National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP)
May 8-11, 2005 Annual Meeting
Mystic, Connecticut

Pavement Marking Materials Subcommittee Meeting
May 9, 2005  10:15am

Panel Chair:  Dave Kuniega, Pennsylvania DOT
Panel Vice Chair:  John Corcoran, New Hampshire DOT
Panel Secretary:  Meredith McDiarmid, North Carolina DOT

Member State Representatives:
John Vance, Mississippi DOT
Dave Iverson, Minnesota DOT
Ned Schmitt, Wisconsin DOT
Jason Davis, Louisiana DOT
Derrick Castle, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Philip Lancaster, Florida DOT
Karen Byron, Florida DOT

New Member State Representatives:
Craig Graham, Vermont Agency of Transportation
Don Wishon, Georgia DOT
John Mark Clements, Kentucky DOT

Industry Representatives
Dave Villani, Ennis Paint
Tom Wood, Sherwin Williams
Klyne McCarty, Ennis Paint

There were 27 member States represented
There were 3 Universities represented
There were 10 industries represented
There were 54 total participants

Action item responsible parties are Bold and Italicized
**Subcommittee Meetings**

**Subcommittee Officers** will meet in the winter of 2005 before TRB to finalize any outstanding issues before the TRB meeting in early January.

**2005 Test Decks**

There are two (2) active test decks; one (1) in Mississippi and one (1) in Wisconsin/Minnesota (Deck is in Wisconsin, Lab testing is done in Minnesota).

There are two (2) pending test decks; one (1) in Pennsylvania and one (1) in Utah. Both submittal volumes are down from previous years. Utah is now accepting all materials (not just durables) and hopes to get removable tapes done by the end of May. Pennsylvania plans to install their deck in July (permanent tapes) as usual. The end of May or beginning of June is the target installation date for removable tapes. The intent is not to have two decks installing materials at the same time in an effort to make it easier for the manufacturers to install on multiple decks.

**Temporary Tape Installation Dates**

Because northern host States cannot get out onto the decks to install temporary tapes until late spring as a result of the road conditions (sand/salt residue, snowplowing, etc.), the temporary tape evaluation time in these cases is reduced to four (4) or five (5) months as opposed to the six (6) month evaluation in the work plan. The industry is concerned that some States will not accept five (5) month data since their specifications require six (6) month data. The **subcommittee** will inquire of the member States about whether five (5) month data will be acceptable. Dave Kuniega will inform the industry the outcome of the member state inquiry.

**Data Mine**

Both of 2004 test decks (Mississippi and Wisconsin/Minnesota) have their data updated in the Data Mine. There will be a thirty (30) day review window for industry before data will be publicly posted. Mike McGough will send an e-mail to the industry informing them when the thirty (30) day window begins.

Eventually, each deck will download their test deck data into Data Mine.

The panel officers are looking for State and industry volunteers to serve on a Data Mine task force to refine the existing Data Mine site on pavement marking materials.

**Test Deck Installation Dates**

The industry indicated the installation information on the NTPEP web site could not be found conveniently. Mike McGough will address the location on the web site.

The industry requested to be informed of test deck installation dates no later than the NTPEP meeting. The subcommittee will determine which States will be hosting test decks by the TRB meeting in early January and determine specific installation dates no later than the NTPEP meeting in May. In addition to web site information, Mike McGough will also send an e-mail to the industry with installation dates as soon as they are known.
NTPEP Related Documents

The subcommittee is working on reducing and combining panel related documents. Dave Kuneiga distributed three (3) documents to attendees for their review. All of the documents are on the NTPEP web site under Pavement Marking Materials. The intent is to minimize the documentation related to this panel by cross-referencing where possible.

Eventually, the subcommittee will prepare a single document for submission to AASHTO for review and acceptance as an AASHTO standard document.

Dave Villani with Ennis Paint mentioned an apparent omission in the work plan. He requested the chance to review test deck locations prior to installation deadlines so the industry can determine whether to place their material on that particular deck. The subcommittee will discuss test deck site locations with the member States and determine protocol for choosing test deck locations.

ASTM Liaison Report

Wendy Ealding with Virginia DOT reported on the following ASTM Subcommittee activities:

- Revision to D4592-03 that clarifies lab testing for retroreflectivity
- Revision to D4505 that clarifies lab testing for retroreflectivity. Specifically, it includes a requirement to measure and report retroreflectivity in both directions. This will directly affect the lab testing of tapes.
- Five (5) year review of D6359-99 includes a revision for simplified sampling procedures
- New Standard for wet night retroreflectivity will affect retroreflectivity numbers, not test methods

Review of Lab Testing Documents

Each task force reported on their progress with their reviews:

Multi-Component Materials (Dave Villani, Michael Mourad, Neil Hodson, Meredith McDiarmid)

Refer to Attachment 1 for a table of existing and proposed items presented at the meeting.

Discussion included the following:
- Possibility of adding a test for viscosity
- IR testing equipment and the compatibility of different equipment manufacturers

Temporary Tape Materials (Burt Sutker, XXXXX, XXXX)

Refer to Attachments 2 & 3 for information presented at the meeting.

Discussion included inquires about how the proposed lab testing would address skid resistance.

Thermoplastic Materials (Craig Graham, Susannah Dobbs, XXXX)

Refer to Attachment 4 for information presented at the meeting.

Discussion included the following:
• How the tests were going to determine whether the material is hydrocarbon or alkyd maleic and/or if it mattered for all thermoplastic materials
• The potential need to update ASTM 249
• The need for further investigation of these tests

The subcommittee decided to further discuss these recommendations in a meeting with member States only to determine what their needs were.

Simulated Wear Testing

Dave Kuniega expressed an interest in talking to European counterparts about their experience with this type of accelerated testing. He then opened discussion up to the attendees. He received the following comments:

• Bill Williams with Swarco has counterparts in Germany that say one sample can be affected by another, that it doesn’t correlate with field data, and that the results have a strong tendency to be taken literally and inappropriately.
• Laura Jensen with Flint Trading echoed Bill’s comment with her huge concerns about using this test in the United States
• Susanna Dobbs with DOBCO stated there had been considerable experience in the US with this testing method
• Craig Graham with the Vermont DOT asked how this test took snowplowing in to account

Tom Baker added the study of this testing method would be complete in August 2005 and a draft report would be issued in 2006.

State Use of NTPEP

The industry stated there are holes in the work plan that need to be close in order for some States to adopt the NTPEP work plan. They also mentioned they try to promote NTPEP when the opportunities present themselves.

Tom Baker mentioned using NCHRP 350 as a long-term model for NTPEP acceptance.

Industry Comments

When a test deck determines there is data that is unusable, there should be a monetary return or some other retribution to the manufacturer.

The industry needs a schedule of events for the pavement marking material test decks and would like for NTPEP to consider consolidating paperwork to reduce redundancy.

Include guidance in the temporary tape work plan for installations affected by rain soon after installation.