

FACTS

Cooperative Research Program

A pathway for joint venture research projects where two or more organizations pool their resources to study a pre-competitive technical area and share in the results.

Established in 1989, the Cooperative Research Program (CRP) of SAE International was begun to support the Technical Committees of the SAE standards development program. Its mission was and remains today a service provider for organizations who wish to share in research projects, results, and costs.

CRP projects are most often initiated to serve the end purpose of developing or refining technical standards where insufficient data exists. Another primary role is to provide industry a research pathway that will aid project participants in the advancement of design and/or the development of a technology. Finally, CRP also serves to support government organizations in their assessment of industry-preparedness for proposed regulations.

Today, the CRP customer base consists of mobility industry companies, government and regulatory groups, universities, trade groups, standards development organizations, and companies outside of mobility with related research interests. Cooperative research ventures serve to bring more minds to the challenges and issues for a more robust project than each participating organization could complete independently. The pooling of financial resources affords all participants more efficient use of their research budgets and eliminates duplication of efforts.

More than 60 projects have been completed since CRP's formation, ranging in duration from weeks to years. Services are provided based on a project's scope and the needs of the client group; CRP ensures projects conform to the National Cooperative Research Act in the USA. A full service supplier, SAE also collaborates/partners with university laboratories, technical centers, and other research-oriented organizations. Capabilities include:

- Subcontract administration
- Project management
- Facilitation
- Field work

FACTS Cooperative Research Program (cont.)

- Organization of funding and fiscal management
- Proprietary reporting and/or publication
- Consulting

In its nearly 20 years of business, CRP has established processes for best practices and a track-record for project design, funding, staffing, and implementation to serve a wide range of research purposes. Through its strong affiliation with sister program, SAE standards development, CRP has ready access to industry's technology experts: the 4,000 plus members of the more than 450 ground vehicle standards committees. An SAE offering, CRP provides the neutral forum needed for industry cooperation through a non-profit organization.

For more information, contact a SAE Cooperative Research staff member:

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