

TOP 10 LIST

WAYS TO GET MORE DURABLE HMA PAVEMENTS

1 DO YOUR HOMEWORK

Evaluate the existing pavement condition and perform a proper pavement design to determine the appropriate thickness. Select the right mix and PGAC for the project.

2 ENCOURAGE MIXES THAT HAVE HIGHER AC CONTENT

Studies have shown that mixes with higher AC out-perform those with lower AC contents. How to best do this in Ontario needs further evaluation.

3 SPECIFY A FINER GRADATION FOR YOUR MIX TYPE

Finer Superpave mixes will typically have higher AC content and are more durable and less prone to segregation.

4 DON'T OVER HEAT THE MIX

Overheating the mix will result in premature oxidation and cracking. Specifying WMA asphalt may help alleviate these concerns during late season paving.

5 INCLUDE ADEQUATE SURFACE PREPARATION IN THE PLANS

Suitable surface preparation should be allowed for in the contract documents to ensure the construction of smooth roads.

6 ENSURE ADEQUATE BOND

Proper tack coat application ensures that the pavement will perform as designed and mitigate premature cracking. Good tack coating will also improve compaction.

7 PROVIDE PROPER PAVEMENT DENSITY

Compacting the mat to the required specification limits will ensure long term durability, lower oxidation (ageing) and reduced permeability.

8 PRODUCE MIX THAT IS UNIFORM AND CONSISTENT

HMA that is produced to consistently meet the JMF and the specification requirements will perform better.

9 USE RAP RESPONSIBLY

RAP should be utilized in accordance with the contract requirements. For higher percentages of RAP i.e. greater than 15-20 % a softer PGAC should be incorporated in the mix.

10 COMPLETE QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) TESTING AND INSPECTION

Proper QA and inspection conducted by qualified technicians and inspectors should be part of any HMA paving project to ensure long term performance.