

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

Report for Quarter Ending June 30, 2010

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Summary of Progress

- ✓ The FHWA Office of Pavement Technology continues to work with FHWA's Office of Acquisition Management to finalize offers to procure AMPT equipment for pooled fund participants. The final award for the first round of equipment purchases should be made by July 15, 2010.
- ✓ The AMPT National Training Course pilot was held May 26-27, 2010 at NCAT in Auburn, AL. Attendees included FHWA's Technical Evaluation Panel, ARA and sub-contractors (NCAT and AAT), and invited guests from Virginia Transportation Research Council/Virginia DOT, Georgia DOT, Utah DOT, Missouri DOT, North Carolina State University, Asphalt Institute, and Dongre Labs.
- ✓ 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, MD, NH, NY, NC, Ontario MOT, OR, PA, UT, VA, WI and WY have already transferred a portion or all of their funds. The study currently has authorized \$1,402,620.
- ✓ 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 (July through September 2010):

- Study partners should continue to transfer their 2010 funding commitments to the lead agency, FHWA.
- The final deliverables for the AMPT National Training Course are due August 15, 2010.
- The first offering of the AMPT National Training Course will be scheduled for September 2010.
- Equipment is expected to begin being delivered to pooled fund participants late summer/early fall 2010.

Future Activities:

- AMPT equipment will continue to be delivered to study participants in fall 2010 through 2011.
- The AMPT National Training Course will also be offered at different dates to coincide with pooled fund participants equipment delivery.

Problems Encountered

The first phase of pooled fund participants' equipment purchases has still not been awarded. It is expected that the award will be made by July 15, 2010. The deadline for the final deliverables for the AMPT National Training Course was pushed back to August 15, 2010 at the contractor's request due to needed modifications to the course content.