

Period Covered: October 1, 2010 Through December 31, 2010 (Quarterly Report)

ALDOT Progress Report for the
State Planning and Research Program

PROJECT TITLE: Superpave Regional Center, Southeastern Region		
PROJECT MANAGER(S): Don Watson and Randy West Ph #: (334) 844-7306	SPR Project No: TPF-5(228) ALDOT Research Project No. 930-763P	Project is: <input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
Annual Budget	Multi Year Project Total Budget for Project: \$507,129.00 Total Cost to Date for Project: \$9,754.29	

OBJECTIVE

Several short-term and long-term objectives of the Superpave Regional Center, Southeastern Region are listed below. Several objectives deal with evaluating recently-developed performance test equipment and conducting research to address materials and tests issues. Some objectives of the Center are:

1. Conduct training in regard to Superpave binders, mix design, and performance testing, and provide training on special topics as requested by participating agencies.
2. Perform research, both cooperatively and agency-specific, sponsored by members of the pooled-fund.
3. Conduct noise studies in an effort to develop quieter pavements.

RESEARCH PERFORMED THIS QUARTER

A Superpave Center Management Committee meeting was held in December in conjunction with the Southeastern Asphalt User/Producer Group (SEAUPG) annual meeting. State sponsors were presented a current financial report that showed each state's balance in the pooled fund and the activities funds were spent on. Research and training activities conducted in 2010 were reported on at the meeting. Attendees were also presented a brief description of several potential research projects to consider for 2011. Comments on the various proposed research activities were made and the items discussed will be followed up on.

Work continued on an accelerated pavement friction study in which the three-wheeled polishing device (TWPD) developed by NCAT is used to polish pavement surfaces. The surface of 36 slabs is then tested with a dynamic friction tester and circular texture meter in increments of 20,000 cycles. Previous research indicated the TWPD results compared very well with the polishing effect of traffic at the NCAT Test Track.

A special training course on Stone Matrix Asphalt (SMA) mix design was developed and conducted at a state agency facility. The course included lectures, class problems, and hands-on laboratory testing.

RESEARCH PLANNED NEXT QUARTER

A final report on the accelerated friction study will be submitted. The objective is to be able to evaluate friction properties of an asphalt mix during the mix design stage in order to avoid problems with low friction after construction.

Follow up will be made on several research ideas discussed at the annual SSC Management Committee meeting.

SIGNIFICANT RESULTS

A total of 15 persons participated in a custom-prepared SMA mix design course. Seven potential research projects were discussed at the annual Management Committee meeting.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED OR ANTICIPATED

No problems have been encountered to date.

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The SMA mix design course was conducted to establish a basis for participants to become certified to perform SMA mix designs acceptable to the state agency.

COST ESTIMATE Total expenses: \$49,622 (7.9% of budget)

TIME USED 42%

STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE

Percentage of work completed to date for total project 1.9 %

Project is: X on schedule behind schedule, explain:

Expected Completion Date: 9/20/12

Please note that this project has continued with renewed requests for services and additional funding obligations and may be extended beyond the current Expected Completion Date listed above.