Use of High Percentage RAP in HMA

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Outline

- Background
- Objectives
- Research Approach
- Schedule
Background

- Benefits of using RAP in HMA
  - Economics
    - Aggregates
    - Binder
  - Environment
    - Resources
    - Petroleum
    - Landfill
Background

- Status of the use of RAP in HMA

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*Source: FHWA*

*Louisiana did not respond to this question*
Background

Evolution of Design of HMA with RAP

- NCHRP 9-12 (McDaniel et al. 2000)

  Findings

    - Black rock, partial blending or total blending?
    - Increase RAP percentage
      - Increase stiffness of HMA
      - Increase rutting resistance
      - Reduce fatigue resistance
      - Reduce thermal cracking resistance
Background

- Evolution of Design of HMA with RAP
  - NCHRP 9-12 (McDaniel et al. 2000)
    - Mix design method
      - Low RAP Level (15% or lower): no change of PG grade
      - Intermediate RAP Level (15 – 30%): one full grade softer
      - High RAP Level (30 or higher): blending chart
        - \[ T_{\text{virgin}} \times (1 - \text{RAP\%}) + T_{\text{RAP}} \times \text{RAP\%} = T_{\text{cri}} \]
Background

- Evolution of Design of HMA with RAP
  - NCHRP 9-46 (West et al. 2008)
    - Design HMA with 25-50% RAP
    - Test stiffness of blended mix and backcalculate the PG grade.
    - PG grade of RAP binder will not be determined.
Background

- Pavement performance
  - Fatigue
Background

- Pavement performance
  - Rutting
Background

- Pavement performance
  - Thermal Cracking
Background

- Pavement performance
  - Moisture Damage - Raveling

*www.pavementinteractive.com*
Background

- We can not wait for 20 years to see the performance
- Need to determine the performance before pavement with high RAP percentage is built
- Key is to select materials properties from lab to relate to field performance
Background

For fatigue, test methods in the lab can include:

- Stiffness
- Indirect tensile strength
- Beam fatigue
Background

- For fatigue, test methods in the lab can include
  - Fracture work from Indirect tensile test
Background

- For fatigue, test methods in the lab can include
  - Fracture work from Indirect tensile test

Wen H. 2011
Experiments

- Two mixes
  - HMA with 0% RAP
  - HMA with 20% RAP
  - Same gradation and sources of materials
  - PG58-28
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Stiffness
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Stiffness
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Fatigue cracking – fracture work from indirect tensile test at room temperature
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Fatigue cracking
    - 0% RAP mix (10% higher fracture work) is slightly more resistant to 20% RAP mix.
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Rutting (flow number) – repeated load @ high temperature

*NCHRP Report 465*
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Rutting (flow number)
    - 118 (0% RAP) vs. 114 (20% RAP), no difference
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Fatigue cracking – fracture work from indirect tensile test at 14°F
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Thermal cracking
    - 0% RAP mix (13% higher fracture work) is more resistant to thermal cracking than the 20%RAP mix
Experiments

- Laboratory Tests
  - Moisture susceptibility
    - Tensile Stress Ratio (TSR)
      - 0%RAP: 88%
      - 20%RAP: 82%
Thoughts

- RAP influences mix performance even at low RAP percentage

- We can design high RAP mix (or other mixes, i.e. war mix asphalt) through these laboratory tests

- Life cycle cost analysis determine the use of RAP
By graduate students

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