EBB Quarterly Conference Call

Wednesday, September 25th 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EST)

Agenda

1) EBB Work Plan comments
   a) Mass DOT Comments
      i) The comment from MassDOT asked whether the frequency of testing in the work plan under 4.3.3 should it be increased from once to at least twice per year.
      ii) We reached out to industry and most said it could be increased and would not be a problem. One manufacturer did comment that it would be an extra burden on them.
      iii) The TC believes that the intent of MassDOT’s comment is to increase the frequency of testing on the elastomer and not the finished product within the manufacturer’s facility, not the independent lab testing.
      iv) AI: Aaron will reach out to John (MassDOT) and get clarification on his comments.

2) Draft User Guide
   a) All TCs are being asked to update the user guide
   b) EBB does not have one so it is being created from scratch
   c) Aaron and Joe are putting a draft together. Once it is completed they will share it with the committee for comment.
   d) Once the committee has reviewed and commented, it will be posted to the website.

3) Review of 2019 Audits
   a) 3 facilities
   b) After speaking with the auditor the manufactures have been doing an outstanding job and they are very prepared for the audits.

4) Task Force 4e 19-1 (M251)
a) Looking for members from this committee
   i) AI: Please let Aaron Bonk, Joe Stilwell, or Ryan Fragapane know by Friday 9/27 if you are interested in joining the task force.

b) ILDOT (Carl Puzey) is the chair of COBS T2 (Bearings and Expansion Devices)

c) This task force will be comprised of members from TS4e, T2, and the NTPEP TC.

d) ILDOT would like to have academia and industry included in this as well.

e) Some of the changes that have been proposed are radical. Some involved are open to these changes but we want to make sure academia is involved because of their past involvement, and consternation, with M251 changes.

f) ILDOT would also like a member from COBS T4 (Construction) to be on the task force as well.

g) ILDOT does not think this is a one-year project it may take a few years.

5) How would states like to handle material suppliers only, not a bearing manufacturer?
   a) In Wisconsin there is not a large demand for these types of suppliers to be evaluated. They just focus on their finished product. Plain pads are not considered structural so in Wisconsin they are accepted on cert.
   b) PennDOT mentioned that this situation seems similar to the GTX program with a private labeler.
   c) In Maine plain pads are considered nonstructural so they are accepted on cert, with occasional fabrication inspection
   d) NCDOT accepts on cert with the possibility of some sampling.
   e) TXDOT rarely uses plain pads. If they had to they would accept on cert.
   f) ALDOT gets a pad from each lot and that pad is tested.
   g) AI: Ryan will send this question out to the entire technical committee.

6) 2020 NTPEP Audit Cycle
   a) Submission cycle closes on November 15
   b) Please be sure to get you applications in. If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Fragapane.
   c) If you are with a state this is a good time to send out letters to manufacturers letting them know your intent to use the program.

7) Open Discussion
   None