1) Call to Order and Introductions

2) Discussion of Agenda Items
   - Discussion of our 2 webinars this past year. [JS]
     - John mentioned the Committee hosted 2 webinars primarily for the states to explain how DOTs can use this program.
     - AASHTO has the links for the webinars. Please email Katheryn or Vince to obtain the link to this webinar. Webinar included presentations from industry, TC leadership, and AASHTO.
     - Half of the state attendees in the room are using this Program.
   - This is an international program. Canadian providences were involved in the webinar.
   - GTX Work Plan discussion (5 codes/facility). [JS]
     - John said the updated Work Plan is posted to the NTPEP website (as of March 2018). One change that still needs to be made is to correct the fact that a manufacturing may have up to 5 product codes. Codes are only to be printed on NTPEP compliant products.
     - Work Plans can now be balloted among states any time of year.
   - REGEO Program - Summary of 2017 activities and 2018 outlook including moving to 9-year full cycle. [RH]
     - Rodrigo provided a slide presentation to summarize the major updates made in the last year. [Appended]
• Evaluation protocol has not changed within the last year.
• Changed the Qualification Program from 6 years to 9 years. This helps with the cost of the program.
• Verification Testing is still on a 3 year cycle.

• REGEO Work Plan updates 2018. [RH]
  • The latest work plan is available on the NTPEP Website.
  • Audits are going well and are still conducted on an annual basis.
  • When a product design change is made, man’f. must notify NTPEP within 30 days.
  • Testing for the reduction factor for instillation damage. The thickness of the lift and material was changed. Increased the bottom lift thickness from 6 to 8 inches. Use of 57 stone for the larger size material. Current gradation was presented during the meeting.
  • Included a requirement in the pullout test criteria to test at 3 stress levels to simulate various wall heights.
  • Editorial changes were made.
  • Creep stiffness, pullout resistance and direct shear are optional tests available.
  • Labels: Work Plan Section 8.2.2.2, may need revision.
  • Rodrigo emphasized the effort made by the technical committee to reach consensus on the items referenced above, which lead to the implemented revisions.

• Discussion on frequency of tagging/marketing on REGEO products (uni/bi/multi axial grids; strips) with tag demos and statement of DOT and Industry positions. [RH]
  • Scott asked for delineation on different requirements for grids versus strips, and that standardized terms for geostrips be included in the Work Plan.
  • Glenn Steen said tagging other than at the beginning and end of a roll would be a safety hazard for his manufacturing process, and they would not be able to do it.
  • Tensar echoed for beginning, end, maybe middle of roll, as well as keep option of printing every 5 m.
  • John Lostumbo said they can put mark on at 16-ft intervals now, and so can some other manufacturers.
  • Scott suggested Work Plan can be revised to tag at beginning and end of roll as a minimum. DOTs can always reject what they want if tags are not on rolls due to being cut up on site by Contractor.
  • John suggested that would be better than what DOTs have been historically getting. John L. said Work Plan now requires mark every 5 m.
  • Grid Converters would be able to re-tag.
  • Tags in lieu of markings must be durable and legible and essentially tamper proof. Two types of tags were shown.
  • 5 states present stated they are using the REGEO program.
- No state present indicated they would have an issue with tagging in lieu of marking.
- Will look at tagging requirements over next two TC teleconferences or separate smaller group phone calls.

- TRI update on testing REGEO products and auditing REGEO and GTX facilities including discussion of REGEO audit report consistency. [TRI]
  - Sam Allen provided a presentation on the issue. [Appended]
  - If have additional auditing capacity, could audit though company application is not in prior. Because REGEO is a 9-yr program, fees paid at start even though audits and product evaluations will come later. Robert stated need to clarify Work Plan as it says on-site sampling paid after audit, but NTPEP is requiring it before audit. Will discuss further at next TC conference call.
- Have webinar annually for companies on how to register, how to use DataMine? Make it a recording for 24/7 access?

- Draft Subgrade Improvement Work Plan status. [JS]
  - A separate Work Plan will be produced, already started by Bill Real. Our TC goal is to have this published so it is available for TS4e to use should they incorporate this type of product into M288.
  - The Chair wants to work more closely with the COMP TS 4e leadership so that the standard is available when this work plan is ready to be released.
  - A Task Force will be formed to work on this issue, including communicating with AASHTO TS4e staff on M288. The members of the Task Force are Scott (lead), Rodrigo, Doug Brown, Sam Allen, John Lostumbo, Keith Harris
  - Need to get geotextile SI GMA consensus spec from Industry.

- AASHTO M288 collaboration – MARV definition, geotextile test result reporting [JS]
  - Test Report Values: Our work plan is clearer than M 288. Sometimes you want a typical value or an average value rather than a MARV for all index properties. We have the same MARV definition as ASTM D35 documents. We will continue to communicate with them.
  - Task Force on Subgrade Improvement will continue to communicate with AASHTO TS4e on M288.

- DataMine Update including removal of circular woven category from fabric structures. [VG]
  - No major changes to DataMine 3.0 this past year.
  - Removing circular woven as a category.
  - UV test results are now able to be searched using the search feature on the left hand side of the screen for UV data. However, it would still be helpful to have a note that it applies to all heavier weight products in that line. Also, need to check fabric type to ensure all fabrics in the line are the same type (slit-film woven vs. monofilament woven, for example).
Private label data: the lowest values are provided in the summary tables, except AOS is the highest value. US Fabrics would like to choose their own source that go into the summary table in DataMine Test results page for an individual product. Compiling lowest value of all private label sources is misleading. Audit report lists values of 2 comparison samples, and since all Private Label source data is now shown in DataMine, there is really no need to have this “composite” table of results compiled for DataMine.

3) 2:35 - 2:45: Open Discussion / New Business
   • Split-sample testing – purpose, how it is done, issues with it, how the data is presented in DataMine [US Fabrics/JS]
     o Issue of split-sampling covered in previous topic. John discussed IA vs VST sampling.
     o ReCo believes the announcement letters should be sent out 60 days in advance vice 30 days.
     o The Chair asked for input on how to make this meeting as relevant and impactful as possible. For example, include an education segment, etc.? Please share such ideas with John and Rodrigo for next year.

4) 2:45 - 3:00: Review of Action Items for 2018 and Prioritizing Challenges and Setting Goals

Action Items:

   o Revise GTX Work Plan on 5 codes per facility. (John-Aug)
   o Revise REGEO Work Plan: (Rodrigo – Aug)
     • To include language on geostrips.
     • Revision to labeling.
     • To accurately state how payment is made.
   o Continue discussion on tagging of grids. (Rodrigo – Aug)
   o Have webinar or recording for Industry on how to use DataMine, how to register annually, etc. (John/Rodrigo/NTPEP/Industry - Aug)
   o Subgrade Improvement Task Force to report on progress in future. (Scott)
   o DataMine: (Vince -Aug)
     • Remove composite table in DataMine?
     • UV product test notes – heavier weight are applicable and weaves are determined?
     • Circular woven removed as a category in DataMine?
   o Discuss changing overseas audit notification to 60 days vice 30. (Rodrigo – Aug)
Have TRI include comments in Timeline in DataMine that even though the status says “In Test”, a more detailed description of what exactly TRI is in the process of doing for that specific product is included. (TRI/Vince – Aug)