

TPF-5(178) Implementation of the Asphalt Mixture Performance Tester (AMPT) for Superpave Validation

Report for Quarter Ending September 30, 2008

Prepared by: Audrey Copeland (Audrey.Copeland@dot.gov), FHWA Technical Liaison

Summary of Progress

- ✓ Eighteen States and FHWA have committed over \$1.5 million to participate in this study. *The study is on-going and participants are welcome to join at any time.*
- ✓ Three partner States (FL, UT, and VA) are not purchasing the equipment as part of this study since they already own one or more AMPTs. However, they are contributing a reduced amount to the study to benefit from the National Training Course and participate in experimental studies.
- ✓ One state, CT, has committed an additional \$75,000 to the study in order to purchase two AMPTs.
- ✓ An email was sent to study participants on 9/4/2008 requesting participants to transfer their 2008 funding commitment to the lead agency, FHWA. CO, FL, IL, UT, WY and WI have already transferred a portion or all of their funds. The study currently has authorized \$230,000.
- ✓ An article describing the AMPT and the pooled fund study was featured in FOCUS magazine in July 2008. The article can be found here: <http://www.tfhrc.gov/focus/july08/01.htm>.
- ✓ FHWA, in cooperation with the National Highway Institute (NHI), awarded the contract for the development of the AMPT National Training Course on 9/9/2008 to Applied Research Associates, Inc (ARA). ARA is partnering with Advanced Asphalt Technologies (AAT) and the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) to develop and deliver the AMPT National Training Course.
- ✓ A kick-off meeting for the AMPT National Training Course development was held on 9/30/2008. The contractor, ARA and AAT, and the FHWA/NHI technical panel participated and the course outline has been approved.
- ✓ Quotes and information have been solicited and received from manufacturers to begin the equipment procurement process. There are three manufacturers of the AMPT equipment: IPC Global (distributed in the US by Instrotek, Inc.), Interlaken, and Tissue Growth Technologies.

Planned Activities

Next Quarter (October through December 2008):

- Study partners should transfer their 2008 and 2009 funding commitments to the lead agency, FHWA.
- The FHWA Office of Pavement Technology will work with the FHWA Office of Acquisition Management to formally develop the Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure AMPT equipment for each study participant.
- The High Level Design and Preliminary Lesson Plans for the AMPT National Training Course will be submitted by ARA, Inc. and approved by FHWA.

Future Activities:

- AMPT equipment will be delivered to study participants in 2009 and 2010.
- The pilot for the AMPT National Training Course will be held in fall of 2009.

Problems Encountered

None