The Raised Pavement Marker and Marker Adhesive Panel met on Tuesday, May 10, 2005 in Mystic, CT. There were 33 individuals in attendance, 8 from manufacturers, 23 from state DOT’s and two from academia.

Wendy Ealding, VA DOT, gave an update on ASTM activities that relate to RPM’s. Those changes were the addition of a sand drop test and precision and bias statements. Scott Thorson, Nevada DOT, gave an update from the project panel briefing on Sunday. He said that the Oversight Committee decided to allow more state representation. He also mentioned that the goal is to have all Data Mine modules developed by next year.
A status of the test decks was given. Georgia has a 2003 and 2004 test deck for non-plowable RPM’s. Georgia also has two bituminous adhesives under evaluation on the 2004 test deck in Savannah. Georgia completed an evaluation of a chip seal marker in 2004. Ohio has a 2004 plowable test deck underway. Both Georgia and Ohio will be hosting test decks in 2005.

The project panel had one conference call since the Oversight meeting in Columbus, OH last year.

Industry concerns discussed were as follows:
- Industry felt that heavy truck traffic in the Savannah area would call for a blue light.
- Industry felt that improved communication is needed concerning proposed test decks.
- Industry would like to see early release of initial light tunnel readings.

The current work plan was discussed and the following changes will be made:
- The sand drop test will be added to the work plan because it was added to ASTM D 4383.
- The identification marks will be placed on the upright portion instead of the base on future chip seal evaluations.
- In addition, the protective covers for the chip seal markers will be re-stapled after taking the initial retroreflectivity readings with a more durable staple.

The Project Panel will send a survey out to State DOT’s to get feedback on what kind of information they will be looking for in DataMine. The Project Panel will also be conducting a round robin evaluation on retroreflectivity before our 2006 meeting. Louisiana DOTD, Virginia DOT, Florida DOT, 3M, Avery Dennison, and Ray-O-Lite have agreed to participate in the round robin. In addition, the Project Panel will get a consultant lab to take partipate.