminary measurements of sight distances at locations where a customer is requesting a permit to construct a driveway. Similar range finders are commonly used by hunters, golfers and in the forest industry. These range finders also can be used anywhere a quick distance measurement is needed, such as checking sign spacing. The forestry models also can be used to check the height of overhead signs, roadway light fixtures or signal heads.

### Benefit

This innovation simplifies work by allowing the permit writer to make preliminary measurements in the field to be used in determining if a driveway location meets the minimums for sight distance without setting up a target(s) and measuring up and down the road using a vehicle counter. This saves time by allowing the permit writer to know if, or where sufficient sight distance exists along a customer's property or roadway without the need to make multiple target set-ups and repeated measurements with the vehicle counter. Safety is improved by allowing the permit writer to make these preliminary measurements from an area off the roadway and keeps the vehicle out of traffic until a suitable driveway location can be found or the site is determined to have insufficient sight distance.

### Materials and Labor

Material costs range from \$300 to \$350.

### For More Information Contact:

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Additional photos can be seen by accessing the Innovations Challenge SharePoint page at:  
<http://sharepoint/systemdelivery/TP/Documents/InnovationsChallenge.aspx>.