Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement Design in Illinois

North Central MEPDG Users Group February 19, 2008

Pavement Design in Illinois

M-E pavement design adopted August 1989
Full-Depth HMA
Jointed PCC (15-foot doweled slabs)
Traffic and subgrade inputs common to both
Modified AASHTO design for CRCP

Jointed PCC Thickness



CRCP Design

IL-Modified AASHTO with CRCP = 0.8 JRCP
 CRCP used if design traffic ≥ 35 million ESALs
 Performance indicates design is conservative

PCC Proposed Changes

 IHR-57, "Evaluation And Implementation Of Improved CRCP And JPCP Design Methods For Illinois " – Jeff Roesler
 Update JPCP design
 Develop M-E CRCP design



JPCP Review/Proposed Changes

ESALs vs. Load Spectra

 Vehicle/axle type has minimal impact on T_{PCC}

 Effect of climate has minimal impact on T_{PCC}
 Revisit shoulder type, base type/effect of erosion, fatigue algorithm, reliability, definition of failure, cracking/damage calibration

Consider endurance limit



CRCP Development

- MEPDG and Zollinger/TX spreadsheet
- Main inputs: T_{PCC}, design life, climate (seasonal basis), ESALs, shoulder type, base type, and construction season
- Failure mode = punchouts/mile
- Want to consider endurance limit concept
 <u>Revisions underway to tailor to IL</u>



Full-Depth HMA Design

- Failure mode = fatigue cracking
- Traffic

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Subgrade Support Rating

Design Time HMA Temperature



HMA Modulus



Design Strain



HMA Thickness



Full-Depth HMA Changes

- Dynamic Modulus Prediction Model Inputs
 - Mix temperature
 - Mix design parameters
 - Binder properties
- Fatigue Algorithm
 - Form: $N = K1 \times (1 / HMA STRAIN)^{K2}$
 - Current: $N = 5 \times 10^{-6} (1 / HMA STRAIN)^{3.0}$
 - Proposed: $N = 2.65 \times 10^{-9} (1 / HMA STRAIN)^{4.0}$



Extended Life Design





