



SWIFT

SEPT 13th - 15th 2022

Montréal  Aviation Events Group  



ASPHALT BINDER AND MIXTURE TESTING TRENDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

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Director, Pavements and Materials Group



The Technical Assistant of Dr. Salman Bhutta (Principal, P.Eng.), Andrew Pahalan, Mazen Fallaha of Engtec is Appreciated

The background of the slide features a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of several cylindrical asphalt core samples. The samples are dark in color and show a granular texture. One sample in the foreground on the left is partially cut, revealing a lighter, more uniform interior. The samples are stacked or arranged in a row, with some showing yellow markings.

OUTLINE

Binder characterization

What properties required?

How to test and specify?

Mixture characterization

What properties required?

Different design approaches

Volumetrics versus Performance-Based

BINDING AGENT



*“A dark brown to black **CEMENTITIOUS** material in which the predominating constituents are bitumens which occur in nature or are obtained in **PETROLEUM PROCESSING**.”*

(American Society for Testing and Materials - ASTM)

BITUMEN is the international nomenclature for asphalt cement

Canada & United States - The term “asphalt” may be used to refer to the liquid asphalt

ASPHALT CEMENT

Unmodified, Straight-Run, Virgin

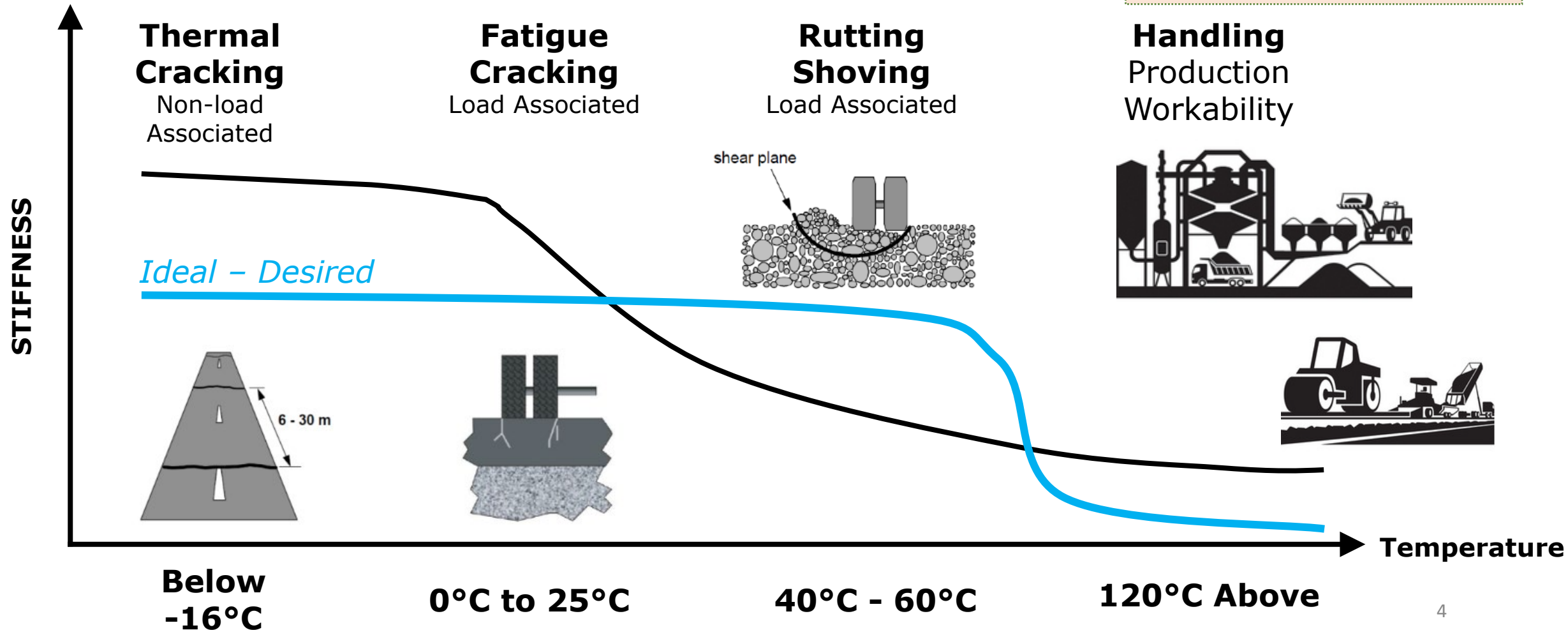
ASPHALT BINDER

Modified with Polymers and/or additives

ASPHALT BINDER

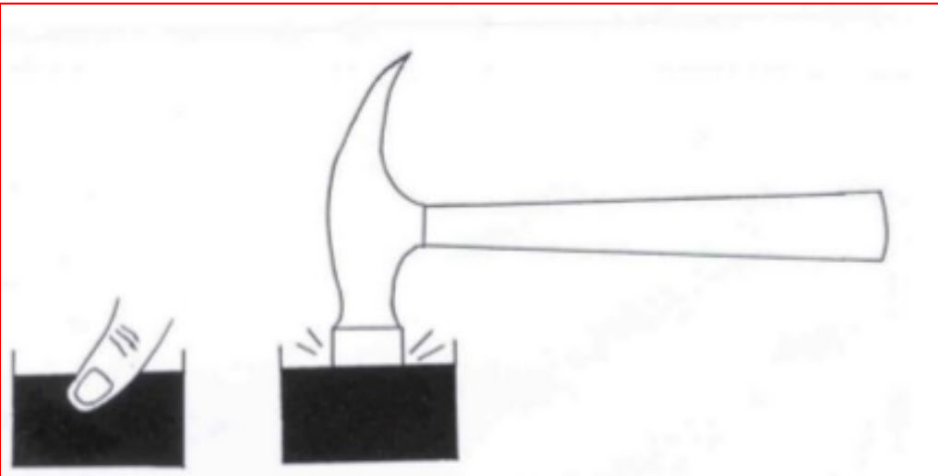
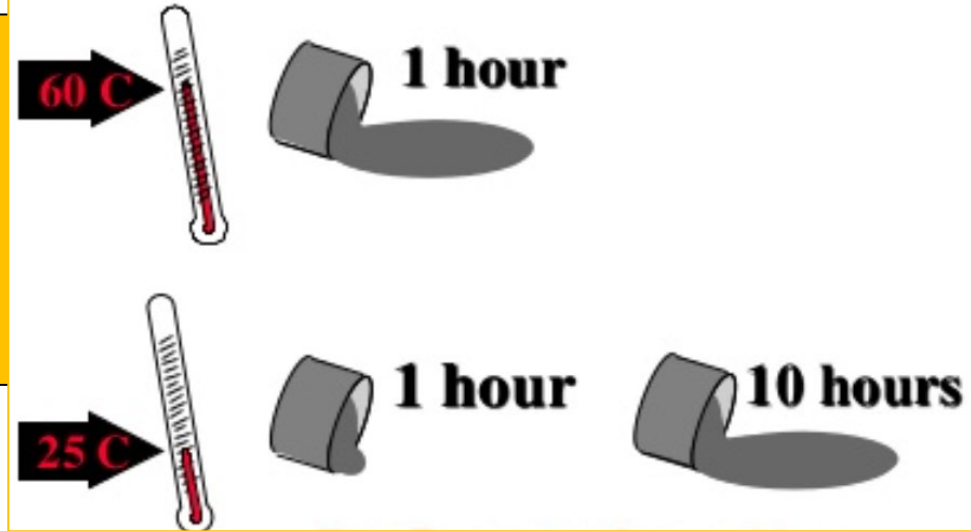
Desired Characteristics
(Stiffness vs. In-Service Temperature)

Aging due to Oxidation during
production and after being
in-service



ASPHALT BINDER

**Temperature
and
Time Sensitivity**



**Rate
of
Loading**

ASPHALT BINDER

Historical Trends in Testing Binders in Canada

**Penetration Graded
(i.e. 85/100)**

Stiffness
Characterization
At 25°C

**Viscosity Graded
(i.e. AC-5)**

**Stiffness &
Workability**
25°C
135 & 165°C

**Performance Graded
(i.e. PG 58-28)**

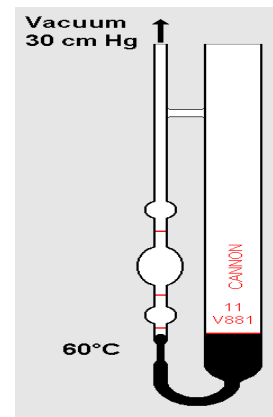
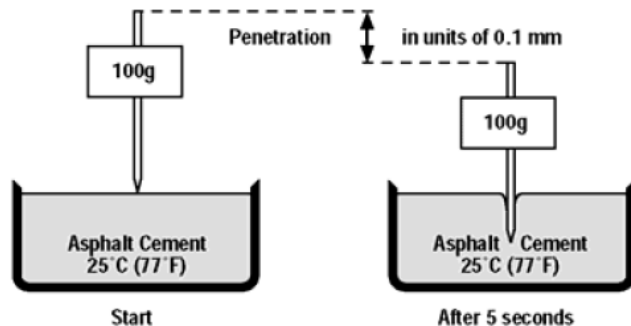
Array of testing
Stiffness at Low, Intermediate and High
Workability
Aging susceptibility

1947

1970s

Early 1990s

Now?



asphalt institute

Performance Grades

Max. Design Temp.	PG 46	PG 52	PG 58	PG 64	PG 70	PG 76	PG 82															
Min. Design Temp.	-34	-40	-46	-10	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-10	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-10	-16	-22	-28	-34

Original

≥ 230 °C

Flash Point

≤ 3 Pa·s @ 135 °C

Rotational Viscosity

≥ 1.00 kPa

DSR $G^*/\sin \delta$ (Dynamic Shear Rheometer)

46

52

58

64

70

76

82

(Rolling Thin Film Oven) RTFO, Mass Change < 1.00%

≥ 2.20 kPa

DSR $G^*/\sin \delta$ (Dynamic Shear Rheometer)

46

52

58

64

70

76

82

(Pressure Aging Vessel) PAV

20 hours, 2.10 MPa

90

90

100

100

100(110)

100(110)

100(110)

≤ 5000 kPa

DSR $G^*/\sin \delta$ (Dynamic Shear Rheometer)

Intermediate Temp. = $(M + \text{Min. Jct}) \div 4$

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Increasing Loadings



***Changes in crude and
refining practices
Changes in other raw
material supply***

***Extreme Events
Structural Resiliency***

ASPHALT BINDER

Modification

Objectives

Improve or alter **PHYSICAL** or **CHEMICAL** properties
Widen the viscoelastic **RANGE** (i.e. PG 58-28 vs. 64-28)
Improve binder's **RESPONSE** to a particular in-service condition

Common Techniques

POLYMERS - most commonly known as “PMA’s”

Elastomers – SBS, SB, SBR

Plastomers – PE, EVA, EPDM

Extenders – sulphur, lignin

Fillers – CR*, HL, Fly Ash, baghouse fines, carbon black

Process based – air blowing, steam distillation

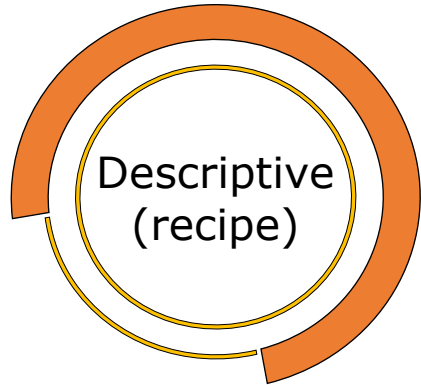
Chemical - Oxidants, antioxidants, acids, anhydrides

ANTISTRIPS – amines, imidazolines, phosphate esters, silanes

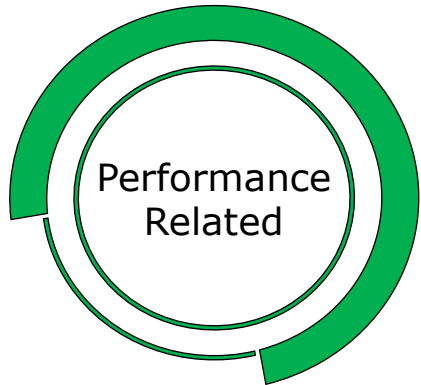
Acids (PPA) – could qualify into several categories

ASPHALT BINDER

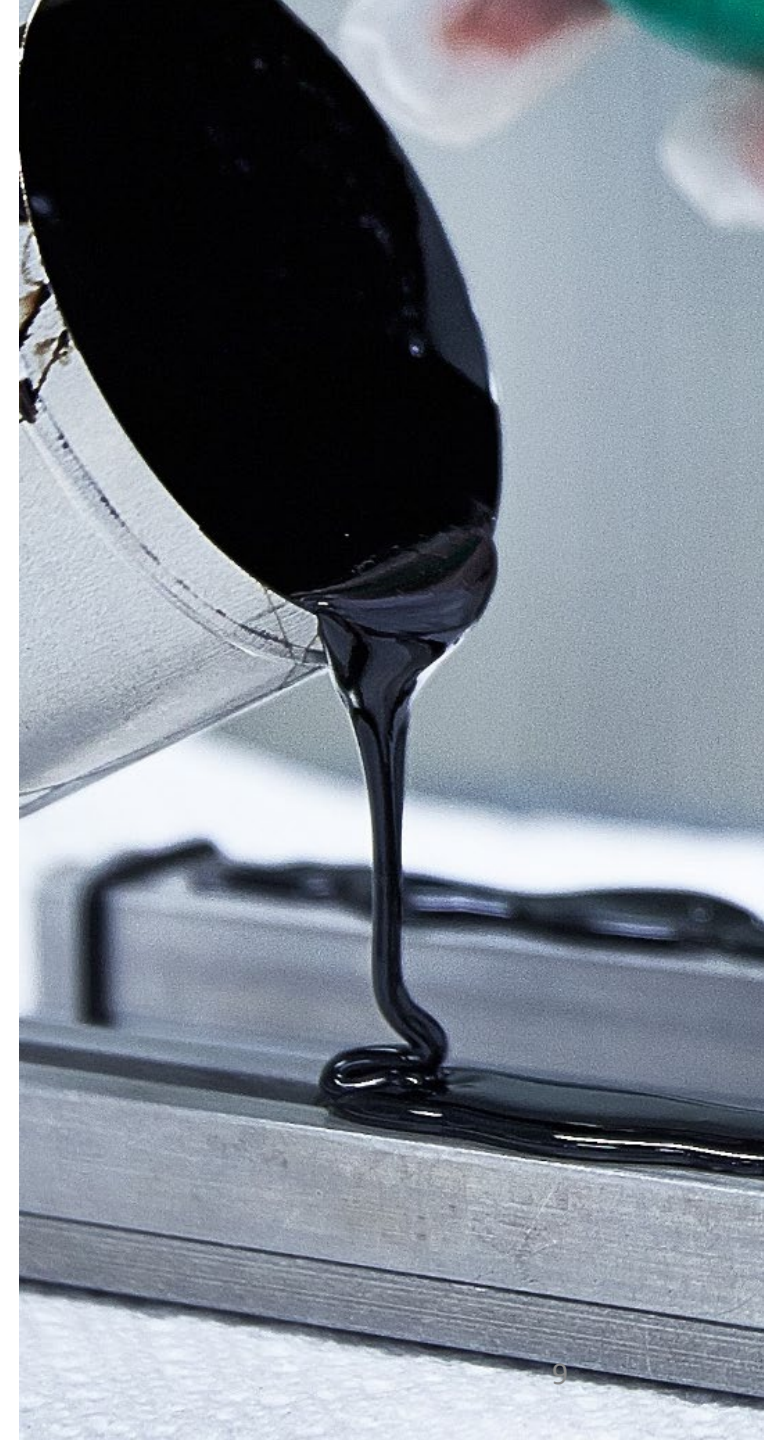
Specification Types in Canada



Owner's full control over ingredients
(specified and/or banned)



Empirical specifications (historical-based)
Fundamental-based specifications
Know as "PG-PLUS")



ASPHALT BINDER

Example of Owner's control over ingredients (OPSS 1101)



PGAC shall be homogeneous

- Free of water and any contamination, and shall not foam when heated to the temperatures specified by the manufacturer for the safe handling and use of the product.
- Silicone oils are allowed as anti-foaming agents at less than five parts per million. Zinc oxide and iron carboxylates may be used as hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) scavengers.

PGAC shall not contain

- More than 0.3% polyphosphoric acid (PPA) or 0.3% elemental sulfur (S) in addition to the typical sulfur that is naturally present in the asphalt cement, and these shall only be used as catalysts for the purpose of modification with epoxy (E)-type or styrene-butadiene (SB)-type polymer modifiers. PGAC shall not contain any orthophosphoric acid.
- PGAC shall not be air blown or catalytically oxidized in any manner.
- PGAC shall not contain any air blown or catalytically oxidized residues.

ASPHALT BINDER

Example of Owner's control over ingredients (OPSS 1101)



The asphalt cement **shall not contain**

- Any of the following additives added for PGAC modification:
atactic polypropylene; carbon black; polyisobutylene; polyisoprene; natural rubber; alkaline bases; insoluble particulates or fibres; salts of iron, copper, manganese and/or cobalt; silicates; styrene-butadiene rubber (random copolymer latex); synthetic waxes (paraffin waxes, naphthenic waxes); synthetic and saturated oils (including but not limited to the following: vegetable oils or modified vegetable oils; (paraffin oils, polyalphaolefins (PAO), lube oils, and re-refined lube oils.); waste oils (including but not limited to the following: cracked residues, re-refined high vacuum distillate oils; tall oils, vacuum tower asphalt extenders; waste cooking oils, waste engine oils, waste engine oil residues).
Asphalt cement supplier shall declare in writing that they have not added the PGAC additives listed above.
- If modifiers or additives other than styrene-butadiene (e.g., SB diblock, SBS triblock, SBS radial, SBS high vinyl, SB tapered, etc.) or epoxy-type (e.g. reactive elastomeric terpolymers) polymers are used for the modification of neat asphalt cement, **pre-approval from the Owner is required.**
- Organic bases may be contained in the PGAC provided they are used as anti-stripping or warm mix additives or both. If any of the above additives are present in anti-stripping and/or warm mix asphalt additives, they shall be declared at the time of mix submission.

ASPHALT BINDER

PG-Plus Testing

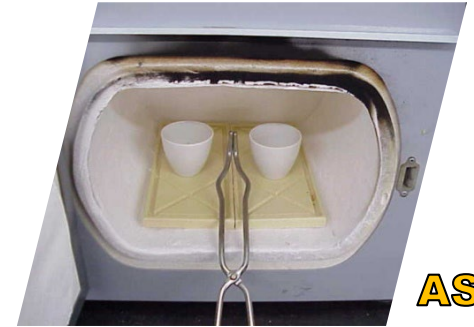
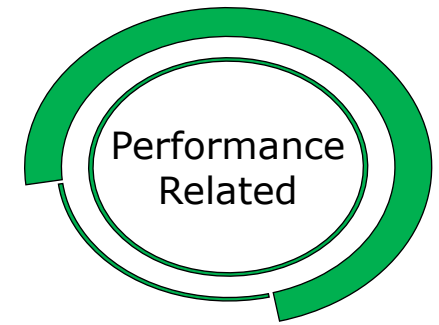
Ash Test - Contamination

Multiple Stress Creep Recovery (MSCR) – Elasticity

DENT – Double Edge Notch Tension - Fatigue

Delta TC - Low Temperature Relaxation

Extended BBR (ExBBR) – Low Temperature

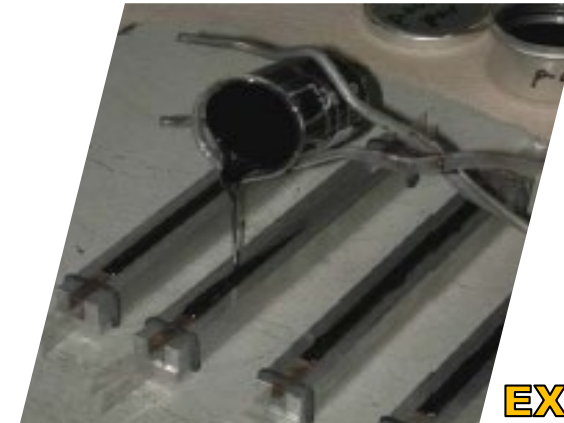
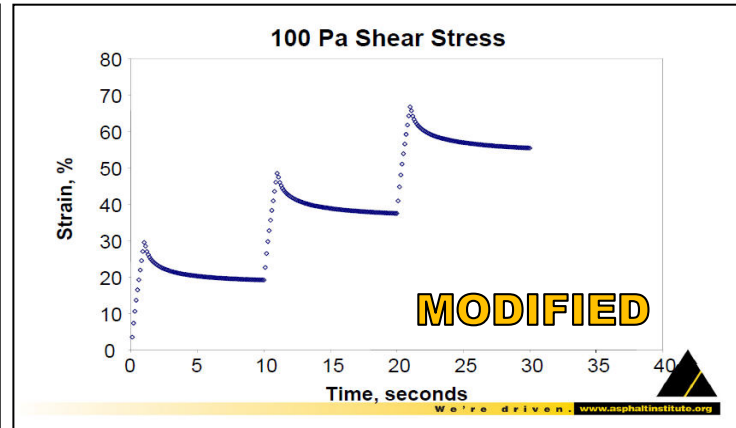
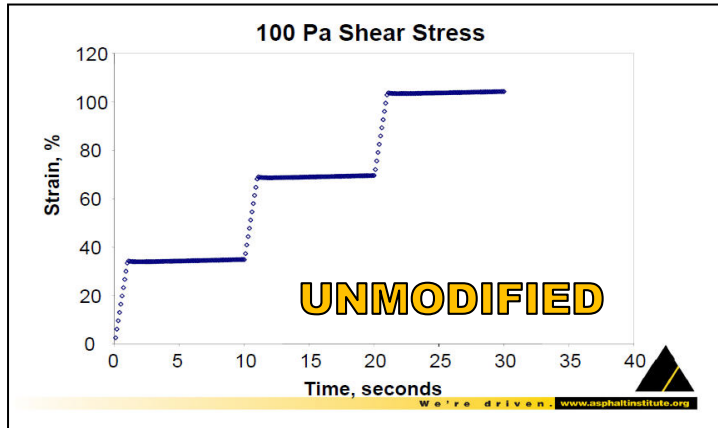


ASH



DENT

MSCR



EXBBR



ASPHALT MIXTURE

Mixture of aggregate and binder agent

Provide a **hard-top**, while being **waterproof** to a level to prevent the support layers from becoming saturated and losing support

Stiffness and Behaviour at different in-service temperatures controlled by aggregate skeleton and/or binder properties.

ASPHALT MIXTURE

Desired Mix Design
=
Optimized Ratio of A/B
Based on
Cost Durability

**ASPHALT
BINDER**



%BW = 4 to 6%
\$/MT = 40 to 55%

AGGREGATE



%BW = 94 to 96%
\$/MT = 5 to 50%

PRODUCTION

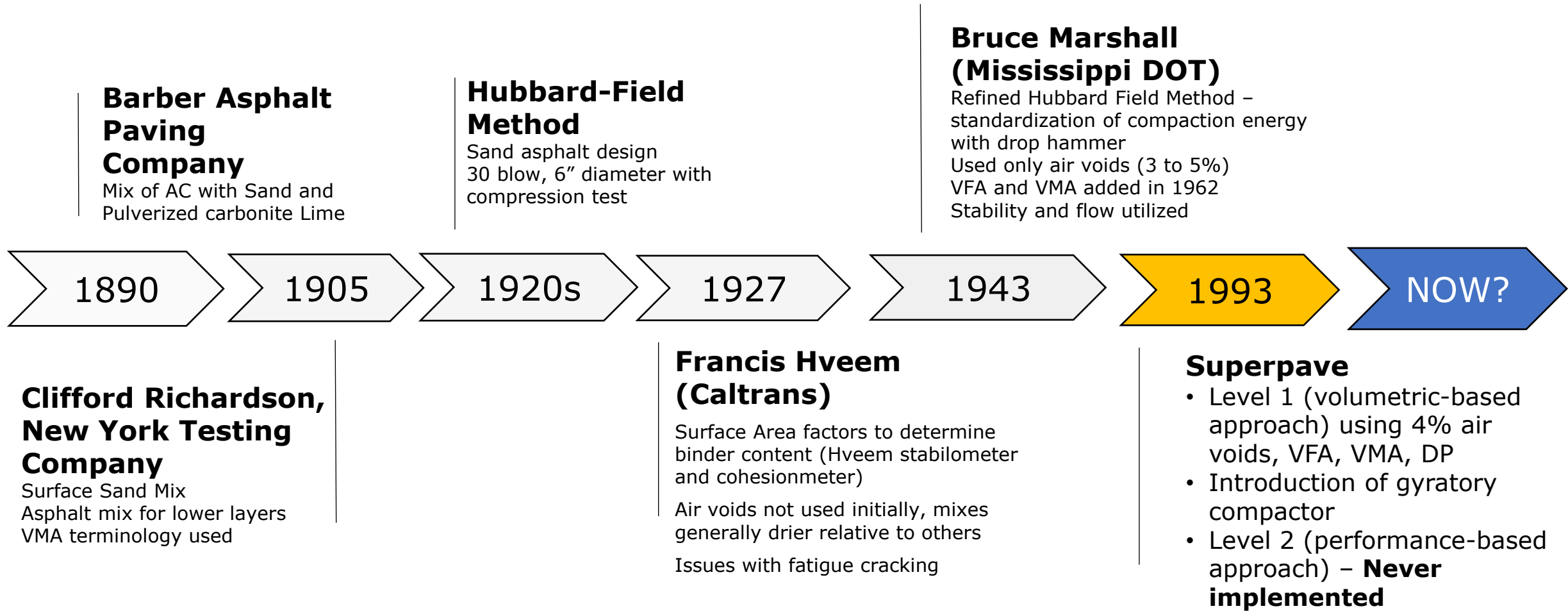


ENERGY
\$/MT = 10 to 20%

**RECYCLED ASPHALT
PAVEMENT
(RAP)
(Aggregate/Binder)**

ASPHALT MIXTURE

Mix Design Historical Trends



Timeline prepared by Sina.V after reviewing "History of asphalt mix design in North America" published by Asphalt Magazine, Asphalt Institute Link:
<http://asphaltmagazine.com/history-of-asphalt-mix-design-in-north-america-part-1/>

ASPHALT MIXTURE

The Bigger Issue – “Asphalt Mix Iceberg”

*Navigating using **PAST EXPERIENCE** by seeing*

- *Asphalt Binder Physical & Chemical Properties*
- *Aggregate Properties*
- *AGG-Binder Volumetrics (ABV) Relationship*

NO MIX PERFORMANCE
under laboratory conditions

=

HIGH RISK in Extreme Events
REDUCED Structural **RESILIENCY**

ASPHALT MIXTURE

Considering Performance in Mixture Design

1 Recipe & Volumetric Selection

2 Performance-Verified Volumetric Design

Verification of resistant to a specific distress
Example: Asphalt Cement (AC) modification to resist fatigue cracking

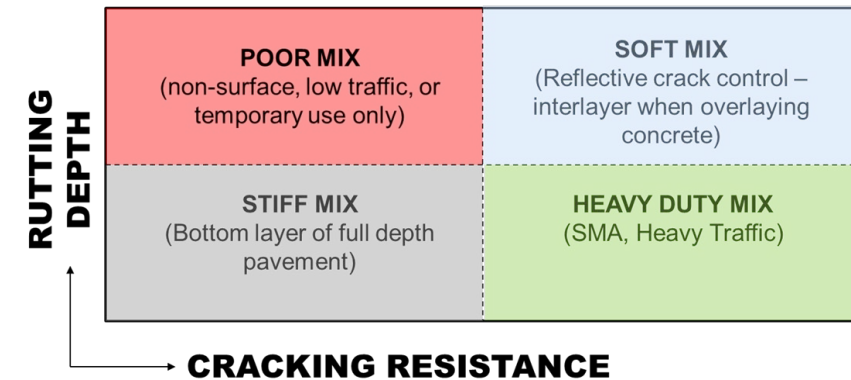
3 Performance-Modified Volumetric Design

Adjustment of mix proportions to resist a specific distress
Example:

4 Performance-Based Design

Durability
Performance testing for **Pavement design input**
Conduct volumetric for QA

Mix Durability





PERFORMANCE INDEX TESTING

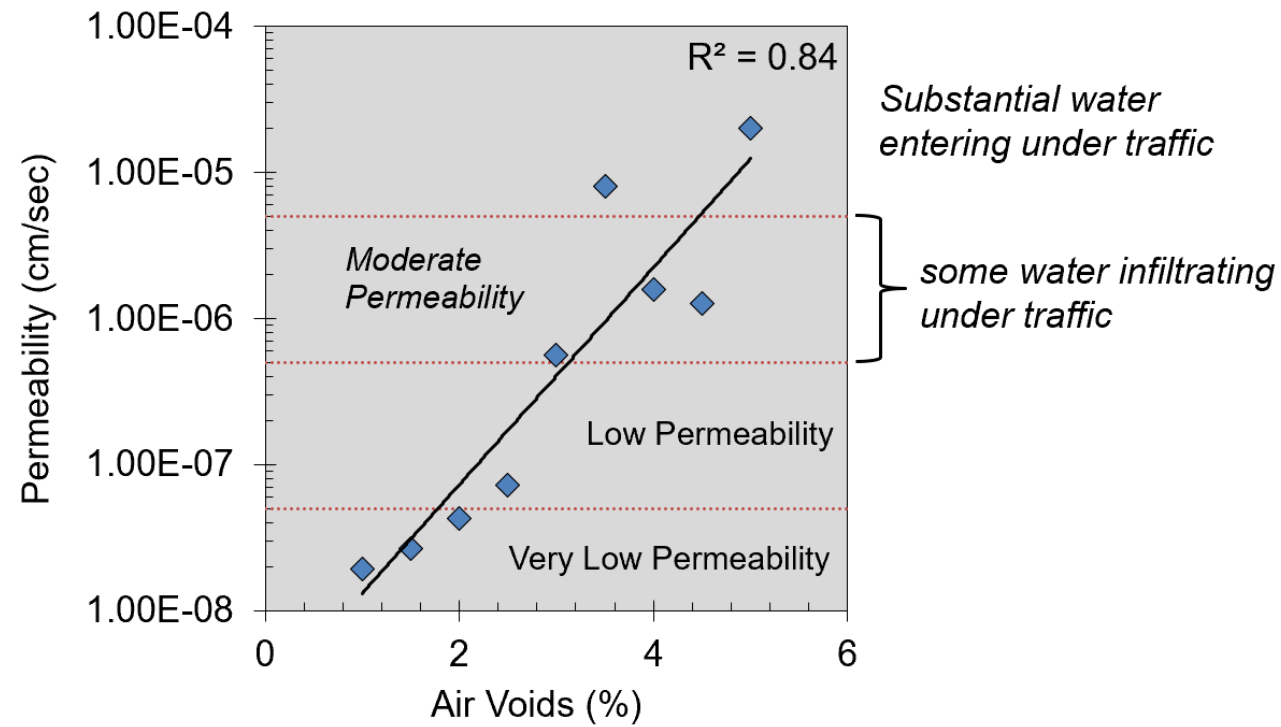
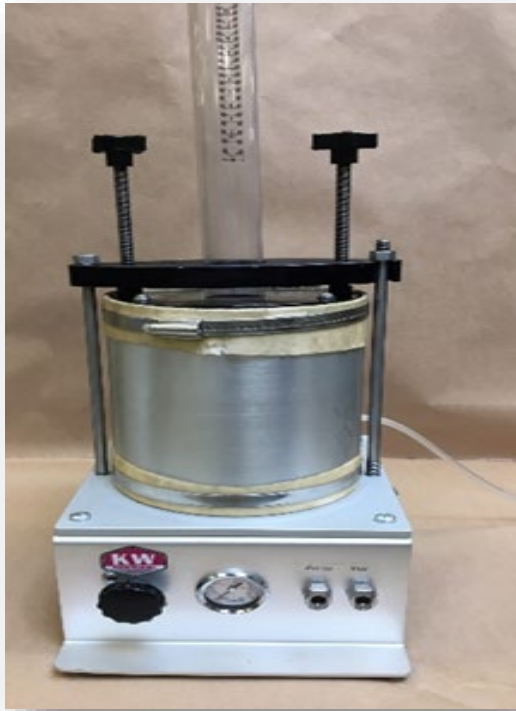
(Laboratory Torture Testing)

***Critical tools for the owner including current
technology Status and Some Critical Tests related to
Performance***

ASPHALT MIXTURE

Test Methods

Permeability – In-Place Density Related to Durability



Research work Done by Dr. Varamini – CTA 2019 "Development of Low Permeability Asphalt Mix"

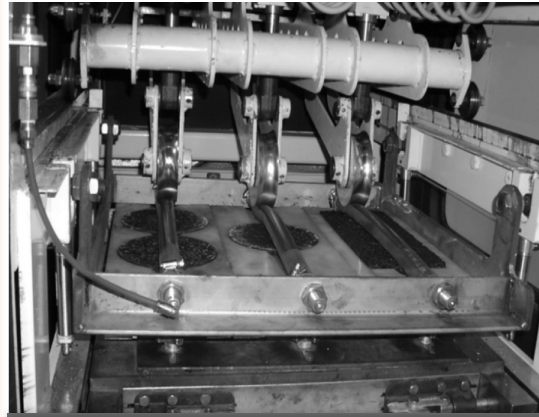
Permeability ranges corresponding to those listed in Vardanega P, Waters T. "Analysis of Asphalt Concrete Permeability Data Using Representative Pore Size", *Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering*, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Reston, Virginia, Volume 23, Issue 2 (February 2011).

ASPHALT MIXTURE

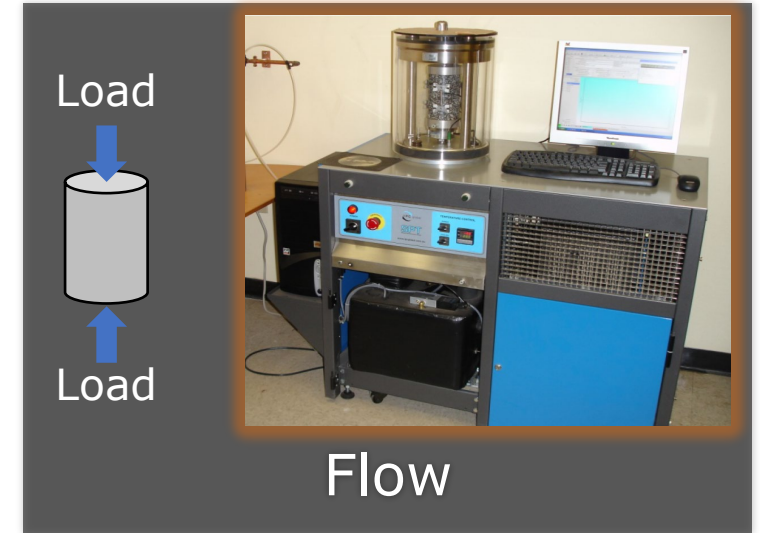
Test Methods – Permanent Deformation/Rutting



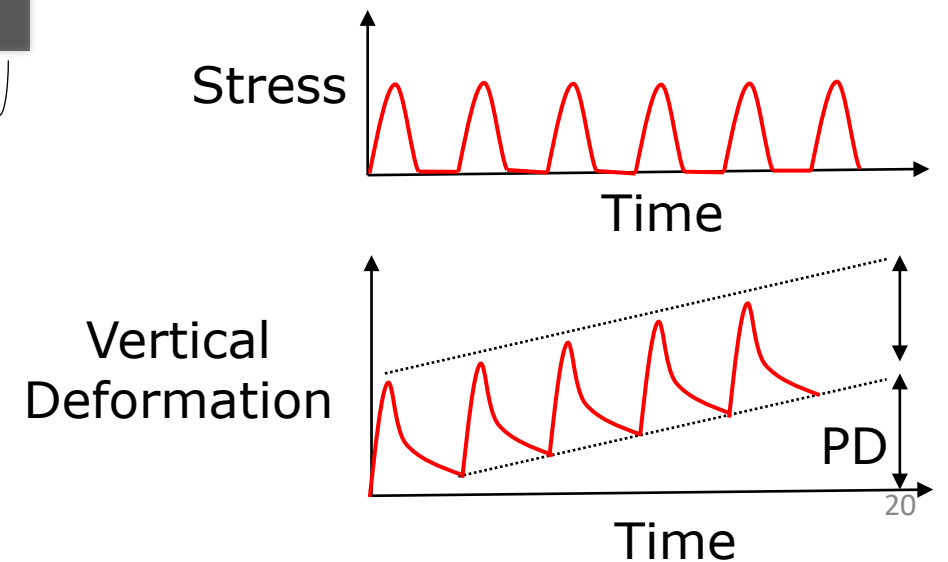
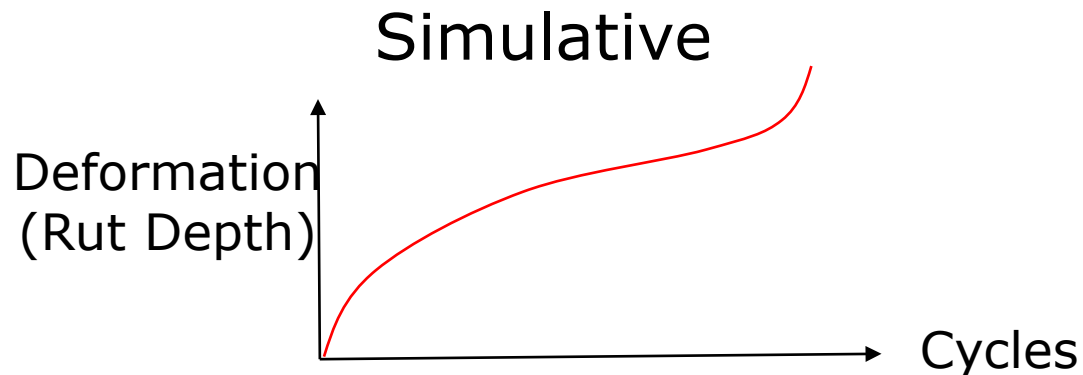
Hamburg Wheel Tracking



Asphalt Pavement Analyzer



Flow

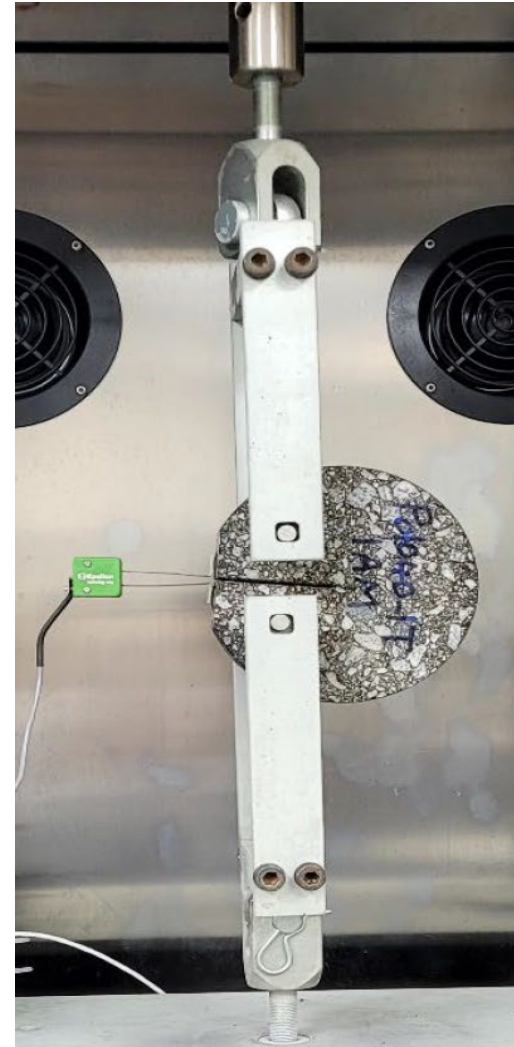


ASPHALT MIXTURE

Test Methods – Fatigue & Low Temperature



Semi Circular Bend (SCB)
Test
Fatigue Index at 25°C



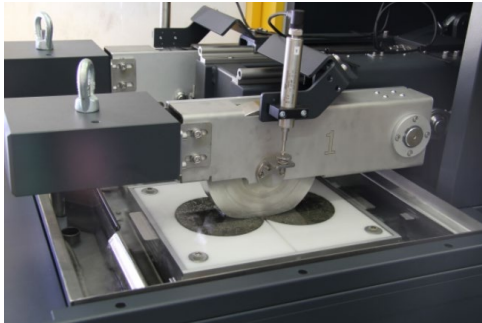
Disk Shape Tension
(DCT)
Test
Low Temperature
Relaxation Index at
Temperature
Below -18°C

STRUCTURAL RESILIENCY

Need to Consider All Around Approach

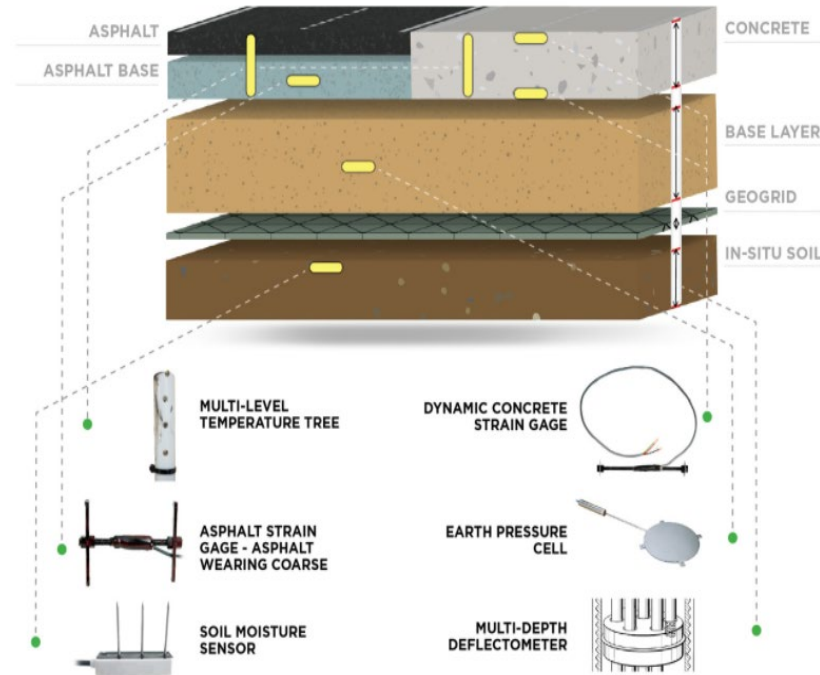


Accelerated Loading Facilities (ALFs)



Laboratory Torture Testing

**MATERIALS
STRENGTH**



**Pavement
Instrumentation**

**STRUCTURAL
RESPONSE/RESILIENCY**



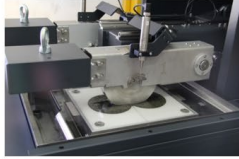
**FIELD
NON-DESTRUCTIVE
EVALUATIONS**

STRUCTURAL RESILIENCY

Need to Consider All Around Approach

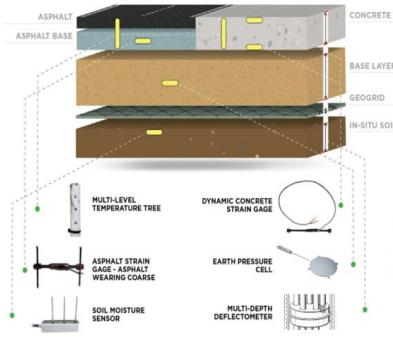


Accelerated Loading Facilities (ALFs)



Laboratory Torture Testing

**MATERIALS
STRENGTH**

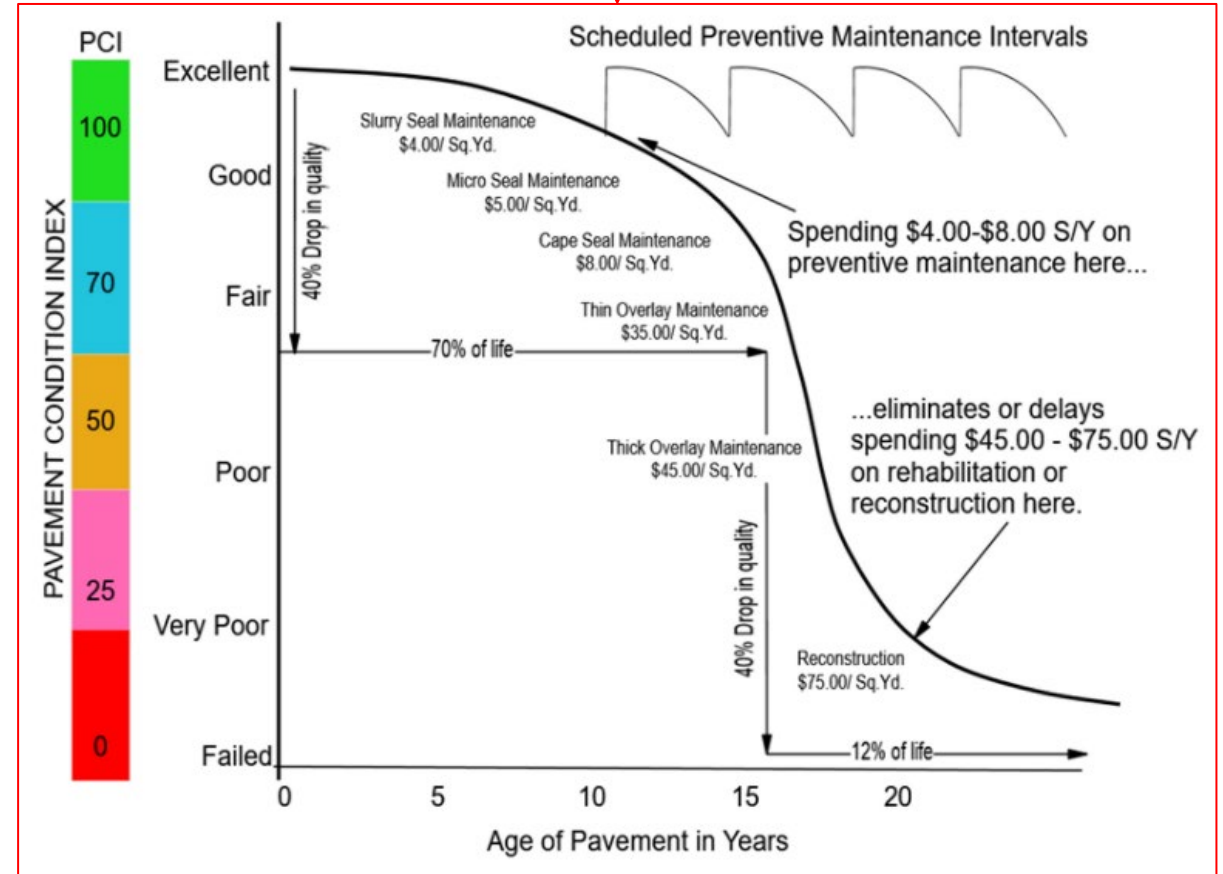


**Pavement
Instrumentation**

**STRUCTURAL
RESPONSE/RESILIENCE**



**FIELD
NON-DESTRUCTIVE
EVALUATIONS**



Questions and Discussions



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| Pavement and Materials | Earth and Environmental
| Materials Testing and Evaluation | Forensic Engineering
| Contract Administration | Infrastructure