Alaska Asphalt Summit-2011

Hot Mix Placement

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.— <u>Thomas Edison</u>

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Construction Methods

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- Placement
- Screed
 - Head of Material
 - Reaction Time
 - Control
- Mix Delivery
- Longitudinal Joints
- Compaction

Placement Topics

- Surface Preparation
- Hot Mix Delivery
- Paving Equipment
 - Tractor
 - Screed
- Paving Procedures
 - Longitudinal joints
 - Compaction



Surface Preparation

- Often doesn't get due consideration
- It is often time consuming and labor intensive
- Asphalt layers cover up the potential problems
- THE PROBLEMS WE DO NOT TAKE CARE OF TODAY WILL NOT GO AWAY
 - Often the problems get worse
 - They are more costly to fix the second time

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Surface Preparation

The most common surfaces overlaid with HMA or WMA include:

- Subgrade
- Granular Base Course (Aggregate Base)
- Existing Asphalt Pavement
- Existing PC Concrete Pavement

Subgrade Preparation

- The subgrade is the pavement foundation
- Must support the pavement, anticipated traffic, and construction equipment
 - Soil type considered in thickness
- design

 Must be properly graded to provide drainage
 - Transverse and longitudinal grade
 - Smoothness and cross slope
- Must be uniformly compacted to required density





Aggregate Base Preparation



- Mix to proper moisture content
 Best Practice place using a laydown machine
- Place in 4" 8" compacted lifts
- Stagger longitudinal and transverse joints at least one foot in each succeeding layer
- Compact base to percentage of proctor specified
- Cure before applying Prime Co

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Prime Coat

Why do we use Prime Coat?

- To seal in the subgrade at the proper moisture content
- To fill the surface voids and protect from the weather
- To stabilize the surface fines
- To promote bonding to the subsequent pavement layer







Preparing to Overlay Existing HMA

Preparing an existing asphalt surface may be as simple as sweeping (*multiple passes may be necessary*) the existing surface and applying tack coat



Preparing to Overlay Existing HMA

Or it may involve one or more of the following:

- Patching
- Cleaning and filling cracks
- Placing a leveling course
- Milling the surface

Failed areas MUST be cleaned, repaired and brought into good structural condition before overlaying.

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Tack Coat

Why do we use Tack Coat?

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- To promote the bond between old and new pavement layers.
- To prevent slippage between pavement layers
- To provide an additional moisture barrier, especially when applied along the transverse and longitudinal vertical surfaces















Preparing to Overlay Existing PCC

- Full depth replacement of distressed slabs – Asphalt or PCC patch
 - Correct problems in base/subgrade
- Spalled joints repaired partial depth
 Use PCC for patching
- Stabilize rocking slabs
- Replace joint sealer as required
- · Clean and tack surface

Above precautions often don't work long-term

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Preparing to Overlay Existing PCC

A better way to handle PCC pavement which needs to be overlaid is through one of the following techniques:

- Cracking and Seating
- Breaking and Seating
- Rubblization

These techniques reduce the size subject to movement, which makes them easier to permanently seat and stabilize.









Trucking

- How Many?
 - Need enough for uninterrupted paving
 - Don't want trucks waiting too long at paver or hot plant

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Trucking

- Trucking Goals
 - Consistent delivery
 - Get in and out of paver smoothly

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- Consistent cycling
- Uniform delivery
- Uniform speed





Truck Loading

Use multiple drops
Loading sequence:

Front
Back
Middle

Always transfer HMA in "bulk"

Haul Trucks

- Clean, smooth beds – Approved release agent
 - No <u>diesel</u>!
- Insulated & tarped
 - Front, sides, bottom
 - Thin overlays, long hauls, cold weather



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HMA Delivery

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Trucks

- Coordinate delivery schedule – Maintain steady supply of material
 - Number, capacity, distance
- Break load before opening tailgate

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Screed Unit

- Screed plate
- Strike-off Crown control
- Maintenance
- · Extensions and End plates
- Thickness control screws
- Screed arm

- Pre-compaction system
- Heating systems



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Paving Speed

- Consistency, Consistency, Consistency - Run non-stop
 - Constant speed all day
 - Speed increases depth decreases
 - Speed decreases depth increased
- Why? Change the speed, and you change the balance of the forces.

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Screed Operation

- Balance the Forces Acting on Screed
 - Speed of paver
 - Head of material
 - Angle of attack
 - Screed weight
- Pre-compaction

Screed Reaction Time

• Changes to settings or in speed require time to be fully accomplished.

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• Generally 3 to 5 tow lengths. (50 to 80 yds.)

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Screed Control Systems

- Sticking the Mat
- Manual Controls
- Automatic Controls



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Grade Reference

- Stringline
- Mobile Reference
- Joint Matching Shoe
- Sonic Sensor
- Laser



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Head of Material

• The paving material that lies in front of and spans the entire screed.

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 95 to 98 percent of all mat flaws originate with an improper head of material.



