

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

Report for Quarter Ending December 31, 2009

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Summary of Progress

- ✓ FHWA, twenty-one states, and the Ministry of Transportation in Ontario, Canada have committed over \$2 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 (\$30,000) 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.
- ✓ FHWA, AL, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, KS, ME, NH, NY, Ontario MOT, OR, PA, UT, VA, WI and WY have already transferred a portion or all of their funds. The study currently has authorized \$1,092,620.
- ✓ Applied Research Associates, Inc (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.
- ✓ The Technical Walkthrough meeting for the AMPT National Training Course was held November 3-4, 2009 at NCAT in Auburn, AL.
- ✓ The Southeast Asphalt User Producer Group (SEAUPG) has formed an AMPT task group. The first meeting of the task group was held at the SEAUPG Annual Meeting in Hilton Head, SC on November 10, 2009. Adam Taylor of NCAT has volunteered to lead and coordinate the task group. Audrey Copeland of FHWA provided an update of the AMPT pooled fund study at the meeting.
- ✓ The FHWA Office of Acquisition Management has finalized the Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure AMPT equipment for each participant. At this time, nine pieces of equipment are being procured. States that have transferred at least \$70,000 will have their equipment ordered.
- ✓ Continuum Fatigue Damage hardware and software is available as an option on the AMPT equipment. It was decided not to pursue this option for the AMPT

pooled fund purchase at this time due to the fact that it is still very early in the research stage.

Planned Activities

Next Quarter (January through March 2010):

- Study partners should transfer their 2010 funding commitments to the lead agency, FHWA.
- The Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure AMPT equipment for each study participant that has transferred their funds will be released. The RFP can be found at www.fbo.gov, solicitation # DTFH61-10-R-00008.
- John Bukowski will provide an update on the status of the pooled fund study at the Committee for Asphalt Research & Technology (CART) meeting at the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) Annual Meeting.

Future Activities:

- The AMPT National Training Course Pilot is scheduled for May 25-27, 2010 at NCAT in Auburn, AL. Attendees include FHWA's Technical Evaluation Panel, ARA and sub-contractors, and other invited guests.
- The final deliverables for the AMPT National Training Course are due on July 19, 2010. We expect to begin delivering the course to pooled fund study participants and others in fall 2010.
- AMPT equipment will be delivered to study participants in summer and fall 2010.

Problems Encountered

The AMPT National Training Course Technical Walkthrough and Pilot course had to be moved to later dates. This was due to FHWA postponing the procurement of the AMPTs due to waiting on five or more States to transfer enough funds (at least \$70,000 each) to obligate money for the procurement.