



MnROAD and National Road Research Alliance
 2023 North Central Regional Local Roads Conference
 Sioux Falls, South Dakota October 2023

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 MnROAD Operations Engineer
 NRRRA Executive Director

mn DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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MnROAD and NRRRA


Focus on the power of good people, quality data, and Partnership Opportunities

- MnROAD Introduction
- MnROAD / NCAT Partnership
- National Road Research Alliance (NRRRA)



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MnROAD – why was it really built?



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MnROAD Early History






- **AASHO Road Test (1956-58 built – traffic loadings from 1958-60)**
- **Need for Local Calibrations**
 - MnDOT started Investigation 183 / Flexible Designs (Started 1960's)
 - SHRP/LTPP started for national efforts (8/8/1988)
 - Idea of a cold regions testing facility (1980's)
- **MnROAD Development**
 - Development of Support
 - Getting 25 million in 1990
 - Soil Foundation
 - Instrumentation
 - 1992 and 1993 Construction
 - August 2, 1994 Traffic



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MnROAD Background

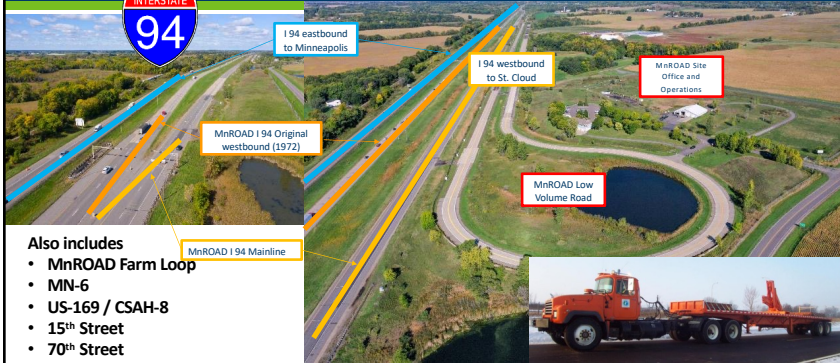
- **MnROAD Owned and Operated by Minnesota DOT**
 - 27 Dedicated Road Research Staff
 - 10 MnROAD Staff
- **HMA and PCC Research**
- **30 Years of Long-Term Customer Service**
 - Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)
 - Minnesota Local Road Research Board (LRRB)
 - National Partnerships (SHRP II / NCHRP / FHWA)
 - National Center of Asphalt Technology (NCAT)
 - National Road Research Alliance (NRRRA)




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MnROAD- Minnesota Road Research Facility



Also includes

- MnROAD Farm Loop
- MN-6
- US-169 / CSAH-8
- 15th Street
- 70th Street
- + Others



mndot.gov Mack Tractor (93406) with Fruehauf Trailer (93410)

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MnROAD Performance Data

- **Performance Monitoring**
- **List is missing**
 - Albedo Measurements
 - Drone Videos
 - Road Doctor with GPR
 - Detailed Forensics
 - Rolling Weight Deflectometer
 - Rolling Density Meter
 - Many others
- Working towards greater automation


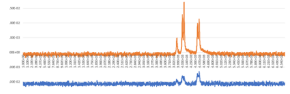
Each Data type has detailed information on the equipment and data collection used

Measurement	Frequency	Comment
Aging Samples	1 / year	Cores taken to monitor aging of HMA mix and PCC joint condition
Distress Survey	2 / year	Modified LTPP Survey on all cells
Dynamic Load Testing	4 / year	Dynamic load testing of sensors. Loading from MnROAD truck and FWD.
Joint Faulting/ Shoulder Dropoff	2 / year	Use an automated Georgia Faultmeter per modified LTPP protocol
Friction	1-2 / year	KJ Law profiler, grip tester and dynamic friction tester used
Falling Weight Deflectometer	8 / year	Testing schedule varies throughout the year. Routine and special testing on HMA and PCC.
HMA Rutting/ Crack Cupping	3 / year	Advanced Laser Profile System (ALPS) used to characterize rutting and crack cupping
Noise	3 / year	On Board Sound Intensity (OBSI) measurements and sound absorption
Piezometer	4 / year	Monitoring well measurements
Permeability	2-4 / year	Test permeability of pervious/porous test cells
Ride Quality	2-4 / year	Pathways and lightweight profiler
Sound Absorption	3 / year	Sound absorption measurements.
Surface Texture	1 / year	Sand Patch and Circular Texture Meter

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MnROAD Sensor Data

- **Sensors**
 - MnROAD Data Collection Network
 - ~15,000+ Sensors Installed
 - Static (every 15 min)
 - Temperature
 - Moisture
 - Joint Opening
 - Concrete Maturity
 - Environmental Stain
 - Pressure
 - Ground Water
 - Frost Depth
- Dynamic Data
 - Live Traffic Loading - Controlled Loading
 - Earth Pressure Cells
 - Pore-Water Pressure
 - Asphalt and Concrete Stains
 - Displacement
- 2 Weather Stations
- Traffic Data
 - 2022 Installing a new systems

Each Data type has detailed information on the equipment and data collection used

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Access to MnROAD Data

- **National Database**
 - MnROAD InfoPave
 - Non-LTPP / Tied to LTPP
 - NRRRA funding
 - FHWA partnership
- Allows users to:
 - Get a MnROAD overview
 - Find test sections
 - See available data
 - View Data
 - See Maps
 - Related Reports (working)
 - Download Data
 - Working on Sensors
- New release soon

InfoPave: Non-LTPP

MnROAD includes two test roadways, located along westbound I-35 between Albertville and Monticello, Minnesota. It is owned and operated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation in cooperation with its National Road Research (NRRRA) partners. MnROAD test roadways have over 75 unique pavement test 'cells' designed to investigate the performance of different pavement designs and materials and exposed to actual vehicles and Minnesota climate. Their performance is monitored by sensors within the road structure, as well as many non-structure and surface tests, such as ride quality testing, deflection measurements (sliding-weight deflectometer), and visual distress surveys. In addition to the two test roadways, several other test sections on other roadways are tracked and evaluated within the MnROAD system.

Here is how you can use this MnROAD data portal:

- Select sections using attributes of your interest
- View the data using several available features
- Download data by selecting the desired tables and file format.
- Click here for a quick help video.

Section ID
MnROAD data is presented by Section ID. Section ID is composed of the cell the study is in, which have the

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MnROAD Key Projects

- **Rigid Pavement** – can build thinner
- **Flexible Pavement** – environment plays a key role
- **Flexible** – MnPAVE (Inputs into PavementME)
- **Rigid** – MnPAVE Rigid
- **Concrete Overlay of Asphalt**

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Low Temperature Cracking Initial Findings

- 1994 MnROAD Test Sections (PG 64-22, PG 58-28)

5-Year (PG 58-28)
Thin

10-Year (PG 58-28)
Thick

10-Year (PG 64-22)
Thick

- 1999 LVR (PG 58-28, 58-34, 58-40)

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Seasonal Load Limits Spring Restrictions / Winter Overloads

MnROAD Data/Models Statewide Implementation

Monitoring Sites Installed around the State

MnDOT Website

Spring Thaw

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Importance of Drainage

Asphalt



- Deterioration asphalt
- Increased roughness (ride)

Concrete

- ML Observations (high traffic)
 - None - PASB used
 - Some - Class-5 / well sealed joints / edge drain
 - High amount - Class-5 / no edge drains
- LVR Observations (low traffic)
 - If sealed class-5 is not as destructive
 - If not-sealed class-5 can develop joint damage

Benefits

- Importance of drainable bases / sealing
- Effect on ride

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MnROAD / NCAT Partnership

Formalized Partnership working on National Needs:

- Full scale accelerated test facilities
- North / South Climatic Zones / Sections
- CAPRI (NCAT Lead National HMA Consortium)

Cracking Group Experiments


- o 6 year of partnership with 10 Government Agencies
- o HMA cracking test for LTC and fatigue cracking


Additive Group Experiment

- NCAT focus on fatigue cracking
- MnROAD focus on Reflective Cracking
- Continued National Research Coordination


Preservation Group Experiments

- Life extending benefits of pavement preservation techniques
- 8 year of partnership with over 24+ agencies
- Developing next phase – starting in January 2024



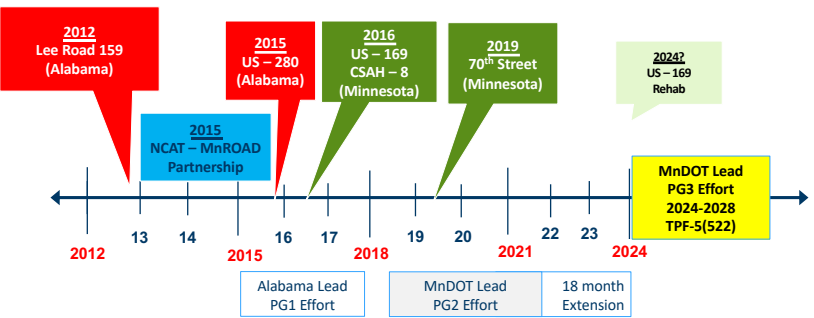


Foundation for Pavement Preservation
Industry members
FHWA



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Preservation Group Study



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NCAT/MnROAD Preservation Group (PG) Effort (Northern In-Place Recycling – 70th Street)

2019 Construction (Thinlays over)

- Control (no other work)
- SFDR (foam-emulsion)
- CIR (foam-emulsion)
- CCPR (foam-emulsion)
- 2 Regular Mill/Fills

2 Year Observations

- Ride (IRI)
 - 2019 IRI over 300 in/mi
 - 2021 IRI 60-100 in/mi
- Reflective Cracking
 - Difference in controls and recycled sections cracking
- Rutting – not an issue




1 Mile
16 Test Sections

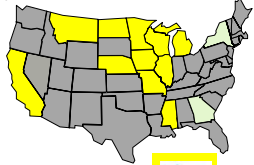

70th Street (Control)	(S00001) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00002) 1" Thinlay w/ SFDR	(S00003) 1" Thinlay w/ CIR	(S00004) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00005) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00006) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00007) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00008) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00009) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00010) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00011) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00012) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00013) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00014) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00015) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	(S00016) 1" Thinlay w/ CCPR	2020 Recon/Rehab
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National Road Research Alliance Membership Overview




- TPF-5(466) - Fee Structure / year (five years)**
- **Phase-1 complete (5 yr) – Now into Phase-2 (year 2/5)**
- **13 Full Agency Commitments (yellow)**
 - \$75K /\$150K Annual Commitment
 - 11 States, Illinois Tollway, LRRB
 - FHWA is also a contributing partner
- **2 ICT Commitments (Green)**
 - \$25K (ICT Team only – Veta Efforts)
 - GA and NY
- **~85+ Associate membership**
 - 2K/year - Associations, Industry, Consultants, Universities
 - Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute

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National Road Research Alliance Overview



- **NRRRA has averaged ~\$1 million research/year**
- **NRRRA Funded 48 projects (phase1) and 14+13 (phase2)**
 - Short and long term research
 - Multiple Researchers Contracted
- **2023 Call for Innovation ~\$1.7 million**
 - 55 Proposals Received
 - 22 Proposals Prioritized by the Technical Teams
 - **13** Projects being funded (counted above)
 - TAP being developed
 - TAP finalize workplans
 - MnDOT contracting
- **2017 & 2022 MnDOT provided MnROAD construction funding**
- **2024 MnROAD is expecting on 1 million in mainline construction funding**



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National Road Research Alliance Overview

- **Organizational Structure**
 - Executive Committee (2 reps/agency)
 - 5 Technical Teams (agency and associate reps)
 - Technical Chairs
 - MnDOT Representative
 - MnROAD Facility Utilized
 - Outreach is done in the technical teams
 - Lauren Dao, MnDOT

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National Road Research Alliance (Flexible Technical Team Membership)

Caltrans Kee Foo* Raghubar Shrestha*	Michigan Andrew Bennet Tyler Hunt Kevin Kennedy Nathan Maack*	Minnesota LRRB James Foldesi*	Nebraska Bruce Barrett* Lieska Halsey Wally Heyen Robert Rea Brandon Varilek	Wisconsin Ali Arabzadeh* Dan Kopacz* Tirupan Mandal Ali Morovatdar Barry Paye*
FHWA Peter Eakman	Minnesota Michael Vrtis, MnDOT	Mississippi Heath Patterson* Griffin Sullivan*	Missouri Jason Blomberg* Paul Denkler Willie Johnson* Dan Oesch	North Dakota Curt Dunn, chair Andy Ayash Amy Beise Brandon Bennes Matt Kurle Matt Linneman Arlen Norris Korby Seward Tyler Wollmuth*
Illinois Brian Hill* James Trepanier Charles Wienrank*	Illinois Tollway Jay Behnke* Ross Bentsen* John Lavallee	Montana Josh Heck* Oak Metcalfe* Matt Needham	Iowa Chris Brakke* Ashley Buss*	

* indicates voting agency member

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National Road Research Alliance (Flexible Technical Team Associate Membership)

<p>Mohiuddin Ahmad, University of Texas-El Paso (UTEP) Riaz Ahmad, ENGINEERING Corporation Allen Akowicz, Pacific Geosource Edith Arambula, Texas A&M Transportation Institute Jason Bausano, Ingevity Thomas Bennett, Rutgers University Jay Bianchini, Collaborative Aggregates Justin Black, Cargill Andrea Blanchette, Terracon Brandon Brewer, Minnesota Asphalt Pavement Association (MAPA) Tom Brovold, Tietzqto Bill Buttar, University of Missouri - Columbia Mike Byrnes, Matthy Construction Co. Douglas Carlson, Liberty Tire Recycling Eshan Dave, University of New Hampshire Jonathan Davis, Uberbinder Mohamed Elkashaif, University of California Pavement Research Center Amy Eggs Martin, Texas A&M Transportation Institute Rouzbeh Ghabchi, South Dakota State University Oliver Giraldo-Londono, University of Missouri - Columbia Steve Girdler, Payne & Dolan Jonathan Greeger, ENGINEERING Corporation Fan Gu, NCAT Elie Haji, University of Nevada - Reno Bill Hall, Resource Recycling Systems Katie Haslett, H&G Lab Majeed Hayat, Marquette University David J. Jones, University of California Pavement Research Center Dennis Kelley, J. Rettenmaier USA LP Lev Khazanovich, University of Pittsburgh Candice Kohn, Pacific Geosource</p>	<p>Erin Kutay, Michigan State University Brett Lambden, Husky Energy Fabrício Leiva, Pacific Geosource Chad Longcore, J. Rettenmaier USA LP Rajih Mallick, UTEP Todd Mansell, Caterpillar Paving Products Mihal Marsteanu, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities Ken Meser, Infrasec Luke Meyer, Bio-Based Spray Systems Daniel Mirzayanzadeh, Solmax Kiran Mohanna, The Transite Group Pete Montenegro, Collaborative Aggregates Raquel Morales, NCAT Chibulue Gibbs, Terracon Eric Olson, Solmax Brian Orr, BASF Andrew Peterson, South Dakota State's Local Transportation Program Hadi Rashidi, National Stone Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA) Dave Rettner, American Engineering Testing Farhad Reza, Minnesota State University - Mankato Roger Roberts, CSSI Mohammad Reza Sabouri, Braun Intertec Baris Salman, Syracuse University Michael Scardina, Surface Tech Nick Schaefer, Sorbus Systems and Instruments, Inc. (SSI) Debbie Schweerman, Wisconsin Asphalt Pavement Association Jo Siao, University of New Hampshire Dan Staebell, Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) Dave Stanczak, Asphalt Materials, Inc. Brandon Strand, Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA) Nabil Suleiman, University of North Dakota Hassan Tabatabaee, Cargill</p>	<p>Cheng Thao, Payne & Dolan Chris Theriot, Resource Recycling Systems Kim Tolmann, Hardives Derek Tompkins, American Engineering Testing Feng Wang, Texas State University Hao Wang, Rutgers University Randy West, National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) Jason Wielinski, ARRA R. Chris Williams, Asphalt Materials & Paving Program (Iowa State) Richard Willis, National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) Trey Wurst, Ingevity Jett Yang, Uberbinder Fan Yin, NCAT Hao Yin, Horizon Engineering Consulting Zhangping You, Michigan Tech Transportation Institute Fujie Zhou, Texas A&M Transportation Institute</p>
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2022 MnROAD Construction Overview

Main theme from NRRA: Sustainability and Resilience

What new materials will help meet future sustainability guidelines?



45 New Test Sections

- 4 – In-Place Recycling
- 4 – Preventive Maintenance
- 6 – PCC Innovative Patching / Diamond Grinding
- 16 – PCC Reduced Cement
- 1 – PCC WIM area
- 2 – PCC Recycled Fiber
- 2 – HMA Perpetual Pavement
 - 1 of 2 with Wicking Geotextile
- 10 – Reflective Cracking Challenge

Partners Donated Materials

- CAT – HMA Milling
- Geotextile Fabric
- VRAM – J-Band
- CIR Rejuvenator Donation

MnDOT Furnished Materials

- HMA Plant Mix Furnished (~1/2 mixes)
 - Additive Suppliers
- PCC Plant Mix Furnished (all mixes)
 - Additive Suppliers

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NRRA Flexible Team – Synthesis + 2017 Projects


- 2017 Projects
 - **Developing Best Practices for Rehabilitation of Concrete with Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Overlays related to Density and Reflective Cracking**
 - University of New Hampshire (Complete)
 - **Cold Central Plant Recycling (CCPR)**
 - AET (Complete)
- 2017 Synthesis
 - **Longitudinal Joint Construction Performance**
 - SRF (Complete)
 - **Tack Coats**
 - SRF (Complete)
- 2019 Synthesis/Projects
 - **Mix Rejuvenator Synthesis (Phase 1)**
 - WSB (Complete)
 - **Cold Asphalt Recycling Technologies using Rejuvenating Asphalt Emulsion: Impact, Implementation, Specification**

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NRRA Mix Rejuvenator Study


- 7 products included in 2019
- mill/inlay job
- Northern Minnesota (Emily, MN)
- RAP content increased to 40%
- Mfgs. asked to target xx-34 (original 58-28)
- Measuring long-term:
 - Field performance, asphalt binder + mix properties,
- Funded for additional 4 years!



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NCAT Additive Group -Surface HMA Mix Details

- **10 Sections with differing surface HMA**
 - Controls
 1. PG 58H -34 (modified)
 2. PG 58S -28 (unmodified)
 3. PG ~49 -34 (unmodified)
 - Additive Sections
 4. Aramid Fiber 1 w/ PG 58H -34 (modified)
 5. Aramid Fiber 2 w/ PG 58H -34 (modified)
 6. Dry Plastic Additive w/ PG ~49 -34
 7. Dry Rubber Additive w/ PG ~49 -34
 8. Wet Plastic Additive
 9. Wet Rubber Additive
 - Super Pave 5.0
 10. PG 58V -34 (modified) (NRRR)



- **All mixes contain**
 - MnDOT Traffic Level 5 (10<30 mESALS)
 - Superpave Gyrotory BMD
 - ¾" Max Agg (SP 12.5mm)
 - 20% RAP

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NRRR Flexible Team - Newly funded projects for 2023


- **Continued Monitoring of Original I-94 Westbound Asphalt Overlay Sections and Use of Cracking and Performance Data MRCC Project**
 - University of New Hampshire
- **Mix Rejuvenator Test Sections (Phase 2)**
 - University of New Hampshire
- **Field Validation of Using Warm Mix Asphalt at Reduced Production Temperatures for Balanced Mix Design**
 - NCAT and Ingevity
- **Materials-Based Methods to Improve Rumble Strip Durability**
 - Asphalt Materials, Inc., Heritage Research Group, Behnke Materials Engineering
 - (co-sponsored with PM Team)
- **Standardization of SIP Calculation for Hamburg Wheel Tracking Test**
 - NCAT

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NRRR Spray-Applied Rejuvenator Study

- **12 different products applied in 2021**
- **Applied at 3 locations**
 - MnROAD 58-28 (50')
 - MnROAD 58-34 (50')
 - St. Michael (500')
- **Measuring long-term:**
 - Friction, paint reflectivity, permeability, asphalt binder
- **Over 1,500 cores taken in first 2 years of study**




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National Road Research Alliance (ICT Technical Team Projects)

Levels 3-4 Intelligent Compaction Measurement Values (ICMV) for Soils Subgrade/Aggregate Subbase Compaction	Transtec Group
Support Importing, Viewing and Analysis of Dielectric Constant Data in Veta (paid by Veta pooled fund)	Transtec Group
HD and VHD Seismic Approaches for Roadway Evaluation	Park Consulting
Asphalt Real Time Smoothness (ARTS) for Asphalt Paving	Transtec Group
Veta Web and Veta MDMS Standardized Platform	Transtec Group
InfoPAVE MnROAD Database Support and Development	i-Engineering
Effective Use of Traffic Speed Deflectometer for Network-based and Project-based Applications	UTEP
Establishing Applicability of NDT Methods for Project-Level Evaluation	UTEP
E-Ticketing	SRF


- **Veta Software** TPF-5(334) now NRRR
- HMA Rolling Patterns
- Paver Operations / IR Temperature Bar
- 3D GPR / Rolling Density Meter



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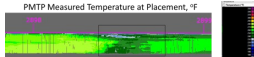
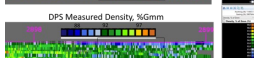
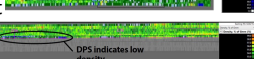
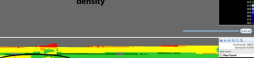
DPS National Pooled Fund Program




DPS Contacts - Materials & Road Research - MnDOT

Continuous Asphalt Mixture Compaction Assessment Using Density Profiling System (DPS) [TPF-5(443)]



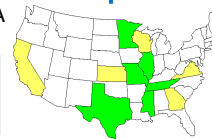
- Objective:** Use the DPS method to improve asphalt pavement density
 - Increased coverage and comprehensiveness of assessment
 - Timely information to improve construction process
 - Reduce coring
- Lead Agency:** MnDOT
 - Contact: Kyle Hoegh, kyle.hoegh@state.mn.us (MnDOT)
- Committed agencies:** MN, FHWA, GA, ID, MD, ME, MO, MS, ND, NY, OH, PADOT, UT, WA, WI
- Commitment level:** \$25K/year





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Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-Destructive testing

TPF-5(504): Continuous Bituminous Pavement Stripping Assessment Through Non-Destructive testing (4 years)

- Objective:** Develop testing and analysis procedures for automatic detection and rating of stripped section for project and network level pavement evaluations
- Lead Agency:** MnDOT
 - Contact: Eyoab Zegeye, eyoab.zegeye@state.mn.us (MNDOT)
- Committed agencies:** MN, IL, MO, TN, MS, TX, GA & FHWA
- Pending:** CA, KS, WI, VA and IN
- 100% SP&R Approval:** Approved
- Commitment level:** \$25K/year

SCAN US

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“MnROAD Construction Prospects”

Fall of 2023

- Wisconsin Perpetual Pavement Installation (done)
- Local Reflective Cracking Experiment - 4 Cells on the LVR (31,77,78,79)
- Unbound Water Repellency – NRRA/NSF effort – 2 Cells (NW corner of the LVR)

2024

- HMA Stripping Calibration Sections – Pooled Fund – 12 Cells (LVR service road)
- 11 Mainline Test Sections (Open)
 - NRRA Cement Alternatives
 - NRRA Thick Lift HMA




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Questions / Comments

Working together you can be a part of something bigger than yourself

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How to get involved?

- TPF-5(466) NRRA Membership
- TPF-5(TBD) NCAT 2024 Test Track
- TPF-5(522) PG3 Pavement Preservation
- TPF-5(443) Density Profile System
- TPF-5(504) Non-Destructive Testing
- Research Pays off Webinars (free)

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