



Atkinson Blvd – Roseville, CA

## RCC PAVEMENT FOR LOWER VOLUME ROADS

ILLINOIS TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAY ENGINEERING CONFERENCE 2019

Corey J. Zollinger, P.E.



Hickory Street – Roseville, CA

## **KEY QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED TODAY**

- **What is Roller Compacted Concrete?**
- **Where has it Been Used?**
- **Why is it a Great Solution for Lower Volume, Local Roads?**
- **What are the Key Aspects to the RCC Construction Process?**
- **How does RCC Perform over the Long Term?**

## ROLLER COMPACTED CONCRETE IS A NEGATIVE SLUMP CONCRETE

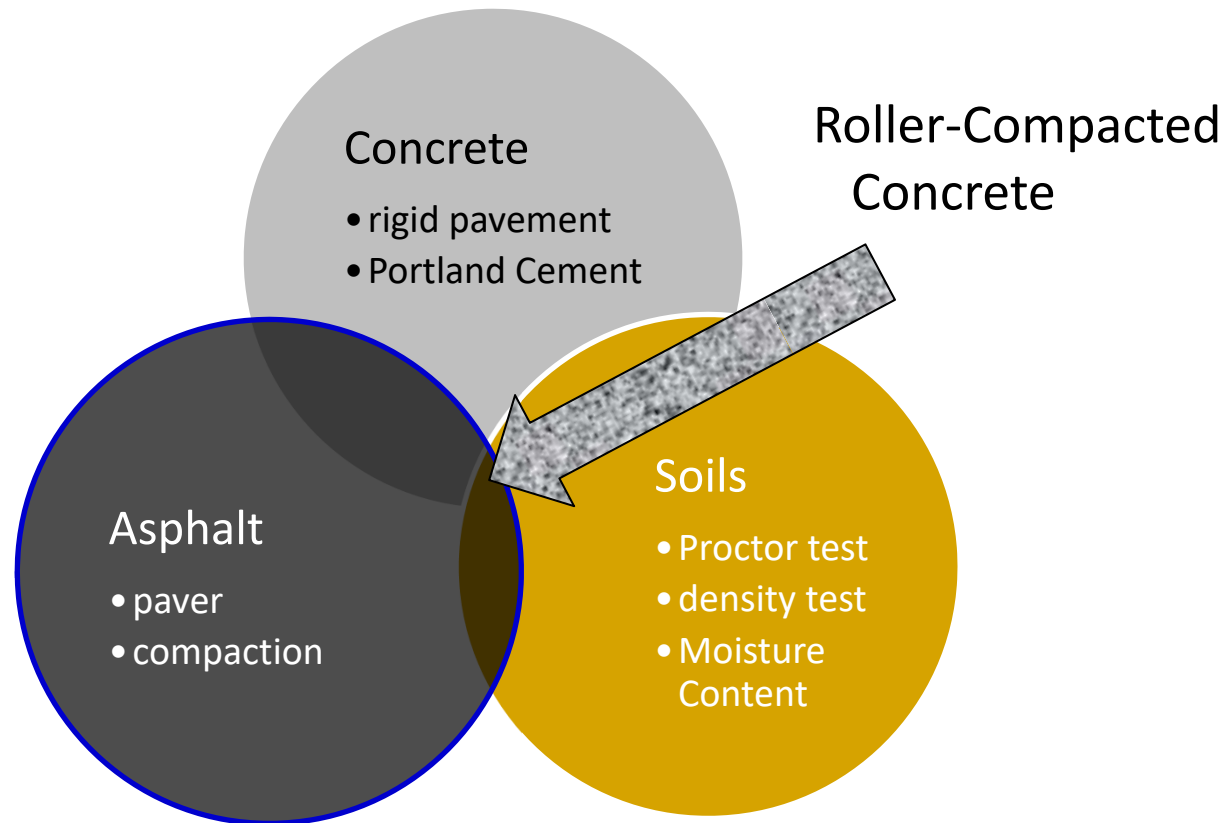


A negative-slump concrete that is compacted not consolidated.

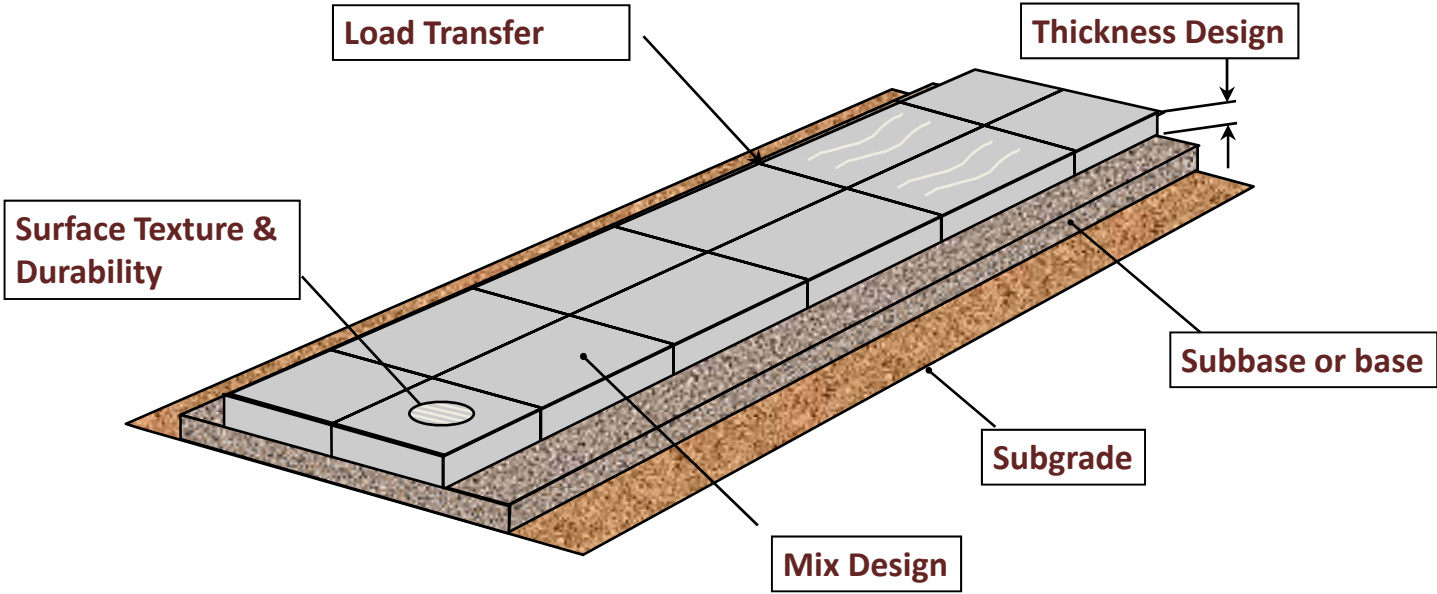
- Placed with High Density Asphalt Machine
- No forms
- No reinforcing steel, dowels, or fibers  
(Changing...)
- No finishing. (Changing...)
- Compacted with rollers (Changing...)
- No internal vibration  
(consistency of damp gravel).

RCC is a concrete pavement that is placed in a different way!

# MULTIPLE PERSONALITIES



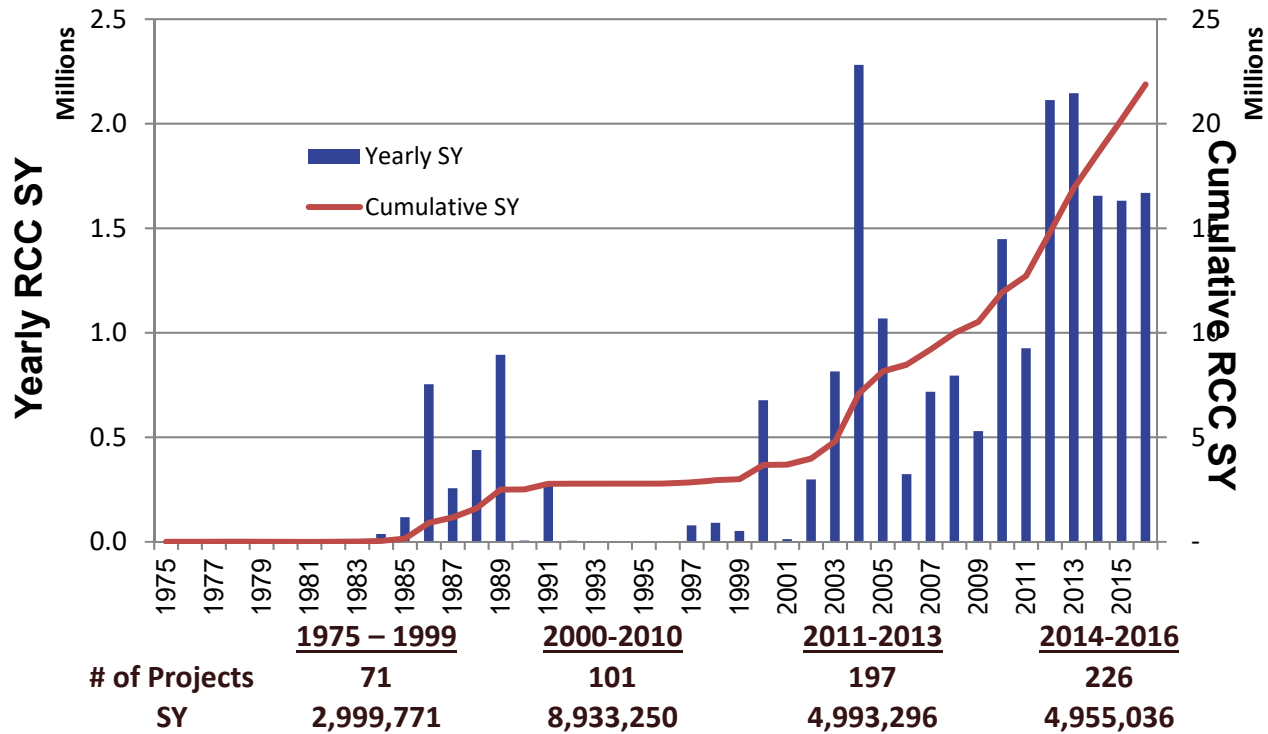
# RCC DESIGN FEATURES



# USE OF RCC PAVEMENTS IN US

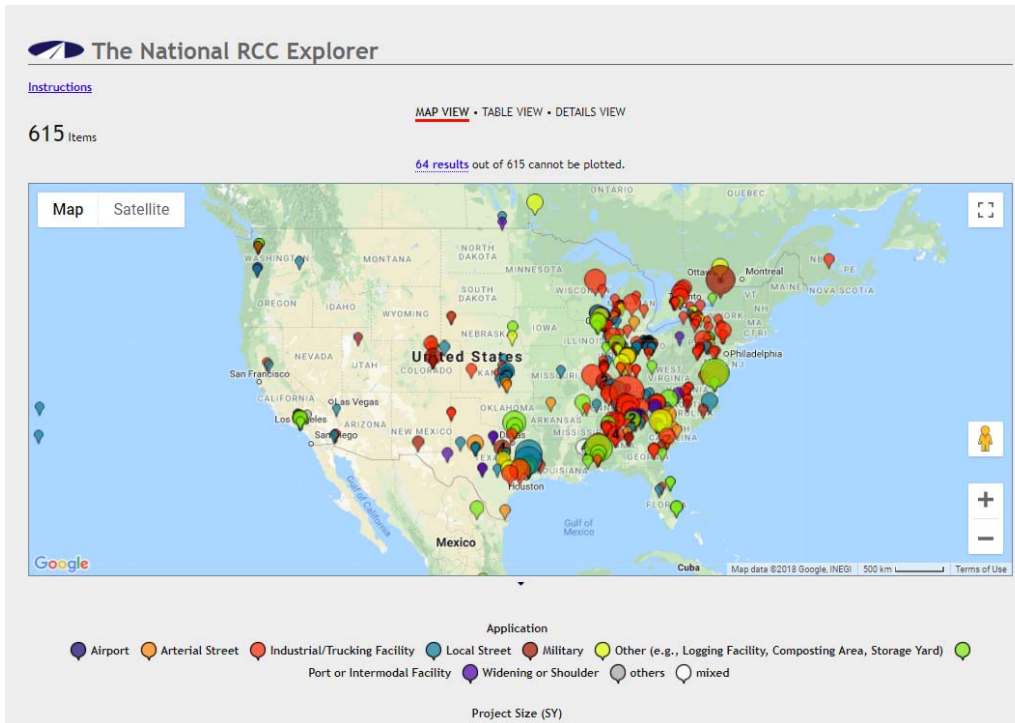
RCC utilization began in the 80's, started growing in early 2000's & is now exploding

## RCC SY PAVED BY YEAR



# USE OF RCC PAVEMENTS IN US

RCC utilization began in the 80's, started growing in early 2000's & is now exploding



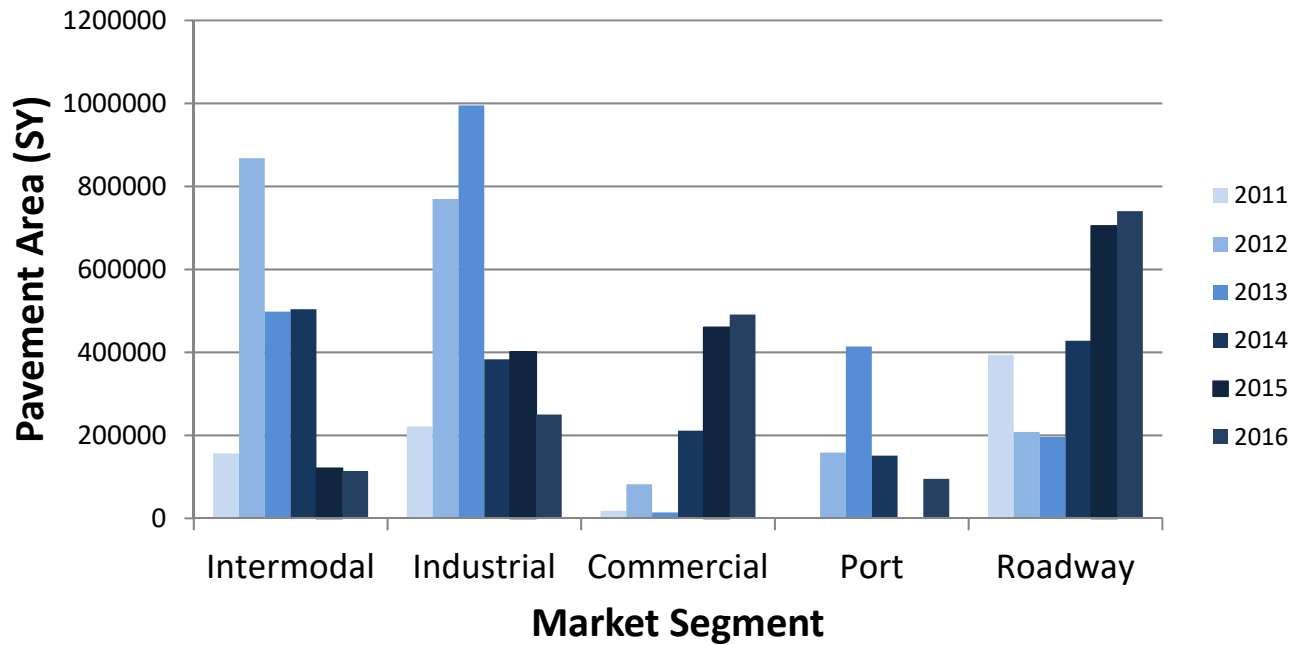
## Reasons for Growth:

- Fast installation
- Low initial cost
- Durable
- Ease of placement in Urban areas
- Dedicated business development and promotion people

	<u>1975 – 1999</u>	<u>2000-2010</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>	<u>2014-2016</u>
# of Projects	71	101	197	226
SY	2,999,771	8,933,250	4,993,296	4,955,036

# RCC IS BEING USED IN NEARLY ALL PAVEMENT APPLICATIONS

## RCC Paving Area by Market Segment



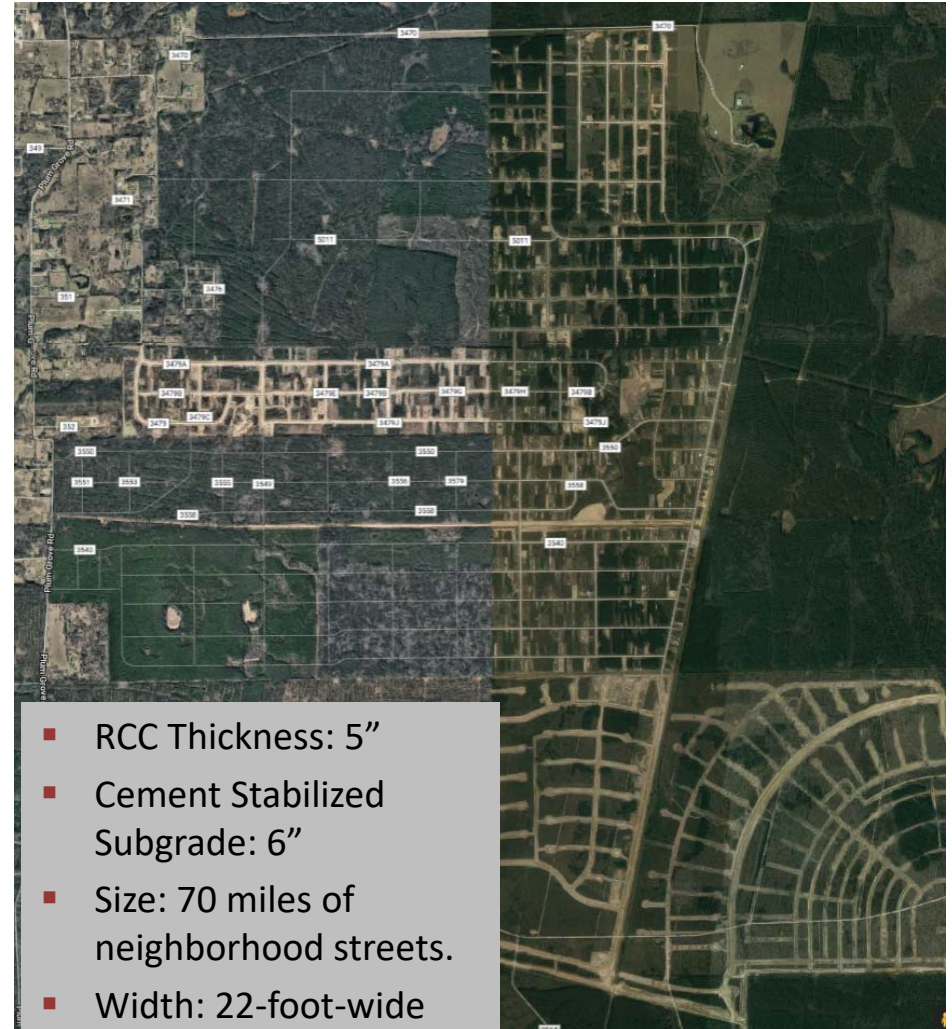


# COLONY RIDGE DEVELOPMENT

## Liberty County, TX



Type	Asphalt	RCC
Local/ Collector	2" HMAC 7" Flex Base 6" Stab Sub	6" RCC 6" Stab Sub
Arterials	2" HMAC 9" Flex Base 6" Stab Sub	7" RCC 6" Stab Sub



- RCC Thickness: 5"
- Cement Stabilized Subgrade: 6"
- Size: 70 miles of neighborhood streets.
- Width: 22-foot-wide

## CHAPELS LANDING – Wichita, KS





Grape Creek Road – San Angelo, TX - 2011





Lake View Heroes– San Angelo, TX - 2012



**LAMESA DRIVE  
MIDLAND, TX - 2014**



## HIGHWAY APPLICATIONS ARE ALSO COMMON

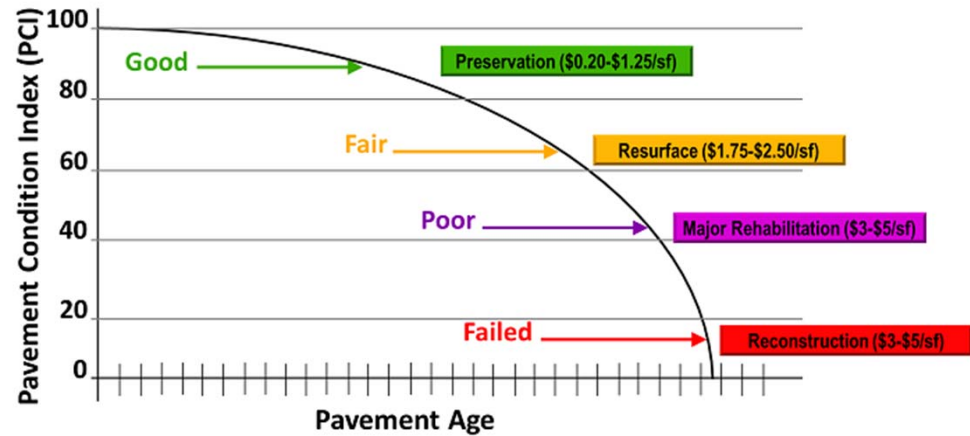
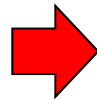
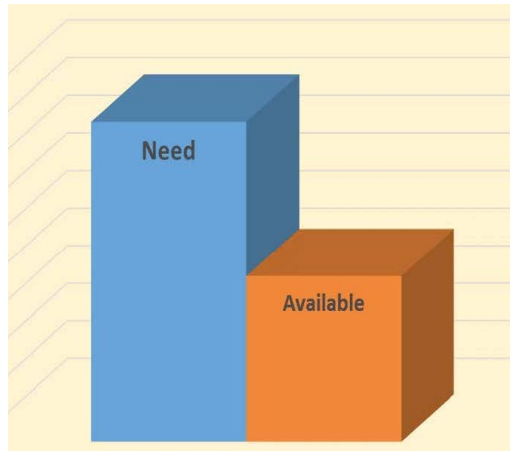




**RICHLAND AV. (US 78) AIKEN, SC - 2008**

# City of Roseville, CA Challenge

## Maintenance Funding



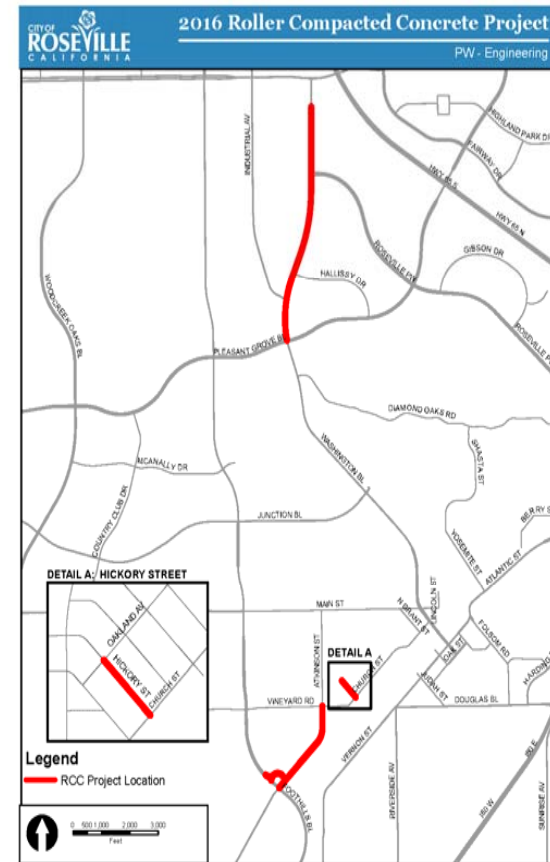
- Roseville – 1,000 lane miles of asphalt roadway
- Need to maintain 100 lane miles/year – \$8.5 million
- City averages \$4.4 million/year available for roadway maintenance - about half of what is needed



## ROSEVILLE DECIDED TO BUILD A PILOT PROJECT

Complete reconstruction of three sections of failed road

- Washington
  - Atkinson
  - Hickory
- 
- Three differing road types – arterial, collector, residential
  - Three different finishes – natural, diamond grind, troweled



## CITY OF ROSEVILLE, CA RCC - 2018



Atkinson Blvd  
8.5" RCC / 4" Agg. Base



Washington Blvd  
7" RCC / 6" Stab. SG

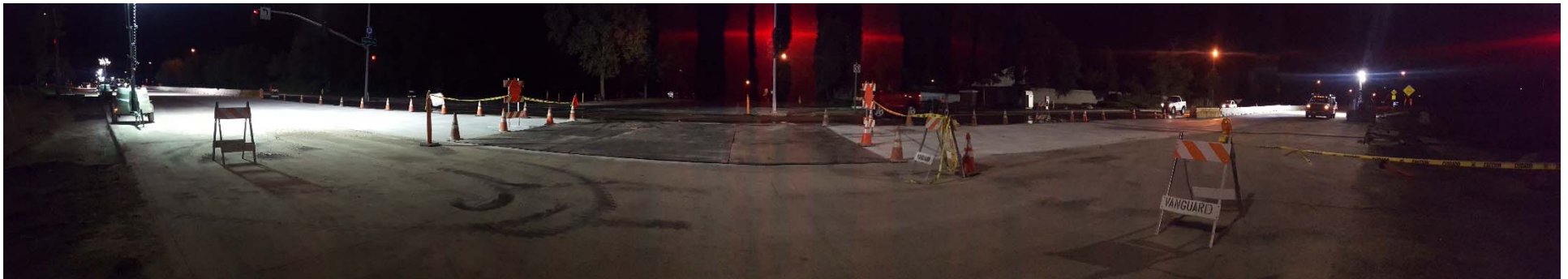


Hickory Street  
5" RCC / Compacted SG

## WHAT ARE THE KEY BENEFITS OF RCC FOR LOWER VOLUME ROADS?

### Benefits of Building Concrete / RCC Pavements

1. Stimulation of competition
2. Reduced Maintenance Cost
3. Free up budget for other roads
4. Fast Construction process
5. Early Open to Traffic
6. Driveways open to Traffic within Hours
7. Ease of placement in Urban Environment



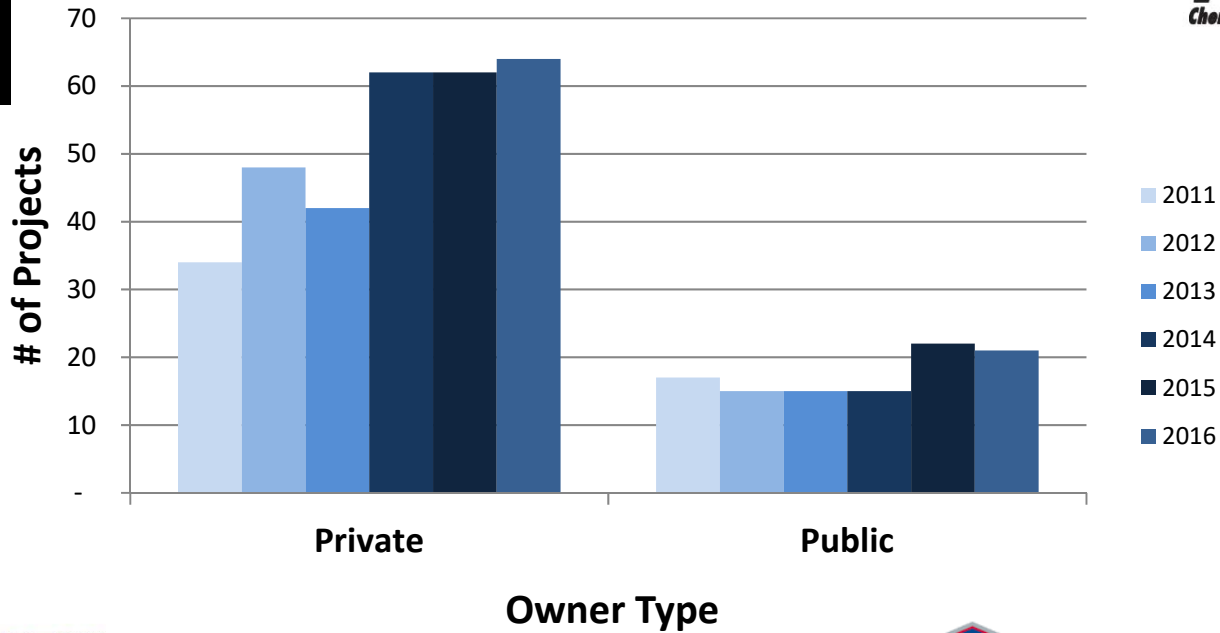
# PRIVATE INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO LEAD IN RCC PAVEMENT USE



**HONDA**

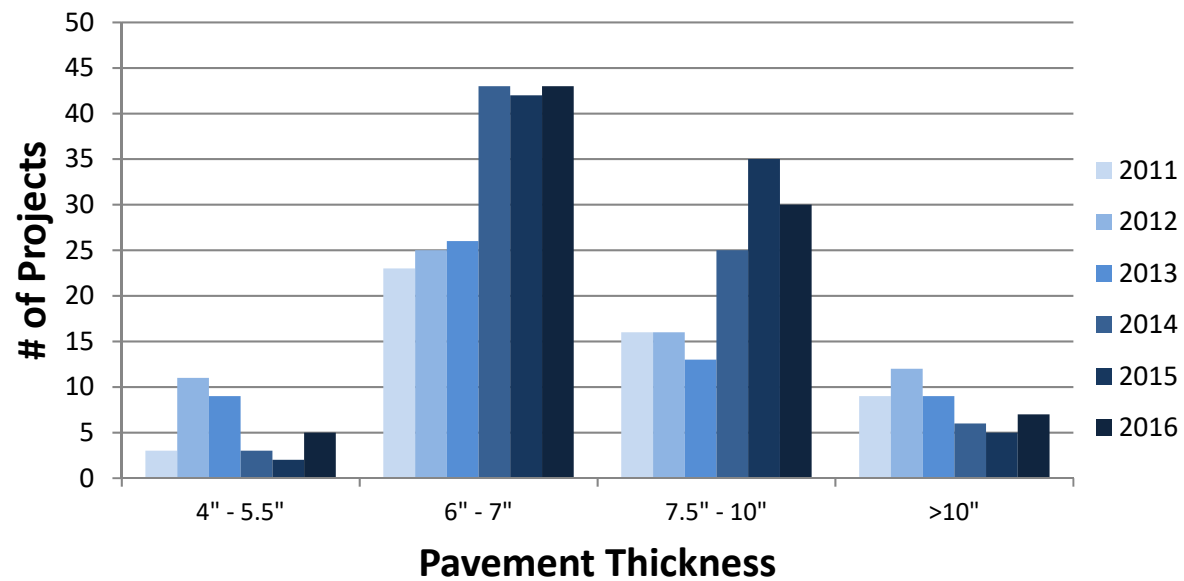


### Owner Type by Project



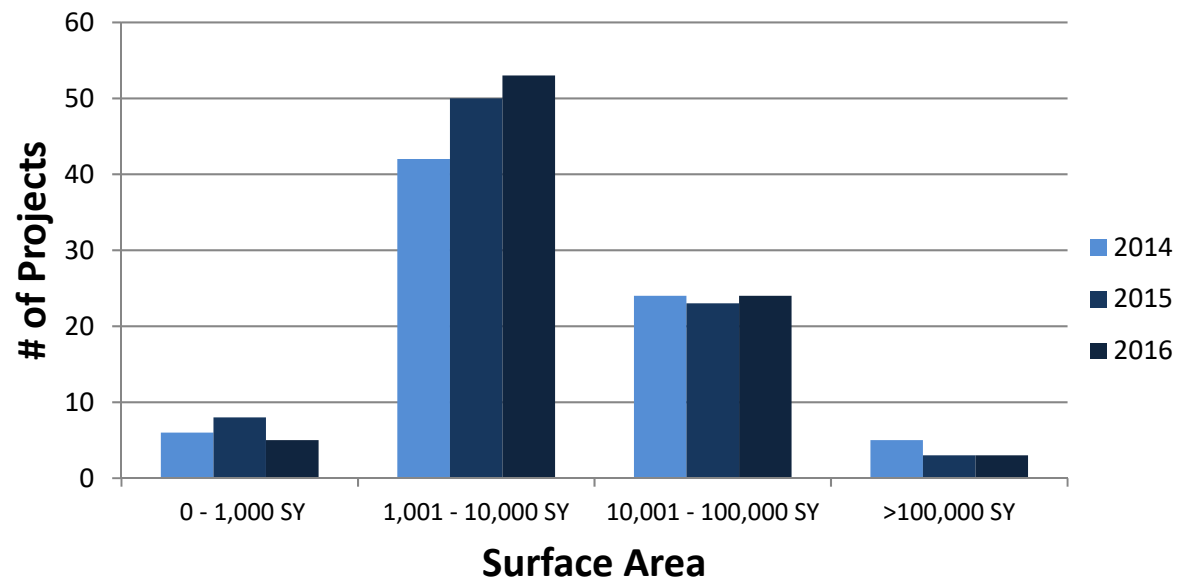
# PAVEMENT THICKNESSES ARE TYPICAL FOR CONCRETE PAVING

## Pavement Thickness by Project



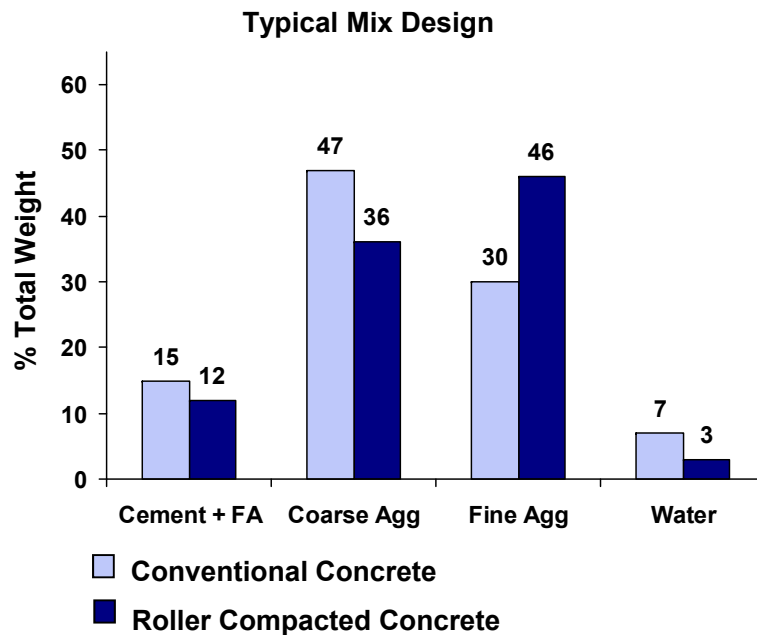
# PROJECTS TEND TO RANGE FROM 1,000 TO 100,00 SY

## Project Size by Project



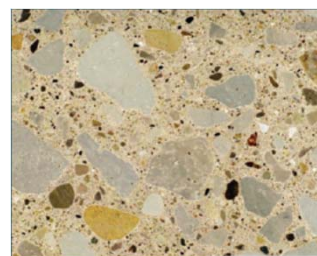
# RCC MIX DESIGN USES SAME MATERIALS AS CONVENTIONAL CONCRETE, HOWEVER IN DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS

Achieves Similar or Better Engineering Properties Than Conventional Concrete



Typical Engineering Properties	Conventional (psi)	RCC (psi)
Compressive Strength	3,000 - 5,000	4,000 - 6,000
Flexural Strength (MOR)	500 - 700	600 - 850
Elastic Modulus	3.0 - 5.0 million	3.0 - 5.5 million

Conventional Concrete



RCC



# IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF “AGGREGATE SELECTION” AFFECT ON “COMPACTED BEHAVIOR”

Many Projects are Achieving >98% Density Behind Paver

Aggregate  
Properties

Size Distribution

Sand Type

Aggregate Shape

Top Size

Absorption



Compacted  
Behavior

Screed Stability

Cold Joint Forming

Surface Appearance

Strength

Roller Marks

Density

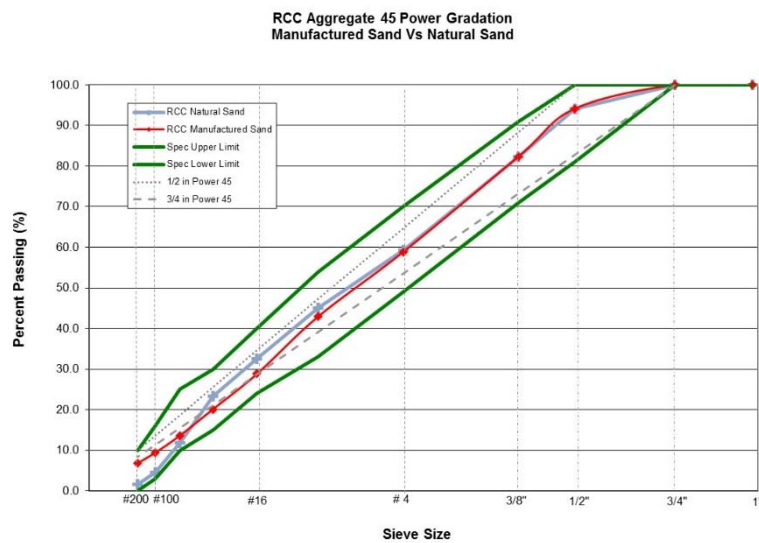
Segregation

Ideal Moisture Content



# HOW DOES SAND TYPE AFFECT THE PAVING MIX?

## Example from California Project



Mix Design	Mix #1 (Man Sand)	Mix #2 (Conc Sand)
1/2" X #8 Crushed Aggregate. (%)	20	20
3/8" X 1/4" Crushed Aggregate. (%)	25	25
Manufactured Sand (%)	55	
Concrete Sand (%)		55
Proctor Metrics		
Maximum Dry Density (pcf)	141.7	145.0
Optimum Moisture Content (%)	5.7	5.4

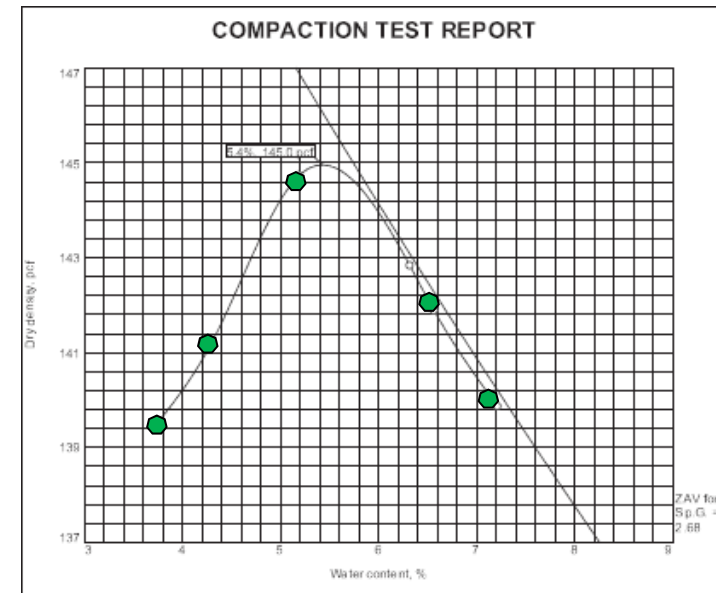
## MIXTURE DESIGN PROCEDURE

### Step 2: Select a mid – range cementitious content

- Minimum 450 lbs cement / CY
- 12% Type I Portland cement is selected for the first trial batch
- Based % on weight, so make enough and do not worry about volumes yet
- Mix the cement dry, and then add water

- **Step 3: Develop moisture – density relationship plots**
- Perform a modified Proctor test at the selected cement content
- Construct moisture-density relationship curve (Use spreadsheet)
- Determine Maximum Dry Density (MDD) and Optimum Moisture Content (OMC)

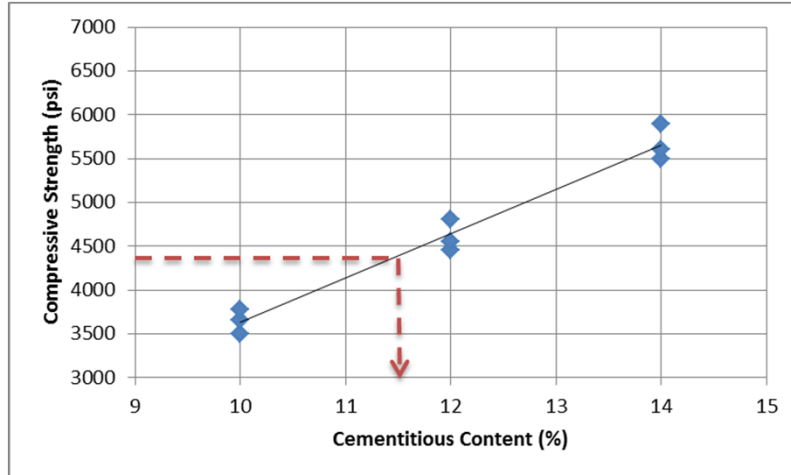
(ASTM D1557)



## MIXTURE DESIGN PROCEDURE

### Step 4: Cast samples to measure compressive strength (ASTM C 1435)

- Calculate trial mix proportions
- Batch RCC materials
  - Maintain percent Optimum Moisture Content as determined in step 3
  - Use varying cementitious contents such as 10, 12 and 14 percent
- Make compressive strength test cylinders for each cement content

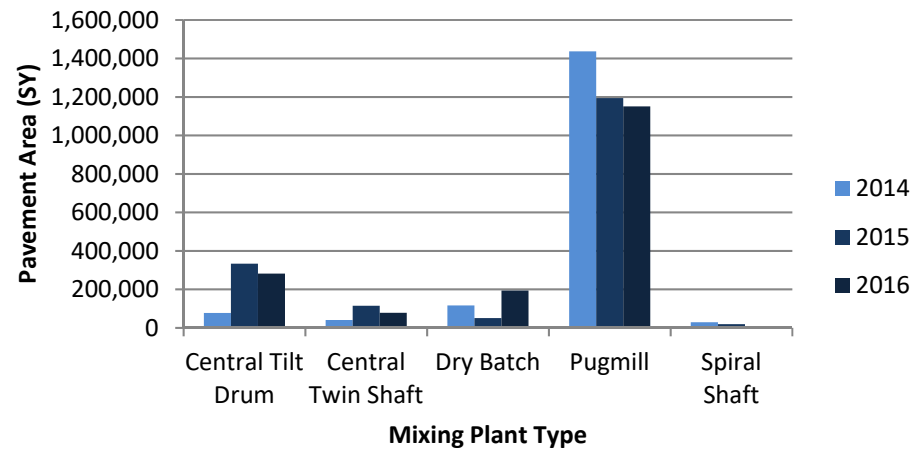


# PUGMILL PLANT IS THE TYPICAL PRODUCTION PLANT TYPE

However, Other Plant Types Are Used On Smaller Projects



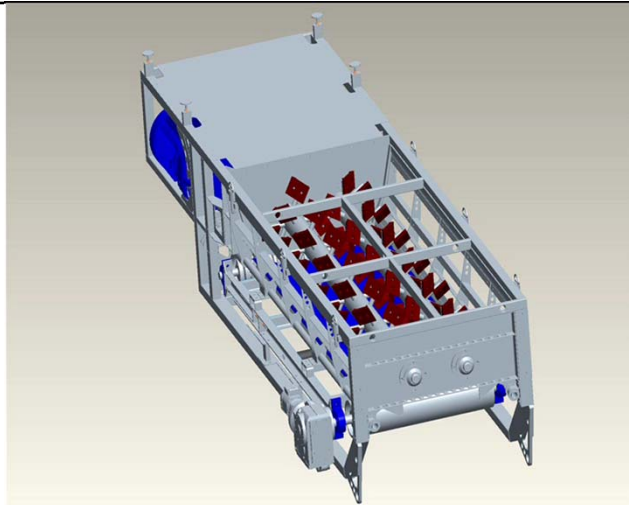
### Mixer Type by Area



## WE RECOMMEND USING A PUGMILL MIXER DUE TO HIGH PRODUCTION RATES & EFFICIENT MIXING PROCESS

### Factors to Consider

- High production rates: 50 to 300+CY / hr
- Excellent mixing efficiency for dry materials
- Highly consistent mix properties,
- Mobile – 1 load, 1 Day Set up and calibration
- Need to find good location, obtain permits
- Self contained – Gen set, batch house
- 2 to 3 man operation
- # of Aggregates depends on Feeder system



## CONTINUOUS RCC MIXING PLANT (PUGMILL) IN ACTION

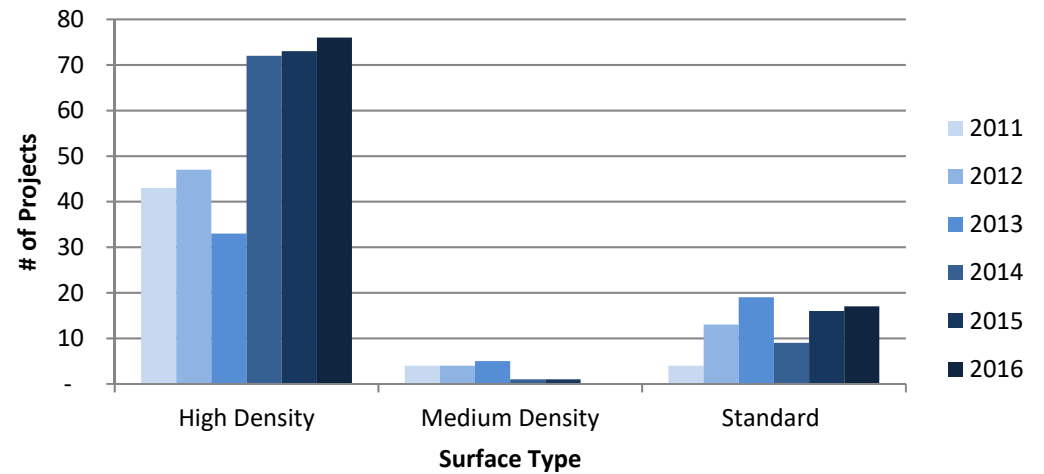


# HIGH DENSITY SCREEDS ARE MOST EFFECTIVE PAVER TYPE

However, Standard Screeds Are Used On Smaller Projects



### Screed Type by Project



**RCC IS PLACED WITH HIGH DENSITY ASPHALT PAVERS**  
**Achieving Density & Smoothness is Critical**





## ROLLERS ARE USED TO ACHIEVE DENSITY AND PROVIDE FINISH

### Initial Compaction

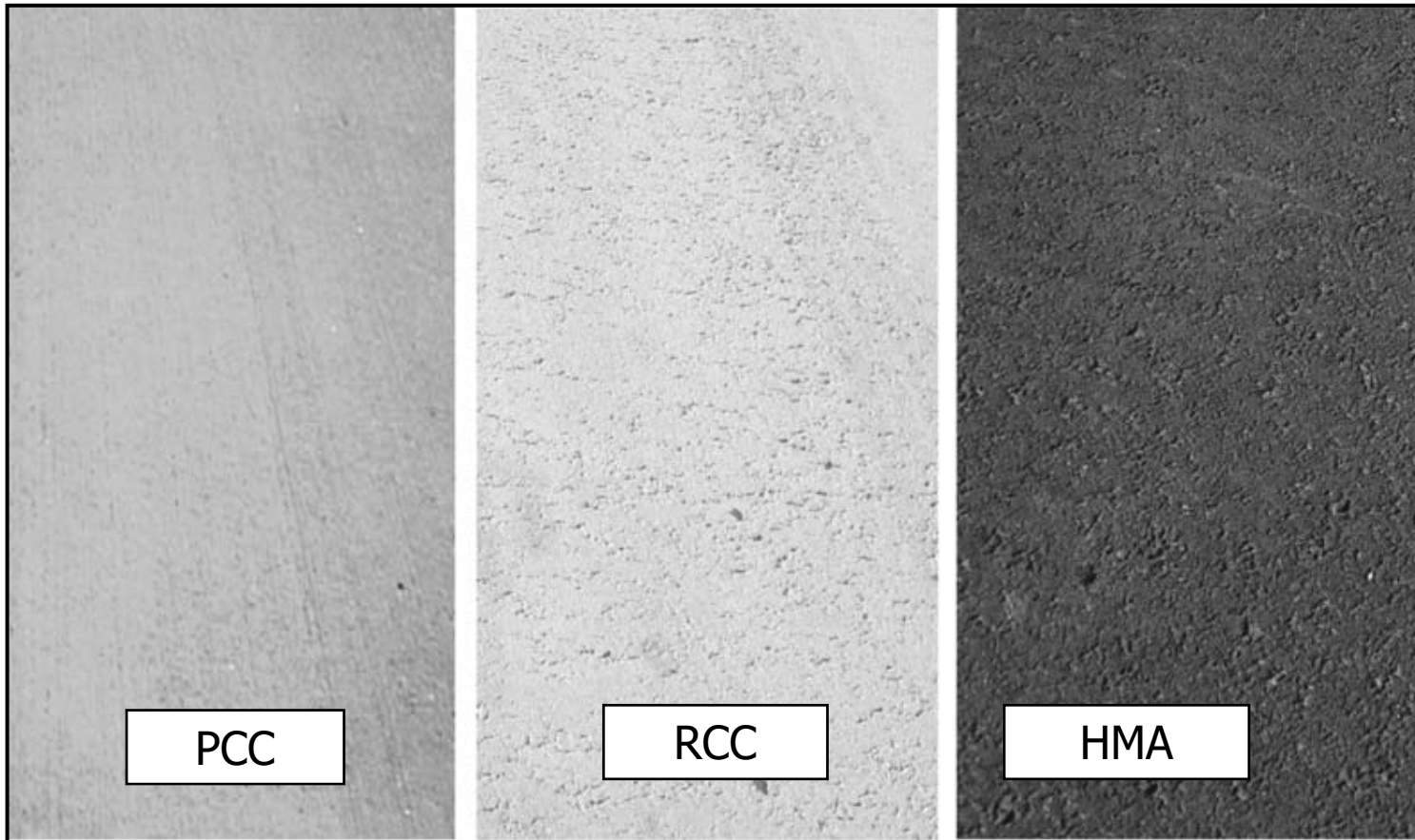
- Initial: 10 - 12 ton static & vibratory roller
- Establish roll pattern (check density a lot!)
- Adjust roll pattern based on moisture content
- Compact to 98% density - wet
- Adjust moisture content if needed – impacts smoothness & compaction
- Finer mixes achieve density easier

### Finish Rolling




- Combination, dual steel or rubber tired
  - Maximum weight - 6 short ton
- Remove roller marks
- Once completed, keep roller off of the area



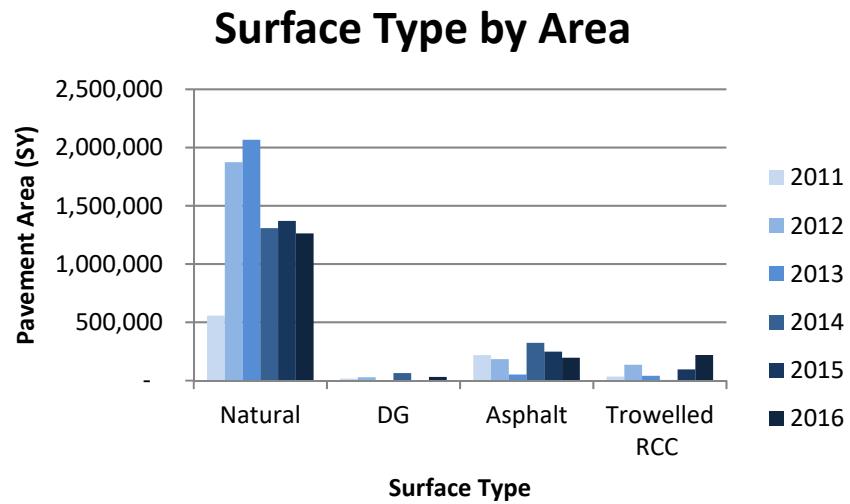
**THE SURFACE APPEARANCE AND TEXTURE OF RCC IS  
SIMILAR TO ASPHALT PAVEMENT**



## THE FINAL SURFACE TYPE WILL DICTATE THE NECESSARY TECHNIQUES & EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO BE SUCCESSFUL

	Natural RCC	Diamond Ground RCC	Asphalt
			
Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ports</li> <li>Distribution centers</li> <li>Industrial yards</li> <li>Residential roads</li> <li>Parking lots</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collector / Arterial local roads</li> <li>Highway Shoulders</li> <li>State routes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any pavement type</li> </ul>
Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lowest Cost</li> <li>Most sensitive to contractor skill level</li> <li>Least smooth</li> <li>“Asphalt” appearance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medium cost increase</li> <li>Increased construction time</li> <li>Improved smoothness, skid resistance</li> <li>Reduced noise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highest cost</li> <li>Increased construction time</li> <li>Least sensitive to contractor skill level</li> <li>Improved smoothness, skid resistance</li> </ul>

# NATURAL SURFACE IS MOST COMMON, However, Trowelled & or Broom Surfaces Are Increasing in Use



## QC / QA PROCESS INCLUDES TESTING FOR DENSITY, MOISTURE CONTENT & COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH

### Moisture & Density

- Tested with nuclear gage in direct mode
- Test density behind paver & after roller to establish rolling patterns to achieve density
- Achieve 98% of modified proctor wet density
- Nuclear gage gives general moisture fluctuation indication - Calibrate with oven dried moisture
- Oven dried is most accurate



### Compressive Strength

- Cylinders prepared with vibratory hammer according to ASTM C1435
  - 3 to 4 cylinders per set
  - Strength timing often depends on traffic opening (1, 3, 7, 28 days)
- Cores can be obtained where density is not being achieved



## WHEN CURED & SAW CUT RCC PERFORMANCE IMPROVES

### Curing

- Applied at 150 SF/ Gallon or better
- Ensure uniformity with application process
- Apply as soon as possible behind roller operation
- Recommend High Quality Curing Compound
- Ensures durable surface



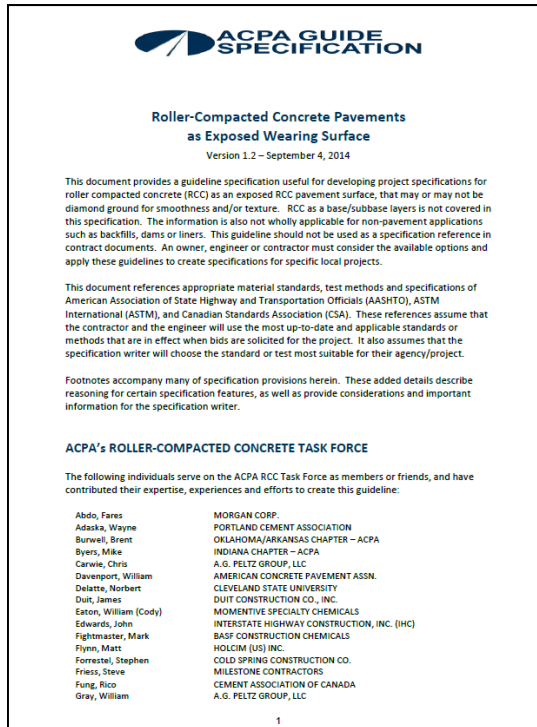
### Saw Cut & Fill Joints

- More aesthetically pleasing
- Early entry saw very effective, shortly following placement
- Recommend sawing within 2 - 6 hours to avoid uncontrolled cracking
- Depth:  $\frac{1}{4}$  depth
- Spacing: Maximum 24 times thickness max 15 ft

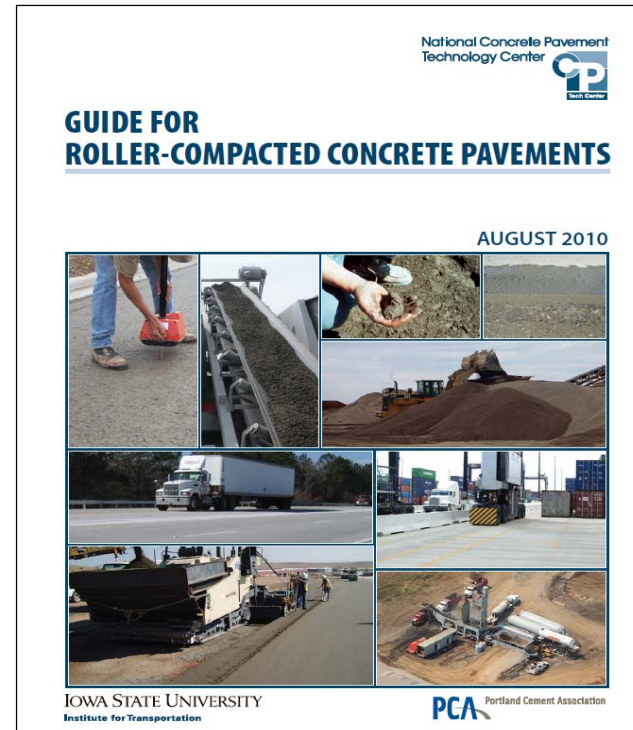


# TECHNICAL RESOURCES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED

## Construction Specifications are available



### Guideline specification for Exposed Surface RCC pavements




- Developed by the CPTech Center at Iowa State
- Covers all aspects
- Available through PCA


# RCC PAVEMENT COUNCIL WAS FOUNDED IN 2014

Provides Support for Research and Promotion

Interested in Becoming a Member? [Join Today](#) | [Contact Us](#)



HOME | ABOUT | WHAT IS RCC? | CONTRACTORS | RCC ALLIES | PROJECTS | RESOURCES | EVENTS



## Supporting research, promotion, and use of Roller-Compacted Concrete Pavement

Founded in 2014, the Council combines leadership from across industries to support research and sustainable market growth.

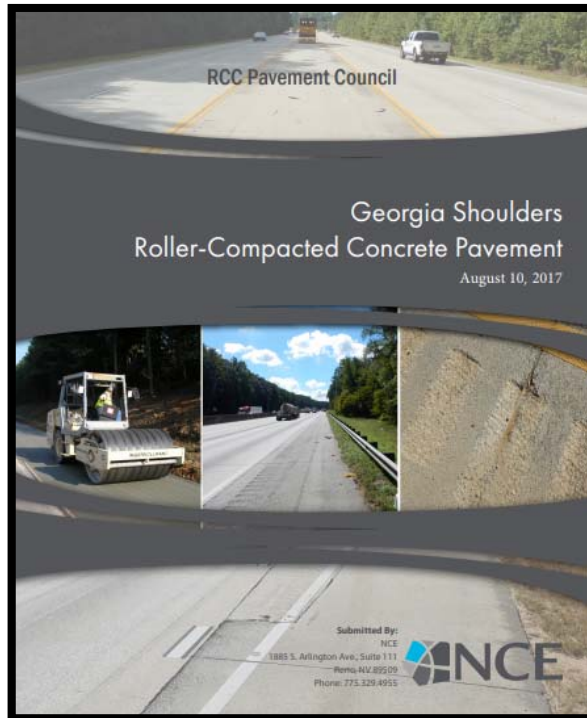
[VIEW MORE](#)

Join the council and become an advocate for RCC innovation and growth.

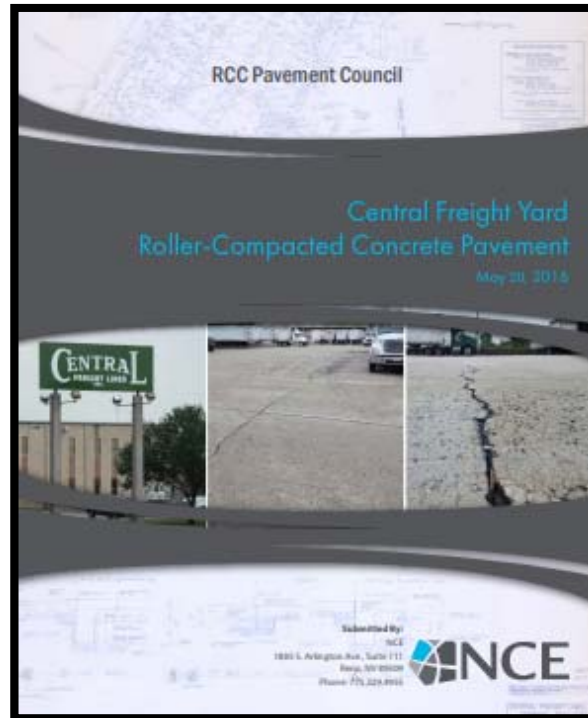
[GET MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION](#)



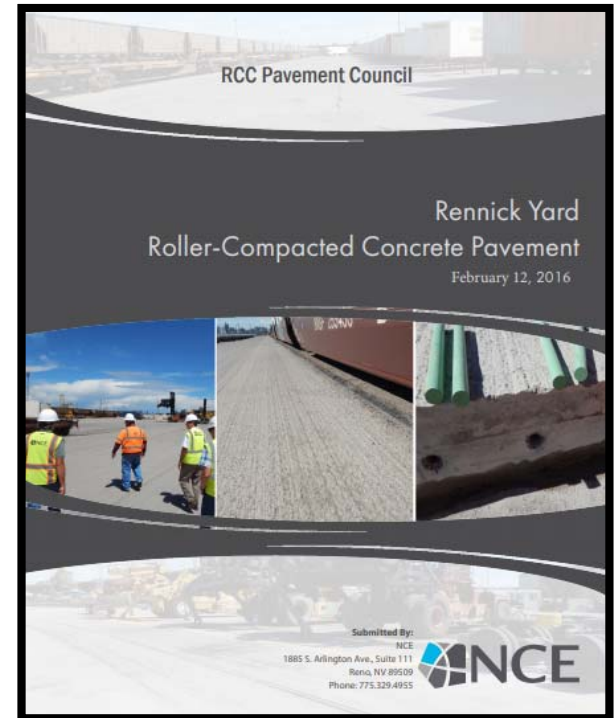
## RCC PAVEMENT COUNCIL PROVIDES CASE STUDIES ON LONG LIFE RCC PAVEMENTS



- Starting in 2004, the Georgia DOT (GDOT)
- 17.3 mile stretch of I-285 between I-85
- To date, no maintenance has been done.



- Location - Austin, Texas
- Pavement Area - 14.5 Acres
- RCC Thickness - 7-8 inches
- Initial Construction - 1987.



- Location - Denver, CO
- Pavement Area - 28
- RCC Thickness - 15-20 inches
- Initial Construction - 1986

# FUTURE OF RCC?



**Bonded or Unbonded Overlays**



**Trowelled / Broom Surface**



**Fiber Reinforced RCC**

## SOME FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN BIDDING PROJECTS

- Volume of RCC paving on the project
- Site geometry
- Project phasing
- Pavement thickness
- Pavement width
- Final surface characteristics
- Traffic control
- Opening to traffic
- Daily working schedule



**WITH THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT, RIGHT KNOW HOW, AND  
PROPER INSPECTION A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT IS POSSIBLE**



Quarry Road, Victorville, CA

## QUESTIONS?

**Corey J. Zollinger, P.E.**

**CEMEX, Inc**

**Director – Paving Solutions**

**[coreyj.zollinger@cemex.com](mailto:coreyj.zollinger@cemex.com)**

**713-722-6084**

## Central Freight Distribution Ctr. Austin, Texas - 1987

- ▶ Truck terminal
  - 7" & 8" pavements
  - 90,000 sy
  - RCC bid 25% less than asphalt
  - Peltz Companies
- ▶ Natural cracks
  - 23-50' spacing
  - Routed/sealed @ 5 yr
- ▶ Continuous use, little maintenace @ 30 yrs:
  - Still performing – now used for post office and UPS
  - ~5,500 sy repairs performed in 2014 (10%)



## Results from LTRC's Accelerated Loading Facility

Tyson D. Rupnow, Ph.D., P.E.

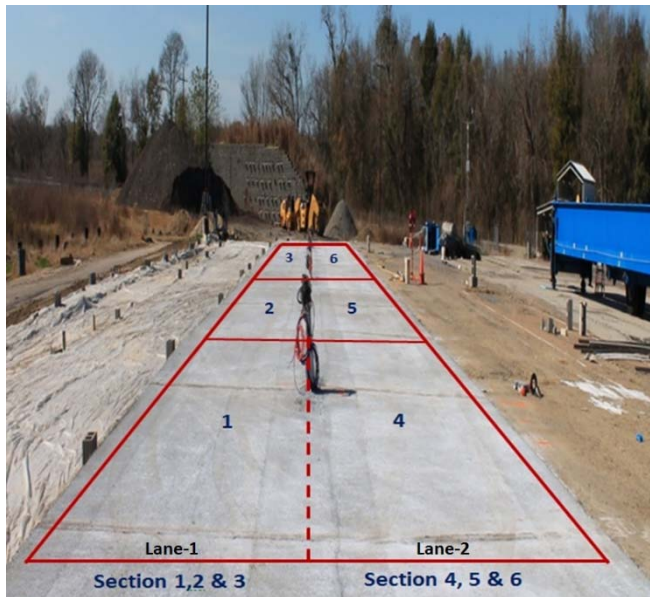
Zhong Wu, Ph.D., P.E.

Moinul Mahdi – Ph.D. student



# Constructed RCC Test Sections

- Six full-scale RCC pavement test sections were constructed at Pavement Facility of Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC)
  - Each section: 71.7-ft long and 13-ft wide



8 " RCC
12 "Cement Treated Base
Existing Subgrade

Section 1  
(8+12RCC)

6 " RCC
12 "Cement Treated Base
Existing Subgrade

Section 2  
(6+12RCC)

4"RCC
12 "Cement Treated Base
Existing Subgrade

Section 3  
(4+12RCC)

8 " RCC
8.5" Soil Cement Base
10" Cement Treated Subgrade
Existing Subgrade

Section 4  
(8+8.5RCC)

6 " RCC
8.5" Soil Cement Base
10" Cement Treated Subgrade
Existing Subgrade

Section 5  
(6+8.5RCC)

4"RCC
8.5 "Soil Cement Base
10" Cement Treated Subgrade
Existing Subgrade

Section 6  
(4+8.5RCC)





# ATLaS30



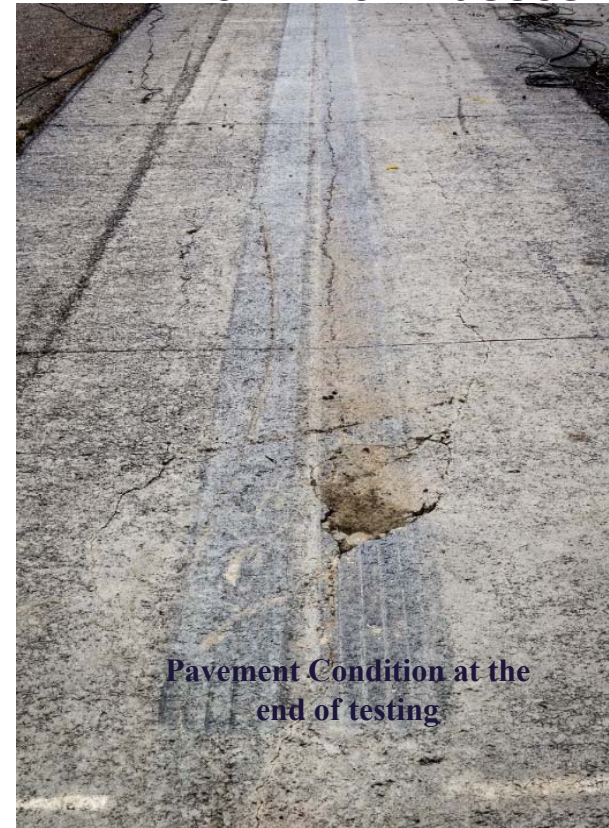
**Dual-tire load, 130psi**  
**Load: up to 30 kips**  
**Speed: 4~6 mph**  
**Bi-directional loading**  
**Effective length: 42-ft**  
**About 10,000 passes/day**

## Distress Observed (6+8.5RCC) – Section 5

### □ Visual Distresses

- Longitudinal cracks were observed along the wheel path and at the edge of the tire print
- Pumping action was observed through cracks and joints
- **87.4 million ESALs to failure**
- *1.9 million ESALs predicted*

1.75 million Passes



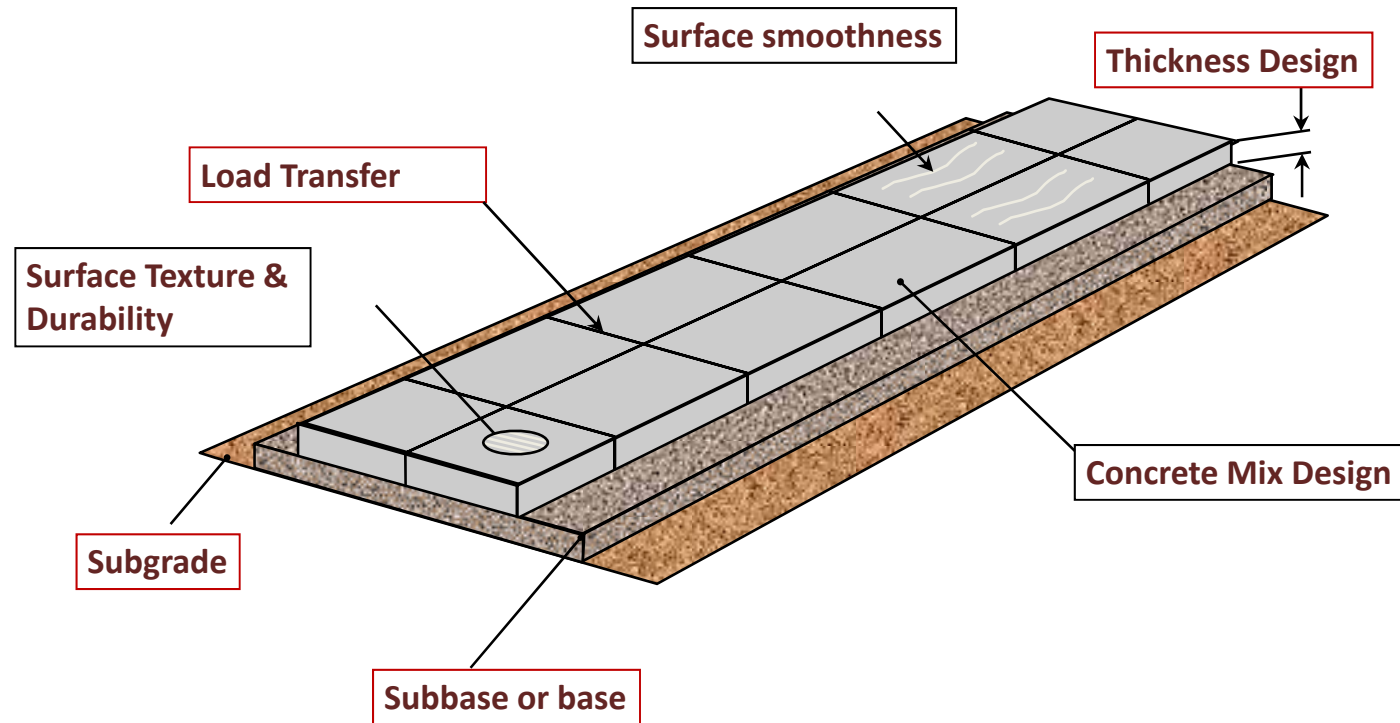
Pavement Condition at the  
end of testing

# Conclusions

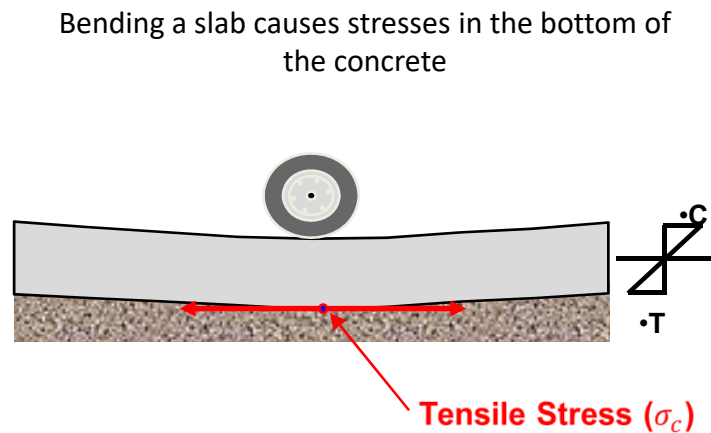
- The ATLaS30 loading results generally indicate that
  - a thin-RCC over soil cement pavement structure has a superior load carrying performance
  - Recommendation to select and build several field RCC test sections on those Louisiana highways where the pavements are often encountered by heavy truck loading
    - To validate the APT performance and provide further implementation guidelines
  - ***8-inch sections will not to fail!***



## RCC DESIGN FEATURES

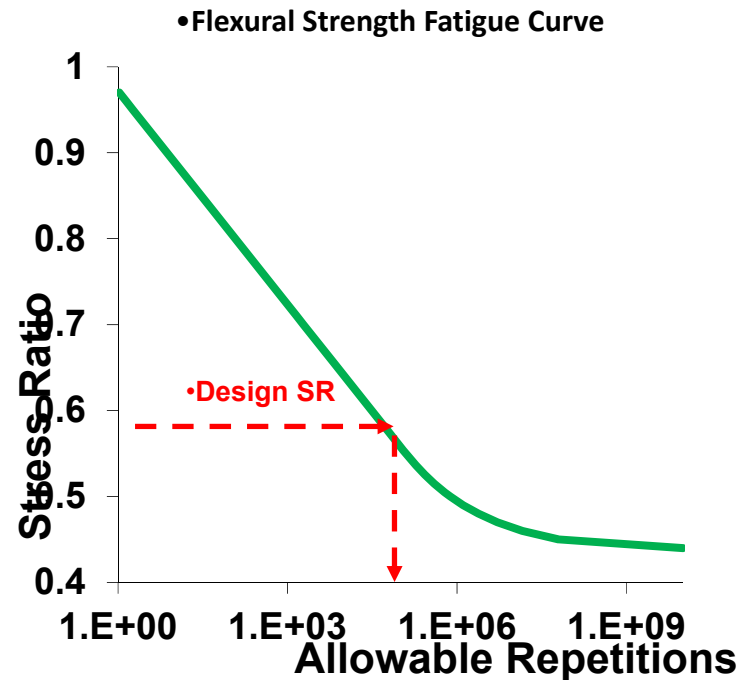


## THICKNESS IS DETERMINED BY LIMITING THE FATIGUE STRESS THAT WILL DEVELOP IN THE CONCRETE



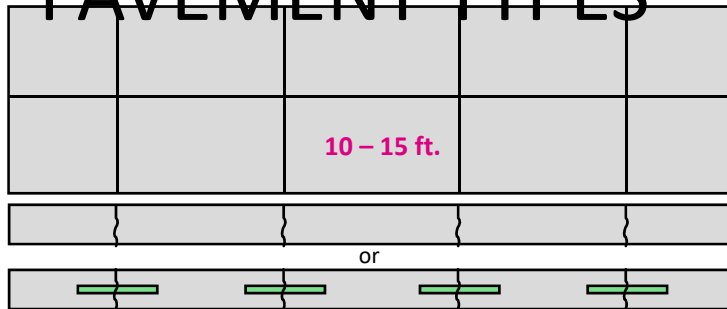
$$\text{Stress Ratio (SR)} = \frac{\sigma_c}{M_r}$$

- $M_r$  = 28-day Flexural strength (Modulus of Rupture)



- Thickness is iterated until induced stress is low enough to carry the desired number of loads

# THERE ARE THREE BASIC CONCRETE PAVEMENT TYPES



## Jointed Plain Concrete Pavements (JPCP)

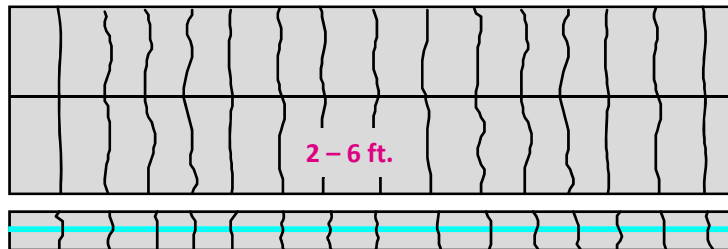
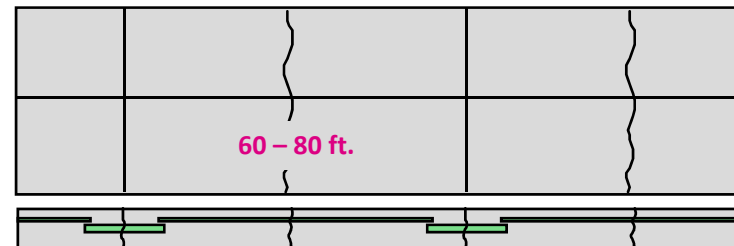
Jointed plain concrete pavements contain sawed joints so that the natural cracks occur at the joints and not elsewhere in the slab. The spacing between transverse joints is usually 10 to 15 ft. JPCP's typically have deformed steel tiebars at the longitudinal joints to hold the lanes together, but they do not contain other mesh reinforcement.

Depending on the slab thickness, JPCP's may contain smooth steel dowel bars at transverse joints to improve load transfer

## Jointed Reinforced Concrete Pavements (JRCP)

JRCP's contain steel mesh reinforcement. With JRCP's, the joint spacing purposely increased and the reinforcing steel holds the mid-panel cracks that will develop together. The spacing between transverse joints is between 30 ft. and 100 ft.

The problem with JRCP's is that the steel ruptures, and the cracks start to open, move, and deteriorate. For this reason, **industry does not recommend building JRCP.**



## Continuously Reinforced Concrete Pavements (CRCP)

CRCP's do not have transverse joints. Rather, they are designed with high amounts of steel reinforcement that hold the transverse cracks that do develop tightly together. The cracks usually develop at intervals of 3-5 ft.

Considered the premier concrete pavement

# DO NOT SUPPORT JRCP

## ACI 330R-08

- ACI 3.8.1 Distributed steel reinforcement  
*“When the pavement is jointed to form short panel lengths that will minimize intermediate cracking, distributed steel reinforcement is not necessary. The practice of adding distributed steel to increase panel lengths has largely been discredited, and generally leads to excessive joint movements and interior panel cracks that deteriorate over time. Shorter un-reinforced panels are generally more economical and provide better performance.”*

## American Concrete Pavement Association

**ACPA IS416P states (see page 3):**  
*“... the sole purpose of the steel is to tightly hold together intermediate cracks that may be expected in longer panels. Distributed steel does not add to the load-carrying capacity of the pavement, nor compensate for poor subgrade conditions.”*

## Bureau of Public Roads

- *“In 1940, the U.S., Bureau of Public Roads [precursor to FHWA] conducted a series of tests to evaluate expansion joints. These tests found that expansion joints progressively close over the years causing greater openings at nearby contraction joints. This led to spalling, loss of aggregate interlock, and sealant failure, which in turn allowed water and incompressible into the joint causing pumping, faulting, and corner breaks. As a result, it was concluded that expansion joints should not be used in concrete pavements built with normal aggregates under normal temperatures with contraction joints spaced less than 60 ft (18 m).”*

## TxDOT

**JRCP is not in line with TxDOT standards** – The TxDOT *Pavement Design Guide* states :

*“This [JRCP] rigid pavement design option is no longer endorsed by the department because of past difficulties in selecting effective rehabilitation strategies.”*

**None of the recent pavement design procedures allow for JRCP (AASHTO, ACPA, or ACI)**