

Period Covered: October 1, 2008 Through December 31, 2008 (Quarterly Report)

ALDOT Progress Report for the
State Planning and Research Program

PROJECT TITLE: Southeastern Superpave Center		
PROJECT MANAGER(S): Don Watson and Randy West Ph #: (334) 844-6857	SPR Project No: TPF-5(037) ALDOT Research Project No. 930-370P/4-21346	Project is: <input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
Annual Budget	Multi Year Project Total Budget for Project: \$2,670,117.00 Total Cost to Date for Project: \$2,030,148.94	

Several projects are being conducted by the Southeastern Superpave Center. A summary of the projects is listed below.

1. **Training** - Don Watson

A total of 6 technician certification classes (2-Radiation Safety, 2- Roadway Tech, 1- Asphalt Level 1, and 1- Aggregate Technology) have been taught for ALDOT this quarter. Although ALDOT did not have anyone attend the Aggregate Technology course, there were enough contractor/producer technicians interested that the course was held as scheduled. In addition, there were two instances where ALDOT needed a single technician certified and that was done on a one-on-one basis as a courtesy to ALDOT at no cost.

There was an asphalt binder course taught that was attended by ALDOT laboratory technicians, and a special course to provide training on infrared cameras was attended by three ALDOT personnel.

A Superpave Mix Design course was conducted for Utah DOT at their state laboratory facilities in Salt Lake City. Ten technicians/engineers were certified through the course that included classroom and laboratory hands-on sessions.

2. **4.75 mm Study** – Randy West

Eight states have agreed to participate in a study to further develop a 4.75 mm Mix. The study will refine and field validate the mix design procedure and specification criteria. The work will include two phases: a laboratory phase to refine the design criteria, and a field validation through construction of experimental test sections.

The contract is being extended to provide time to report on the 2008 projects.

3. ***M-E pavement Design Input Values*** – Dave Timm

This study will look at input values for MEPDG and determine the sensitivity of the design procedure using materials available to ALDOT. The research has developed software information that will clarify terminology, sources of inputs, etc. and will begin evaluating the sensitivity of the inputs.

4. ***Warm Mix*** – Andrea Kvasnak

Several projects throughout the U.S. are being constructed for agencies and contractors who want to get more familiar with the various warm mix technologies being used. Test projects have been visited in Alabama, Georgia, and Colorado and other states have expressed an interest in test sections as well. A visual evaluation was recently completed of the Colorado project which is now a year old. A draft report is being prepared based on the annual review.

5. ***Bond Strength*** - Nam Tran

This study will evaluate the bond strength of several different tack coat materials. The research study includes evaluation of bond strength between various layers from roadway cores as well as making laboratory samples for evaluation. Tack coats will include different emulsions and asphalt cement.

6. ***Newsletter*** – Don Watson

Work is underway to prepare a newsletter for the Superpave Center that will discuss research activities, research findings, Expert Task Group recommendations, upcoming activities and events, and training opportunities provided by NCAT. Articles have been submitted to Purdue University for publishing and distribution of the newsletter.

Work to be Performed next Report Period

The Southeast Superpave Center will continue to work on the above listed projects until they are complete.

- ◆ Training sessions and training needs are being evaluated and plans are continuing to be developed for the coming year. A schedule for ALDOT training courses for FY'09 has been prepared and is available on the NCAT website at www.ncat.us. NCAT will continue working on a program of national technician qualification. An asphalt binder course is planned for March 16-19 and a Superpave mix design course is planned for March 23-26, 2009.
- ◆ Work will continue on the 4.75 mm Mix study.

- ◆ Noise studies will continue to be performed on the quiet pavement test sections of the NCAT Test Track and for other states that express an interest.
- ◆ Additional documentation will be provided for warm mix projects as they are constructed.
- ◆ Forensic testing will be conducted as needed.
- ◆ Several states have expressed an interest in higher RAP mixes. NCAT is working on an NCHRP study as well as a structural study involving high RAP percentages. Agencies will be kept informed of results from these studies.

STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE

Percentage of work completed to date for total project 77.48 %

Project is:

X on schedule behind schedule, explain:

Expected Completion Date: June 30, 2009

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.