

# Development of Full Depth Patching Best Practices

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# Full Depth Patching



# Full Depth Patching BMP

- Current Document
- PIQ Feedback
  - Common Practice in Districts
- Where We're Going

# Why Best Practices Guide?

- SCDOT Pavement Preservation Certification Task Force
- Guidance
  - Project Evaluation
  - Construction
- Pavement Preservation Level 2 Classes

# Full Depth Patching BMP

- Activities Prior
- Construction Activities

# Activities Prior

- Condition Assessment
  - Ride the roads:  
“Windshield Survey”
  - Visual evaluation



# How Do Asphalt Pavements Fail

Fatigue



Cracking



Rutting



Shoving



Raveling



Pothole



Bleeding



# How Do Asphalt Pavements Fail

## Cracking

- Thermal Cracking
  - Temperature related
  - Light cracking = seal
  - Severe = remove & replace
- Longitudinal Cracking
  - Joints
    - Lowest density = low tensile strength
  - Wheelpath
    - Caused by heavy loads
  - Once longitudinal joint starts raveling, remove and replace

Thermal



Longitudinal





# How Do Asphalt Pavements Fail

## Cracking

- Block Cracking
  - Temperature related:  
Transverse & Longitudinal
  - Low traffic volumes
  - Lots of infiltrating surface water; once raveling occurs, remove & replace
- Reflective Cracking
  - Typically underlying concrete pavement
  - Evenly spaced
  - Crack mitigator or saw/seal

Block



[www.pavementinteractive.org](http://www.pavementinteractive.org)

Reflective



[www.pavementinteractive.org](http://www.pavementinteractive.org)

# How Do Asphalt Pavements Fail

## Cracking

- Fatigue Cracking
  - Alligator cracking
  - Pavement stressed to the limit of its fatigue life by repetitive axle loading
  - Loads too heavy for pavement structure



Fatigue

# How Do Asphalt Pavements Fail

- Slippage
  - U-shaped
  - Caused by braking
  - Lack of bond; bad tacking
  
- Raveling
  - Loss of bond between liquid asphalt & aggregate particles
  - Becomes safety issue with loose debris

Slippage



Raveling



# Activities Prior

- How is the roadway draining? Fix drainage issues?

“ . . . experience has shown that if water passes through a road and fills the native soil, the road, whatever may be its thickness, loses support and goes to pieces.”

-- John MacAdam (1820)

# Drainage: What Could Go Wrong?

- Stripping of asphalt
- Rutting of unbound layers and subgrade
- Potholes
- Alligator/fatigue crack deterioration
- Pumping of fines

# Drainage: What Could Go Wrong?

- Longitudinal crack deterioration
- Reflective crack deterioration
- Transverse crack deterioration
- Slippage cracking
- Localized settlement (saturated soil)
  
- More discussion later on



**AC section w/ granular  
base in a bathtub**





**AC stripping  
and erosion**



# Drainage: Moisture-Related Damage

- All types of damage can occur simultaneously
- More damage when pavement is saturated (e.g., rainy seasons and spring thaw in northern climates)
- More damage when weakened pavement is subjected to heavy axle loads



# Activities Prior: Drainage



# Drainage, Drainage, Drainage!



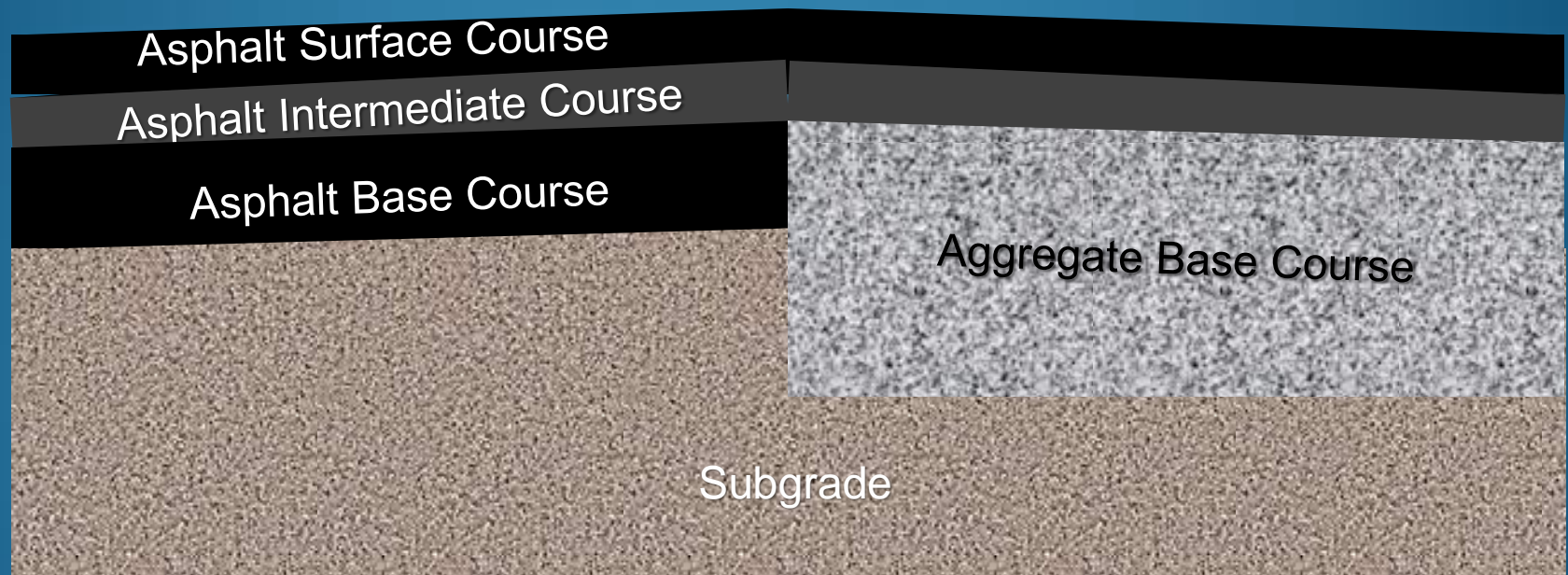
# Activities Prior

- Existing Pavement Structure
  - Coring Available?
    - Visually inspect core for distress
    - How deep are the cracks & are they top-down or full-depth?
    - Get correct depth: Select depth depending on existing structure and condition: 4" to 12" of Full Depth Patching
  - Construction History

# Typical Asphalt Pavement Section

**Asphalt Base Course  
(Full-Depth Asphalt)**

**Aggregate Base Course**



# Typical Patching Mixes

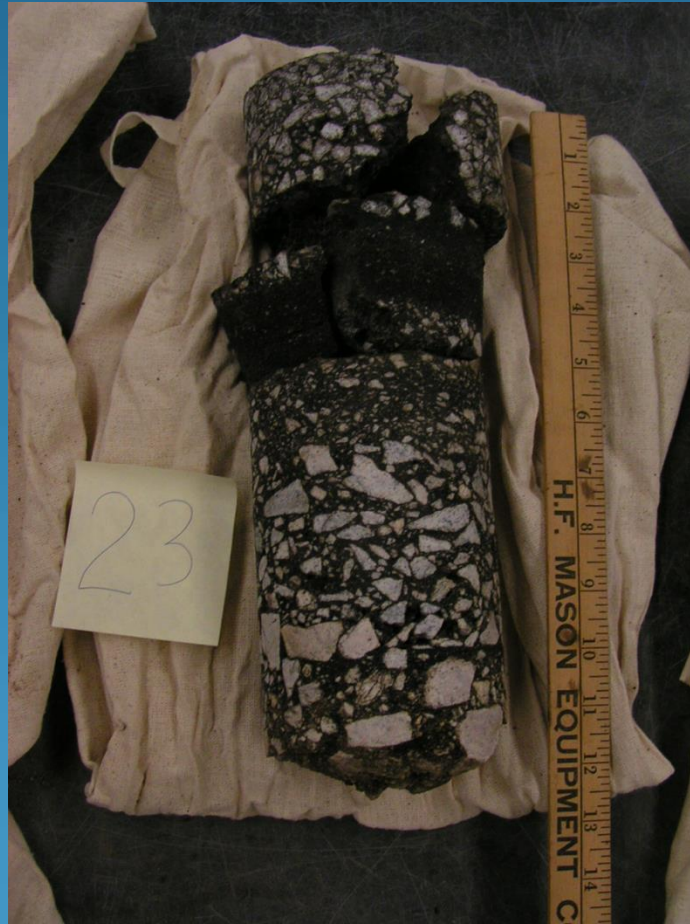
- Intermediate C – Common Mix Used
- Intermediate B Special – Trials Ongoing....

# Coring





# Investigate: Cores







6  
Left

7  
115 + 00

8  
Outside

# Activities Prior

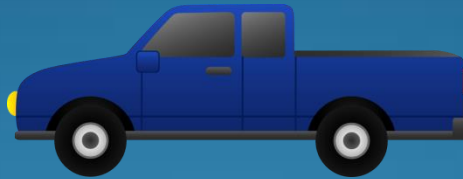
- Existing Pavement Structure
  - Coring Available?
    - Only a few districts have their own coring rig
    - Of those few, a couple use for pre-construction/investigation purposes

# Activities Prior

- Traffic Considerations
  - Where were the traffic counts recorded, and how far are they from the distressed road/area?
- Traffic counts & Estimated % Trucks for Pavement Structure.
  - Equivalent Single Axle Load (ESAL)
- Compensate for truck traffic or heavy wheel load (factories, log trucks, schools)



# Traffic Considerations



# Activities Prior

- Mark the distressed area
  - Who is marking the distresses?
    - Varies from district to district
    - Some maintenance, some construction
  - Per 2007 SCDOT Spec Book:
    - Minimum 6.5 feet of full width, at least 25 feet between patches
    - \*If a deep patch (> 6 inches), increase the width

# Marking Distresses





# Activities Prior

- Gather quantities
- Currently 15% or more distressed area, pavement calculator may recommend CMRB



Via [www.millergroupusa.com](http://www.millergroupusa.com)

# Construction

- Shoulders/ditch filled with vegetation? Remove and improve the drainage
- Mill/Cut/Taper back for ramp to get equipment in (how far?)
  - Let the revealed spot dry out, and determine if you need to go further (shovel or probe?)
- Remove debris/brush and broom the spot
- Tack the sides & the spot (suggested rate?)
- Place mix











09/14/2015

# Construction

- Remove debris
- Brush and broom the spot
- Tack the sides & the spot
  - Ensure enough tack to cover sides, but not too much to bleed through the pavement
- Place mix
  - 3" lifts required on top two lifts
  - 10" Patch – 4"/3"/3"
  - Ambient temperature requirements? None; but ground should not be wet or frozen...









Cracks? =>

Cracks? =>

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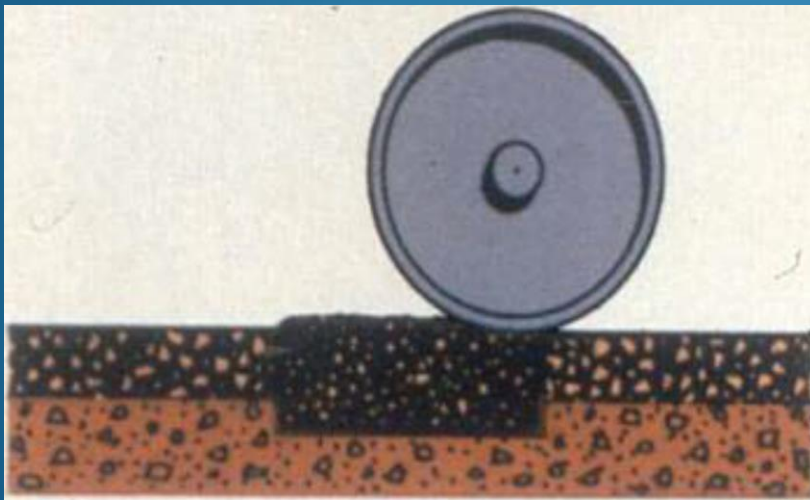




# Construction

- How is it rolled? Vibratory & Pneumatic Rollers
- Is the patch straight-edged? Smooth ride, no dips or bird baths
- Milling is done after patching for smooth ride?
- How long do you leave it before another treatment?
  - Is the patch the final surface?









**There's never time to do it right;  
there's always time to do it over.**



# Looking Down The Road

- For Rehabilitation Activities
  - Define Problem
  - Determine Cause
  - Identify Potential Solutions
  - Select Preferred Solution
  
- More emphasis on the front end!

# Looking Down The Road

- Project Evaluation
  - Traffic
  - Subgrade Conditions
  - Environmental Conditions
- Pavement Evaluation
  - Existing Pavement Structure
  - Soil Conditions
  - Distress Survey

# Looking Down The Road

- Distress Evaluation
  - Types: Not all distresses are created equal!
  - Severity
- Creation of Distress Identification Guide

# Looking Down The Road

- Marking
- Quantity Preparation
- Construction
  
- Provide guidance to promote consistency and better practices for owner and contractor!

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