



Asphalt Mix Optimization for Airfield Pavements

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Outline

- A bit of history
- Marshall method
- Superpave method
- Airfield Asphalt Pavement Technology Program (AAPTP)
- DBA study for GTAA

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A Bit of History

- Use of the AK specifications
- Based on Marshall method
- Shift to the use of Provincial specifications
 - Ease of material supply in different provinces
- Problem is that not all provinces use same standards leading to differing performance

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The Marshall Method

- History
 - Developed by Bruce Marshall in late 1930's for Mississippi Highway Department
 - Further modified in 1943 for WWII
 - Adopted as typical design method in 1949
 - Worked well as a design method into the 1980's
- Problems
 - Wheel loading began to increase
 - Traffic on roads began to increase
 - Highways started to fail prematurely

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Superpave

- Developed in response to pressures on the US highway system
- Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP), authorized by Congress in 1987
- A highly focused, \$150 million, 5-year effort designed to improve the performance of highway materials and highway maintenance practices with 2 subsequent extensions
- Adopted by all states within a few years (funded)

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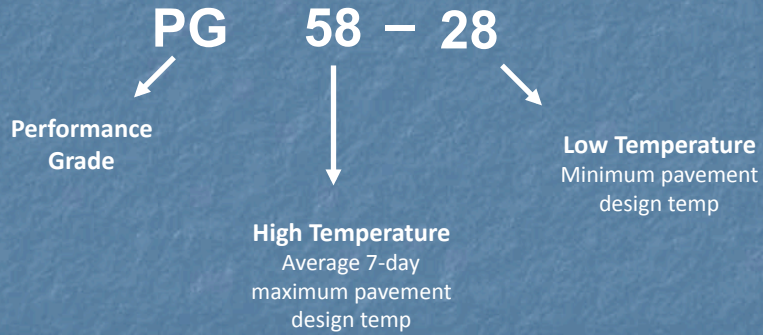
Superpave Mix Design System

- Use Performance Graded AC:
 - Selection of PGAC based on weather and traffic conditions at site
- Use Superpave Mix Design:
 - Perform Gyrotory compaction based on traffic loading at site
- Superpave is still a work in progress
 - No accepted and validated performance test
 - Asphalt Mixture Performance Tester (AMPT)

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PG Grading System for Asphalt Cement



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LTPPBIND Software

The screenshot shows the LTPPBIND Software interface. It includes the LTPP logo, the LTPPBIND logo (Version 2.1, July 1, 1999), and the Department of Transportation logo. The text describes the software's purpose: determining SUPERPAVE Performance Grades based on LTPP and SHRP Pavement Temperature Models and Data from 7328 Weather Stations in North America. It also provides the contact information for the Federal Highway Administration, Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, 6300 Georgetown Pike, HRDI-13, McLean, VA 22101-2296. A button labeled 'Click here to continue' is visible at the bottom.

LTPP

LTPPBIND
(Version 2.1, July 1, 1999)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A Software For:
Determining SUPERPAVE Performance Grades
Based on LTPP and SHRP Pavement Temperature Models
and Data from 7328 Weather Stations in North America

Provided by:
Federal Highway Administration
Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center
6300 Georgetown Pike, HRDI-13
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Click here to continue

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<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/ltpb/bind/download.cfm>

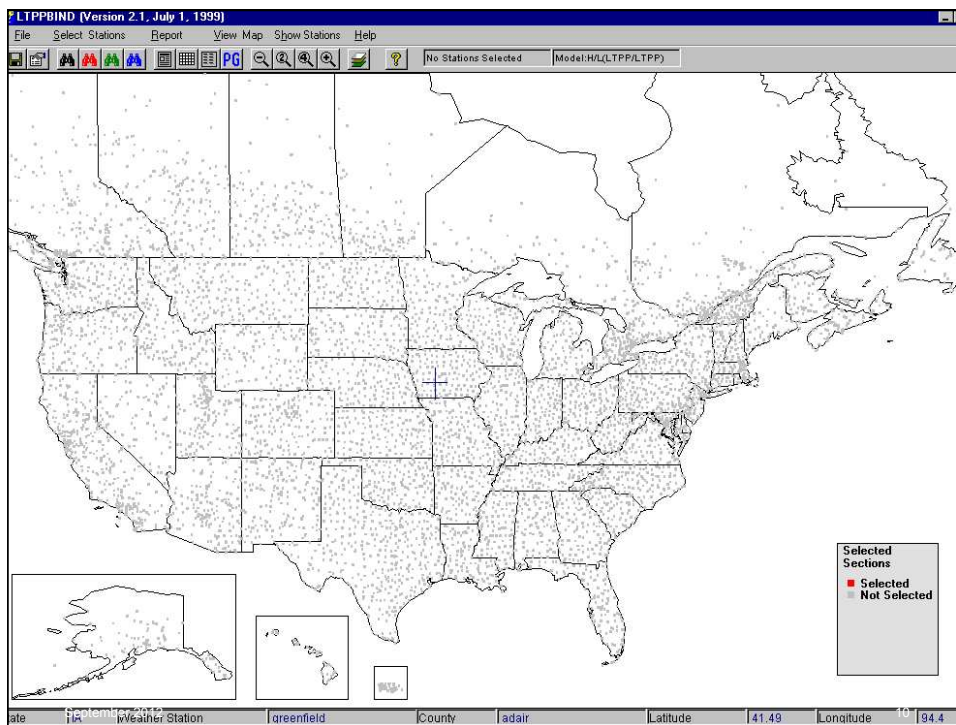
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LTPPBIND Software

- Determines Superpave PG Grades for any area
- Uses pavement temperature models
- Algorithms convert air to pavement temperature
 - Canadian contribution to SHRP through C-SHRP
- Based on over 8000 weather stations
- Uses reliability model (risk) to give 2 temperatures
 - Average 7 day high temperature
 - Lowest Temperature

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Superpave Mix Design

- Selected design ESAL's will govern:
 - Coarse & Fine Aggregate Quality
 - Consensus properties – aggregate angularity (course and fine)
 - Higher traffic requires higher quality
 - Closer to surface requires higher quality
 - Gyrotory compaction
 - $N_{\text{initial}} < 89\%$ (>11 % Voids)
 - $N_{\text{design}} = 96\%$ (= 4 % Voids)
 - $N_{\text{max}} < 98\%$ (> 2 % Voids)

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Superpave vs. Marshall



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Superpave vs. Marshall



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Airfield Asphalt Pavement Technology Program (AAPTP)

- FAA sponsored Research program carried out at Auburn University (same location as NCAT)
- Several research reports on using Superpave highway specifications for airport work
- Program was suspended in 2010 but reports still online
- Still delivering webinars
- Website – www.aaptp.us

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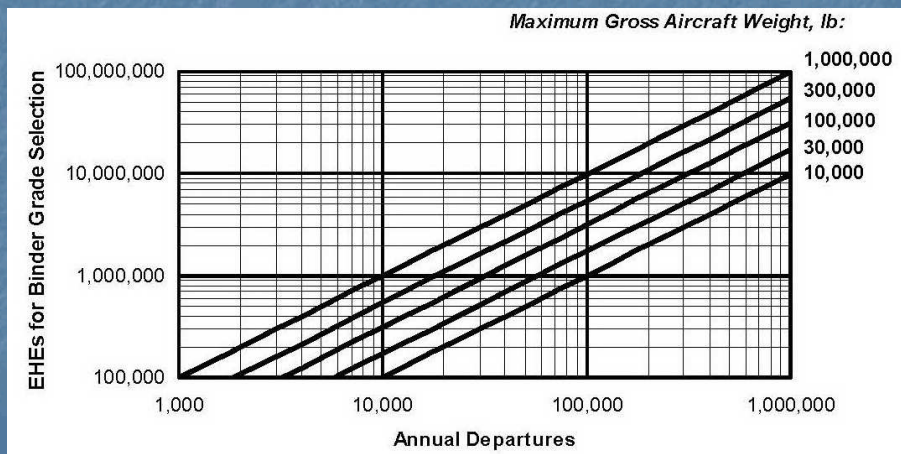
PG Binder Grade Selection for Airfield Pavements (04-02)

- Determine EHE (Equivalent Highway ESALs)
- Method of evaluating loading on airfield as compared to pavements
 - Tire pressure
 - Wander (Pass-to-Coverage Ratio)
- Use of polymers – recommended in some cases due to stacking issues

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Equivalent Highway ESALs (EHE)



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Recommendations

| Aircraft Stacking | Typical Speed (mph) | | Design Traffic EHEs | Grade Adjustment (°C) | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| | Runway Centers | Taxiways/ Runway Ends | | Non-Modified Binders | Polymer Modified Binders* |
| None | ≥ 45 | 15 to < 45 | < 300,000 | 0 | |
| Little or none | ≥ 45 | 15 to < 45 | 300,000 to < 3 million | +7 | Not Required +4 |
| | | | 3 million to < 10 million | +7 | Suggested +4 |
| | | | ≥ 10 million | – | Required +4 |
| Occasional | – | 5 to < 15 | < 10 million | +14 | Suggested +11 |
| | | | ≥ 10 million | – | Required +11 |
| Frequent | – | < 5 | Any | – | Required +17 |

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Implementation of Superpave Mix Design for Airfield Pavements (04-03)

- Three volume report with research comparing standard P-401 mixes to determine compatibility with Superpave
- 90% of North American runways are asphalt
- Looked at gradation and increased fines to reduce permeability
- Concerns about higher tire pressures but generally found that SGC produced higher densities

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Recommendations

Table 40: Recommended Volumetric Properties For Selecting Optimum Asphalt Binder

| Tire Pressure (psi) | N _{design} Gyration | Required Relative Density, (% G _{mm}) | | Voids in the Mineral Aggregate (VMA) (% Max) | | | | VFA Range (%) | Dust to Binder Ratio |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|------|------|-------|---------------|----------------------|
| | | N _{initial} | N _{design} | Maximum Aggregate Size | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 1/2" | 1" | 3/4" | 1/2" | | |
| <100 | 50 | ≤90.5 | 96.0 | 12.0 | 13.0 | 14.0 | 15.0 | 70-80 | 0.6-1.2 |
| 100 to 200 | 65 | | | | | | | 65-78 | |
| >200 | 80 | ≤89.0 | | | | | 65-75 | | |

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DBA Study for GTAA

- Concerns
 - Rutting and shoving in holding areas
 - Loss of friction
- Looked at typical GTAA mix specifications
- Looked at P-401 gradation mixes
 - FAA Brief 59A (May 2006)
- Looked at Marshall vs Superpave Gyratory for compaction
- Looked at some new asphalt binder technologies

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Mixes studied

- Asphalt Cement Binder
 - PGAC 70-28 PMA + with Sasobit – MSCR testing at 58°C
- Reference GTAA Mixes – Marshall compaction
 - Surface (12.5 mm)
 - HDBC Binder (~16.0 mm)
- Superpave mixes
 - SP 12.5
 - SP 12.5 with 15% RAP + with Sasobit
 - SP 19.0 with Sasobit

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Multiple Stress Creep Recovery (MSCR)

- Change in asphalt cement testing for grade bumping

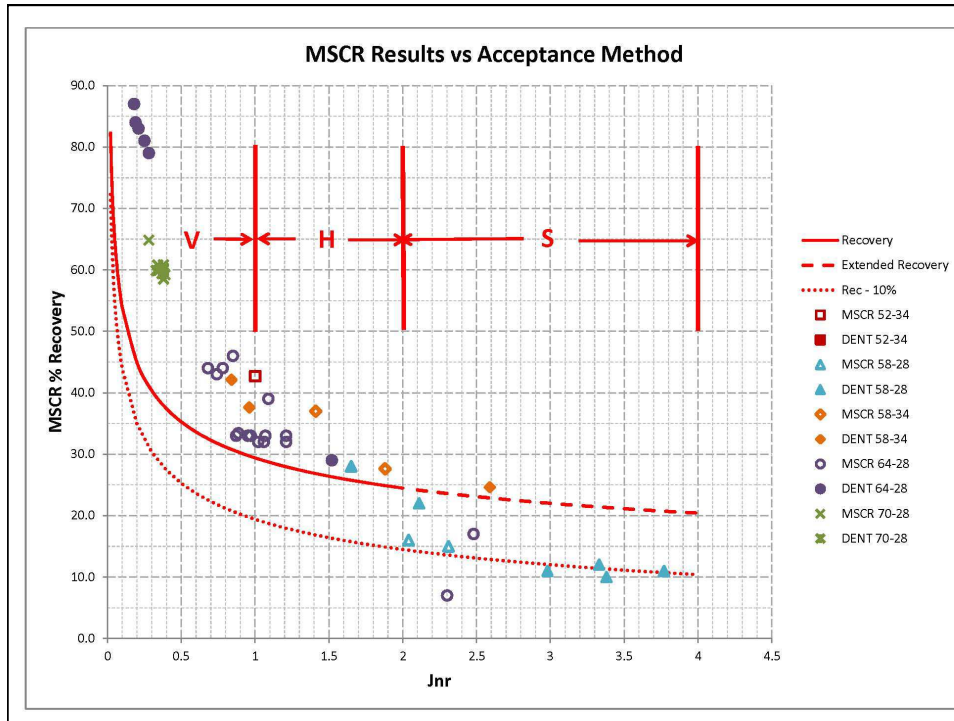
| | | | | |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| M320 | 58 -28 | 64 -28 | 70 -28 | |
| MSCR | 58S -28 | 58H -28 | 58V -28 | 58E -28 |

- Test done in standard DSR
- Run with script – take an additional ~15 min
- Run at two stress levels – 1.0 and 3.2 kPa

| Test | Continuous Grade | MSCR Grade |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|
| PG 70 -28 | 73.4 -32.4 | 58E -28 |
| with 1.5% Sasobit | 76.7 -28.4 | 58E -28 |

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Warm Asphalt – What is it?

- Used to reduce environmental impact but has added construction benefits – compaction aid
- Heating of aggregate greatly reduced so CO₂ reduced, NO_x and SO_x are cut in half and cost reduced
- Many processes
 - Chemical packages to change surface interaction, Organic additives, Foaming (mechanical or admixture), Thiopave
- All run at lower temperature of placement
 - Typically 25°C lower than HMA for same conditions
- Used for airport and highway work in Europe
- Many trials in US and Canada

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Testing Program

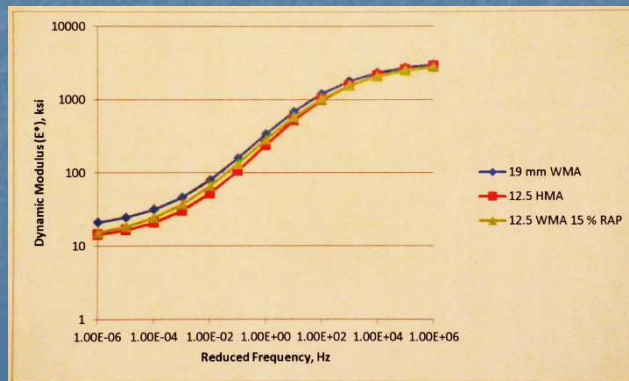
- Aggregate testing
 - Polished Stone Value (PSV)
- Mix Performance Testing
 - AMPT Dynamic Modulus – stiffness
 - AMPT Flow Number – rutting
 - Compactability and Coating – WMA mix design
 - Asphalt Pavement Analyser (APA) – rutting

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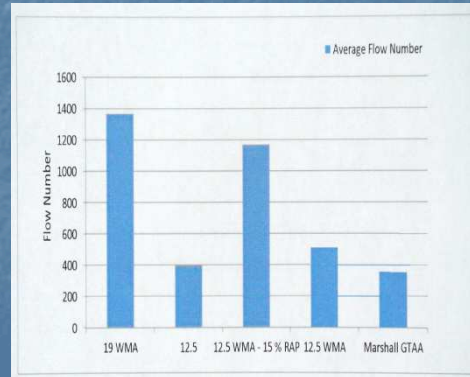
Results

- AMPT testing
 - RAP stiffer than no RAP
 - 19 mm WMA stiffer than 12.5 mm



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- Flow number is better (less likely to rut) for the WMA mixes and the surface mix with RAP
- Typical GTAA mix has a flow number that is acceptable



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DBA Recommendations

- Asphalt cement grade is acceptable
- Superpave mixes meeting FAA P-401 specifications should perform better than typical GTAA mixes
- The material and experience with Superpave is available in the GTAA area
- Trial projects should be undertaken to look at field performance

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Thank you – Questions?

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Frankfurt Airport - July 2004



Project Details

- Started in April 2003
- 4000-meter-long runway 61 m wide
- 300 incremental construction steps
- All night work to avoid interruptions in service
- Each night they replace 15 m length by full runway width
- Completed over 300 nights
- 60 cm asphalt layer on compacted gravel base and sand subgrade fill
- Low temperature asphalt with Sasobit (wax) in the beginning

■ Later Shell bitumen with a different wax

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Warm Asphalt



Project Details

- 300 people involved in the project every day of production
- 60 of them were on the site during the night – about 35 are working on the site and about 25 are truck drivers
- 425,000 tonnes of asphalt in the contract
- Placed ~150 tonnes of WMA a night
- Because of conduits (runway lighting) and access issues, no paver used for the first lift of 24 cm (conduit diameter – 22 cm)

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Project Details

- Contract requirement – temperature of the pavement surface was not to be higher than 85°C at 06:30 – contractor chose warm mix
- When 150 to 200 m on centre-line were constructed, halted WMA placement for the night and milled surface to a depth of 4 cm
- Repaved full width with SMA surface for smoothness and friction (European Spec – 0/11 [gradation] with PmB 45 [SBS modified binder])
- Total project ~€38 million (~\$62 million Can – 2004)
- Each night ~€ 120,000 (~\$200,000 Can – 2004)

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