



Putting the Puzzle Together  
On Our  
National Asphalt RD&T  
Activities

**Thomas Harman**

*Asphalt Pavement Team Leader, R&D*

**Federal Highway Administration**



*N*ational  
*C*ooperative  
*H*ighway  
*R*esearch  
*P*rogram

Dr. Edward Harrigan, Ph.D.  
9-Series, Fall 2002





# NAS - AASHTO's Research Program Since 1962

For Project Status Reports, Requests for Proposals, Online Documents, Products Developed for AASHTO Committees, and Other Information, Visit the Web at:

[www4.trb.org/trb/crp.nsf/](http://www4.trb.org/trb/crp.nsf/)



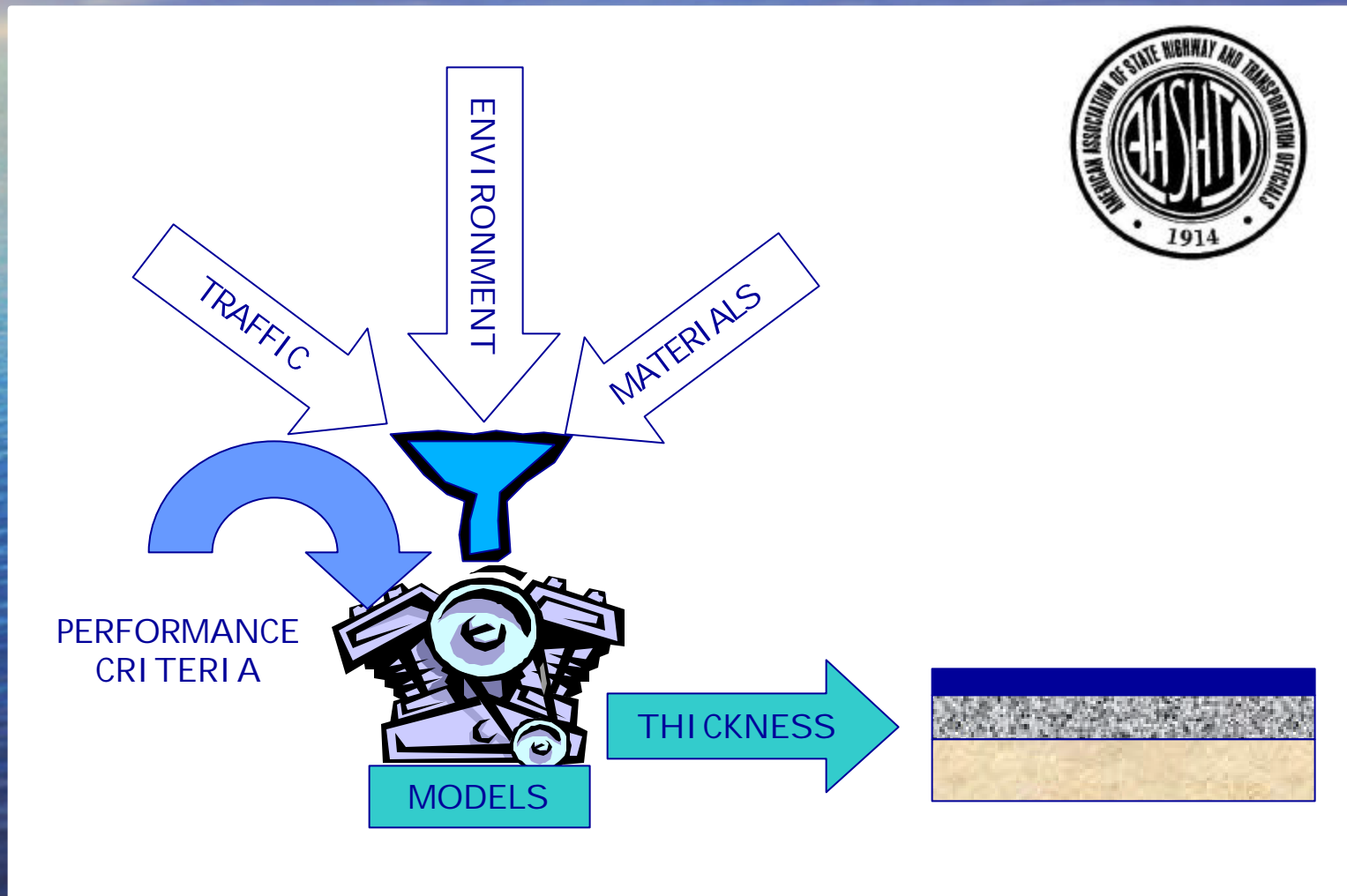
Structural

Construction

Materials



# NCHRP 1-37(A) Proposed AASHTO 2002 PDG...



# Key Staff...

**Principal Investigator  
John P. Hallin**

**CO-PI ( Marketing Training  
Implementation)  
Kenneth McGhee**

**Flexible Pavement  
Matthew W. Witczak**

**Rigid Pavement  
Michael I. Darter**



# NCHRP 1-37(A)

July 200~~2~~ 3...



Develop and deliver a guide for design of new and rehabilitated pavement structures

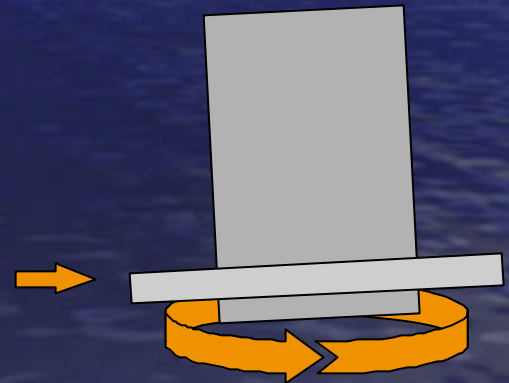
- Based on mechanistic-empirical principles
- Accompanied by the necessary computational software
- For adoption and distribution by AASHTO



# 9-9(1): *Verification of Gyration Levels in the $N_{design}$ Table...*

How well does densification at the  $N_{design}$  in PP28 match the field under traffic? ↓

*NCAT (August 2003)*





# 9-9(1): *Verification of Gyration Levels in the $N_{design}$ Table...*

## **Independent Variables:**

- Gyration level
- Aggregate gradation, fine & coarse
- Binder grade “bump”
- Lift thickness to NMAS ratio

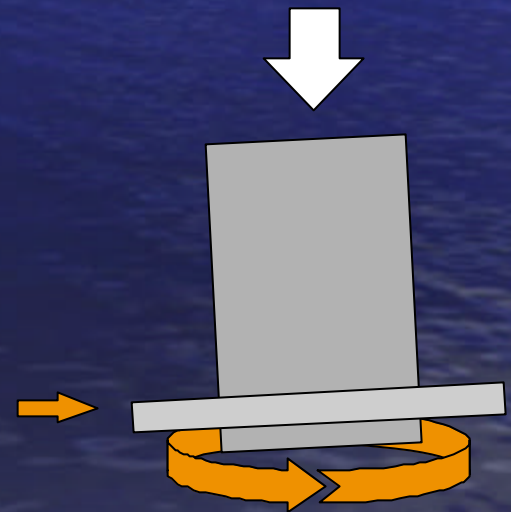
## 9-9(1): *Verification of Gyration Levels in the $N_{design}$ Table.*

- Average as-constructed air voids of 40 projects is  $8.4 \pm 1.9\%$
- At 1 year, average for 14 projects decreased from  $8.5 \pm 2.2\%$  to  $5.8 \pm 1.9\%$
- No relationships yet apparent



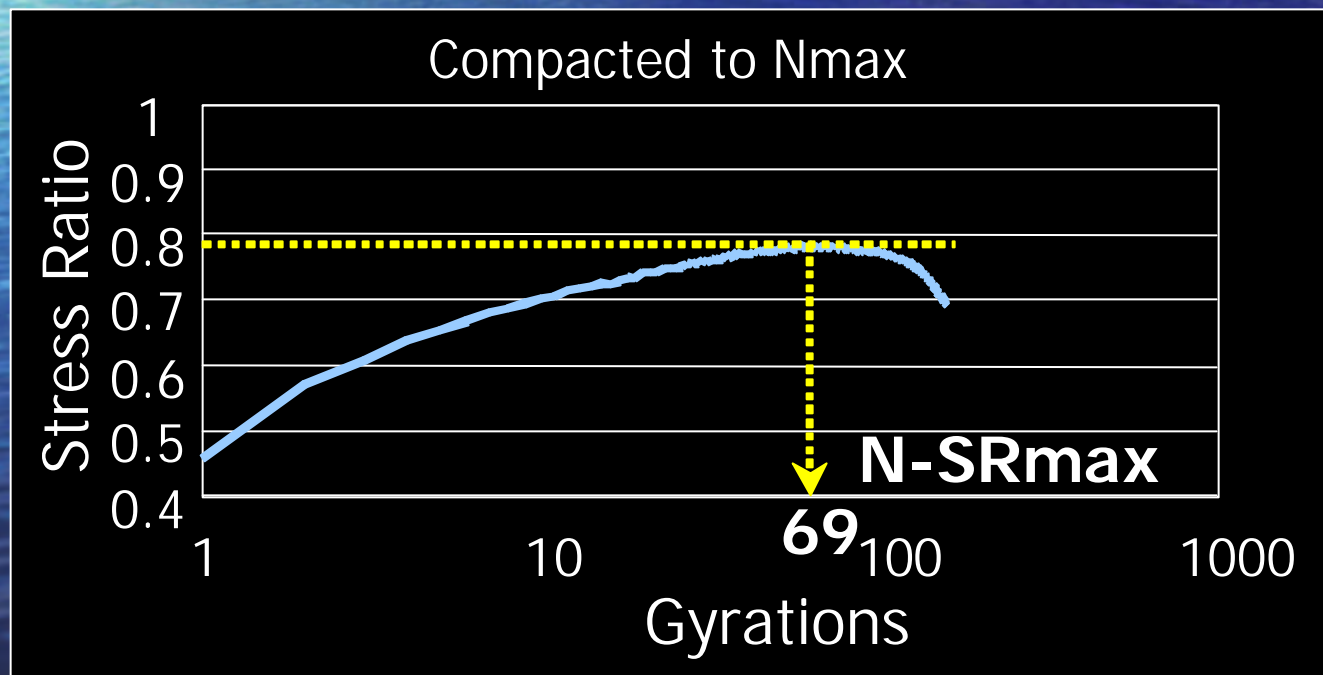
# 9-16(1): *Validation of 9-16 Findings for HMA QC...*

- Validate the use of  $N-SR_{max}$  # of gyrations at max stress ratio measured with the SGC as a tool for field QC of HMA production.



# NCHRP 9-16 Issues...

- (1)  $N-SR_{max}$  is not a standard capability
- (2) Relatively insensitive to AC stiffness
- (3) Researchers have developed a new approach





# Something New

- Dynamic Evaluation of Specification Compliance
- Determination of  $N-SR_{\max}$

Test Quip / Gilson  
Pressure Response Indicator  
(PRI)

# 9-19: *Superpave Support and Performance Models Management, Task C...*

## **Candidate simple performance tests:**

- Dynamic modulus:  $E^*/\sin F$  (PD/FC)
- Static creep: flow time (PD)
- Triaxial repeated load permanent deformation: flow number (PD)



# 9-19: *Superpave Support and Performance Models Management, Task C.*

**SPT Validation:** Correlate test results with field performance of selected field sections - IN SPS-9, NV I-80, AZ I-10, NCAT Track (10), MnRoad, FHWA ALF, WesTrack

**SPT Criteria:** Develop with aid of performance models in the 2002 pavement design guide (1-37A)

## *9-29: Simple Performance Tester for Superpave Mix Design...*

- **First-article simple performance testers from Interlaken and ShedWorks/IPC under evaluation by AAT and FHWA.**

*Advanced Asphalt Technologies  
(April 2003)*



# Simple Performance Test First Articles (9-29)...

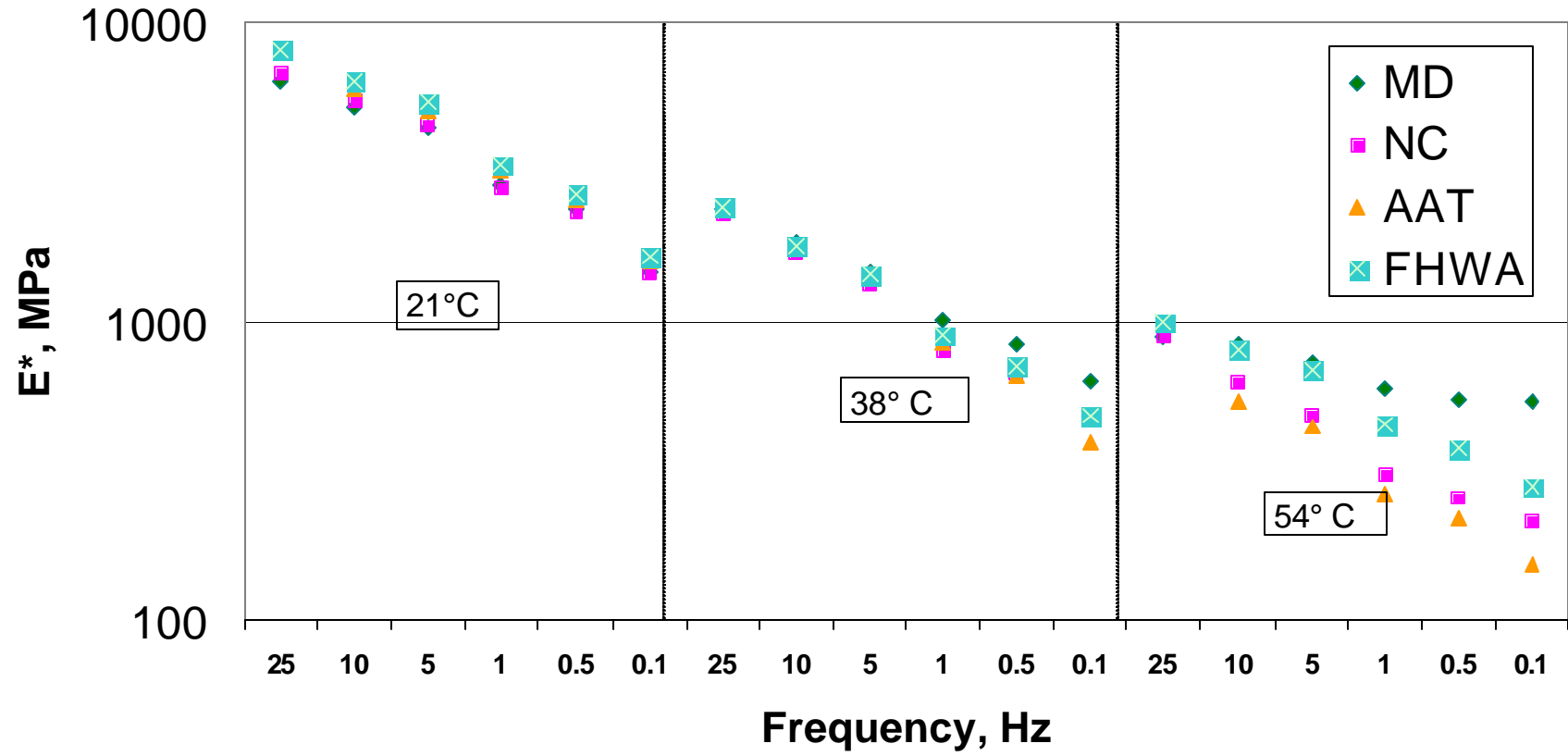
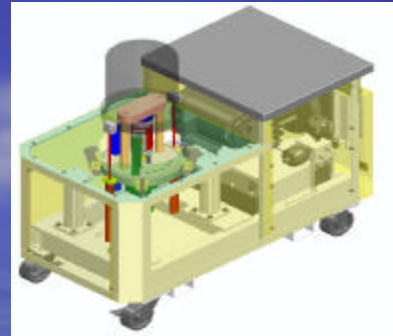


Shedworks



Interlaken

# E\* Pooled Fund Preliminary Results.





# 9-23: *Environmental Effects in Pavement Mix & Structural Design Systems...*

- Validate the latest version of **Integrated Climatic Model (ICM)** developed in NCHRP Project 1-37A
- Verify the estimated period or rate of in-service aging simulated by AASHTO PP1 and PP2

Arizona State University (August 2003)

## 9-23: *Environmental Effects in Pavement Mix & Structural Design Systems.*

- All field work for ICM validation completed at 27 LTPP sites, MnRoad, and WesTrack
- Field samples obtained for verification of AASHTO PP1 & PP2



# 9-22: *Beta-Testing and Validation of HMA PRS...*

In 2001, beta tested HMA SPEC v. 1.0 (done) and tested PRS as “shadow spec” on five field projects

*Fugro-BRE, Inc. (December 2003)*

Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Maryland, Illinois...



## ***9-22: Beta-Testing and Validation of HMA PRS.***

- **HMASpec V. 2.0: Incorporate requisite PRS elements and original WesTrack performance models into the 2002 Pavement Design Guide software program**
- **Preliminary LCC/PRS analysis of field projects complete.**



# 9-22: *Beta-Testing and Validation of HMA PRS...*

<u>Project</u>	<u>Lots</u>	<u>Pay Factor</u>
A	7	1.35 ± 0.26
B	7	1.17 ± 0.15
C	7	1.16 ± 0.21
D	9	0.85 ± 0.18
E	9	0.22 ± 0.20

LCCA based on Level I WesTrack models



***9-25: Requirements for Voids  
in Mineral Aggregate for  
Superpave Mixtures +***

**Which volumetric design  
criterion best ensures  
adequate durability and  
performance: VMA, VFA, or  
calculated binder film  
thickness?**

***Advanced Asphalt Technologies  
(October 2003)***



# ***9-31: Air Void Requirements for Superpave Mix Design...***

**Should the design air void  
content vary with traffic loading  
and climatic conditions?**

***Advanced Asphalt Technologies  
(October 2003)***

**Advanced Asphalt Technologies, LLC**



*"Engineering Services for the Asphalt Industry"*

9-25/9-31

## Preliminary Findings.

- Defining optimum binder content at 4% air voids appears reasonable and effective in producing stable, durable HMA mixes
- Rut resistance increases with decreasing VMA, increasing compaction, increasing aggregate surface area
- Fatigue resistance is strongly correlated with binder content only



## ***9-30: Plan for Calibration and Validation of HMA Models***

**Q.** What does the validation of the HMA performance models in the 2002 Guide with laboratory-measured properties entail in time, money, and materials?

*Fugro-BRE, Inc. (April 2003)*

# 9-33: *A Mix Design Manual for Hot Mix Asphalt*

**Update the 1993 method and manual:**

- Simple performance test(s).
- As-delivered 2002 design guide performance models and software.
- Spreadsheets for volumetric design, performance testing, and design optimization.

*(RFP Issue: April 2003 or later)*



# ***9-34: Improved Conditioning Procedure for Predicting HMA Moisture Susceptibility***

**Improved conditioning procedure based on the environmental conditioning system (ECS) for use with the validated SPT.**

***Pennsylvania Transportation Institute  
(March 2004)***

***9-35: Aggregate Properties & Their  
Relationship to the Performance:  
A Critical Review +***

**Identify consensus, source,  
and other aggregate  
properties that significantly  
impact HMA performance.**

***NCAT (June 2003)***

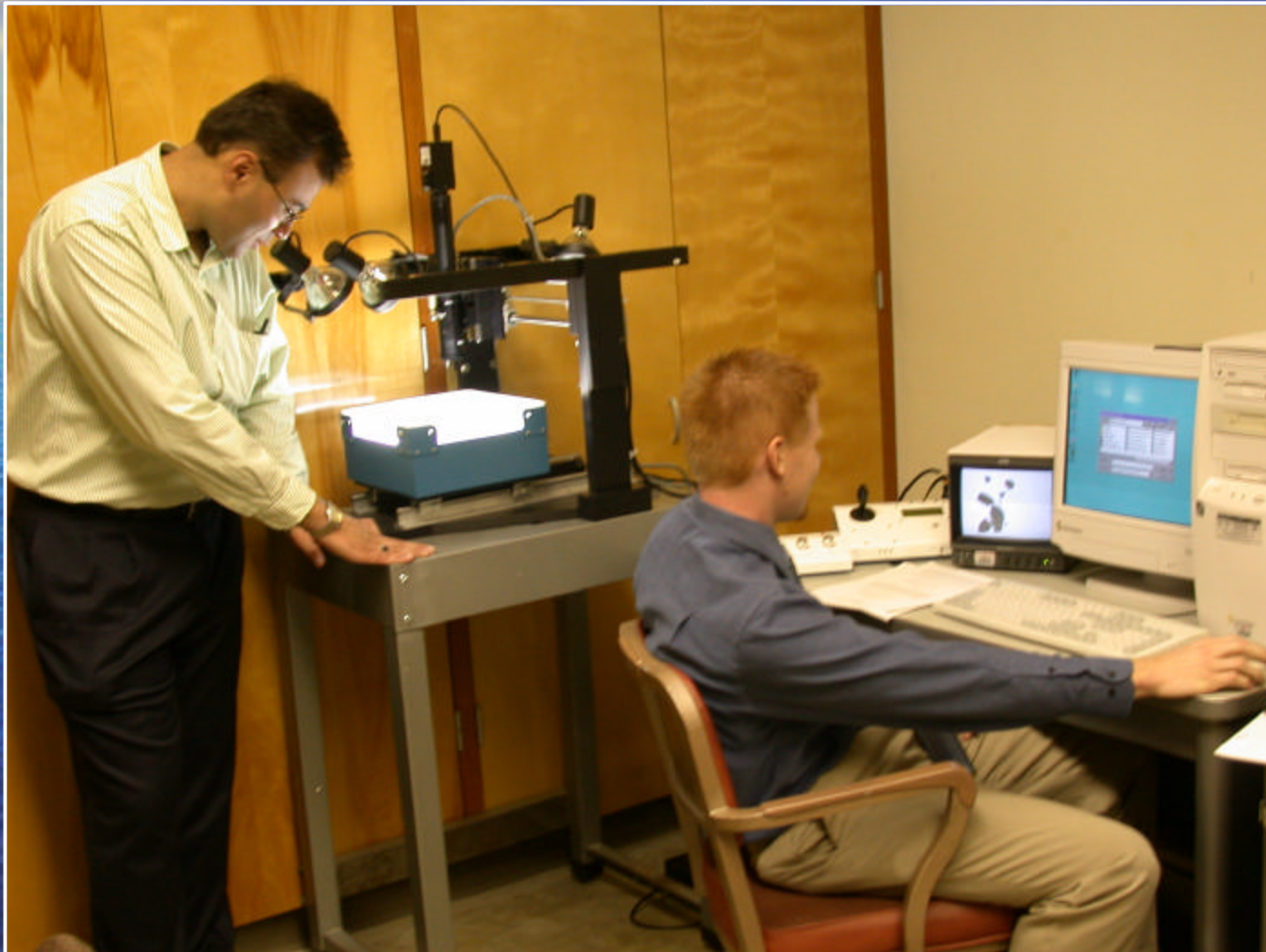


***4-30: Improved Testing  
Methods for Critical Aggregate  
Shape/Texture Factors...***

**Identify or develop methods for measuring shape, texture, and angularity characteristics of aggregates used in hot-mix asphalt and hydraulic cement concrete**

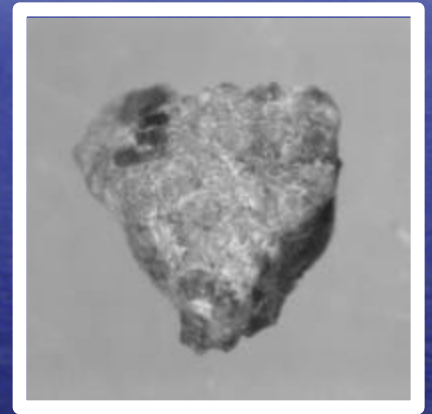
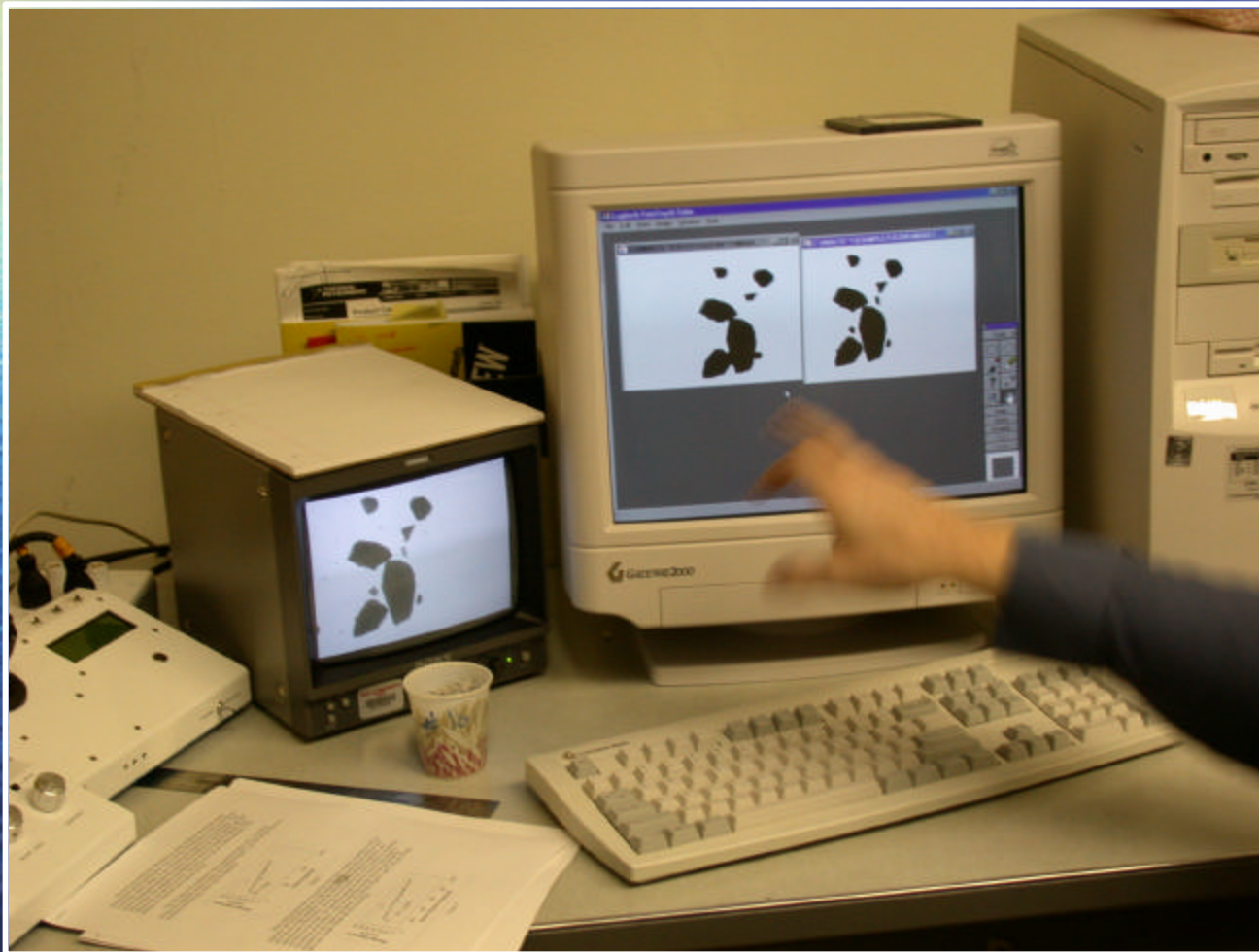
***Washington State University (July 2004)***

# Aggregate IMaging System...





# AIMS



## ***9-36: Improved Procedure for Laboratory Aging of Asphalt Binders in Pavements...***

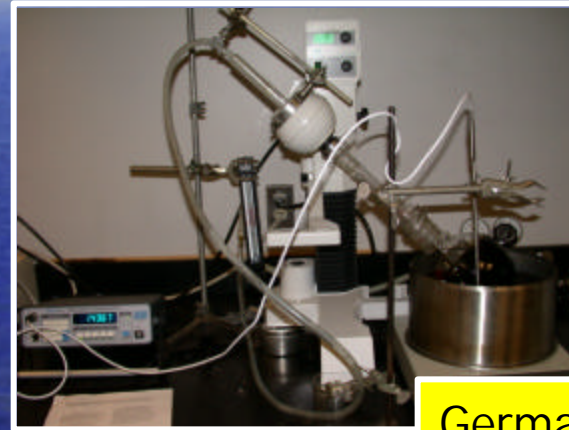
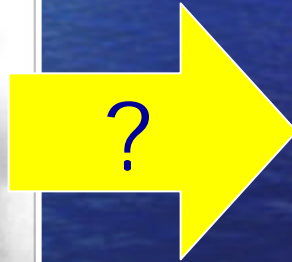
**Develop and validate a recommended procedure for short-term laboratory aging of asphalt binders usable in a purchase specification such as AASHTO M320: (1) neat and modified binders; (2) quantifies binder volatility; (3) extendible to long-term aging; (4) mimics PP2 mix aging**

***Agency Selection, December 2002***



# Superpave® Binder Specification

## Short Term Aging






German Rolling Flask



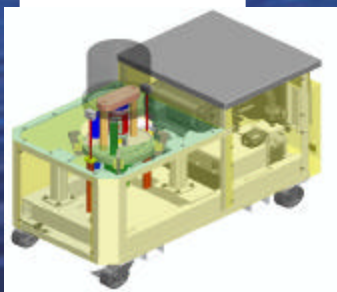
TX DOT is adopting this technology

Issue: Within procedure post-aging handling practices

# "The Puzzle"

	<p>1-37a PDG</p>		<p>9-19 Adv. Models</p>	<p>9-30 Models Calib.</p>				
	<p>9-9 Ndes</p>	<p>9-16 <math>N_{SRMax}</math></p>	<p>9-19 9-29 SPT</p>	<p>9-25 9-31 Voids (PRS)</p>	<p>9-33 Design Manual</p>	<p>9-34 <math>H_2O</math></p>	<p>9-35 4-30 Agg.</p>	<p>9-36 Aging Binder</p>
	<p>9-22 PRS</p>							





# A Few More Pieces To The Puzzle

NCHRP 90-series  
Conducted by  
FHWA

# 90-01: Mobile Asphalt Labs



- Provide “Hands-on” of Superpave System
  - Volumetric Mix Design
  - Field QC/QA Procedures, NCHRP 9-7
  - Dynamic Angle Validation (DAV)
  - Performance Related Specifications 9-22
  - Simple Performance Test 9-29
- 4 to 6 week visits
- Data used to support ETG’s

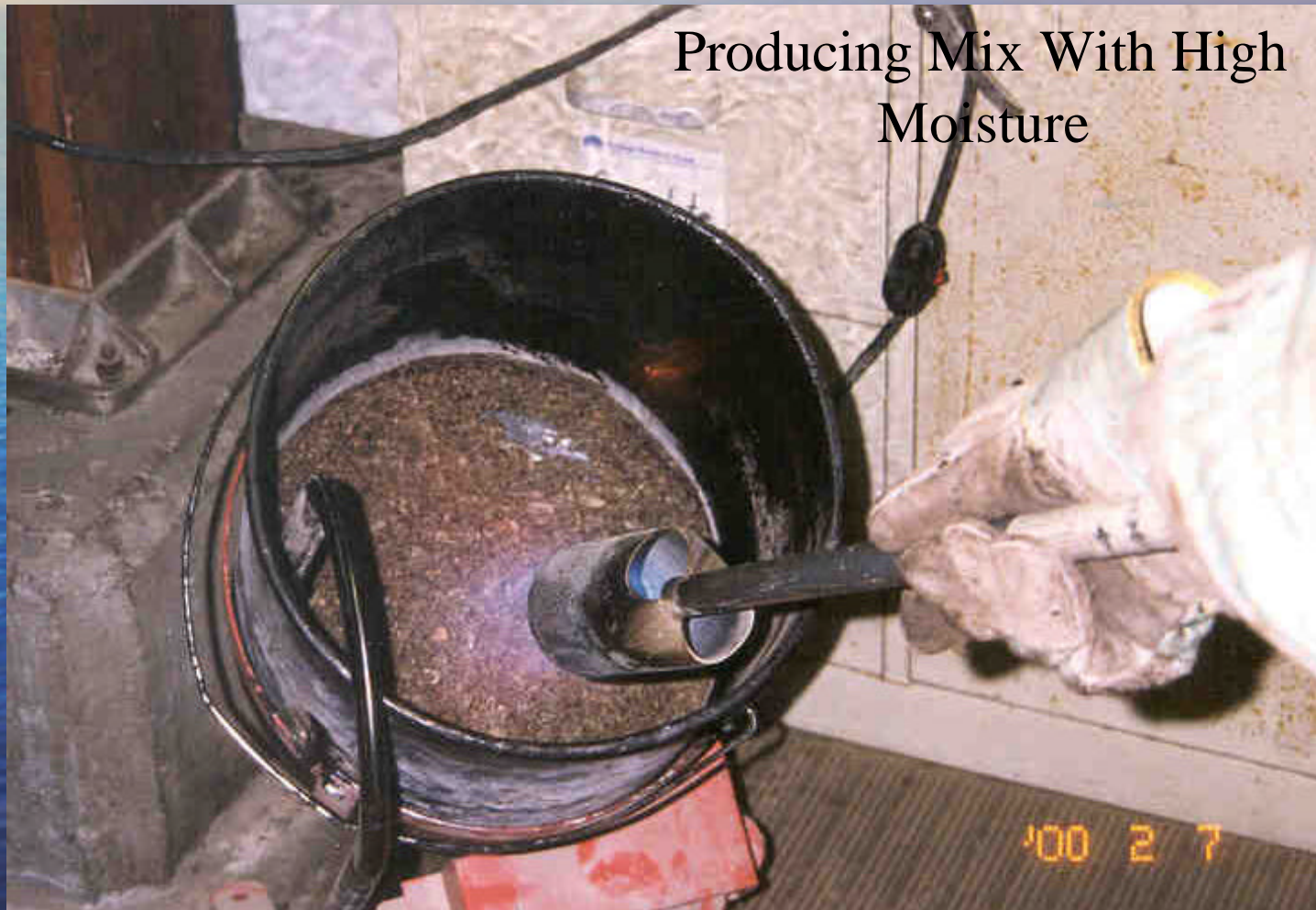




# 90-02: Binder lab

- Continuous support to the States:
  - Training / Ruggedness / Development / Validation
- Trouble shooting of binder problems
- Farther Development of the DT

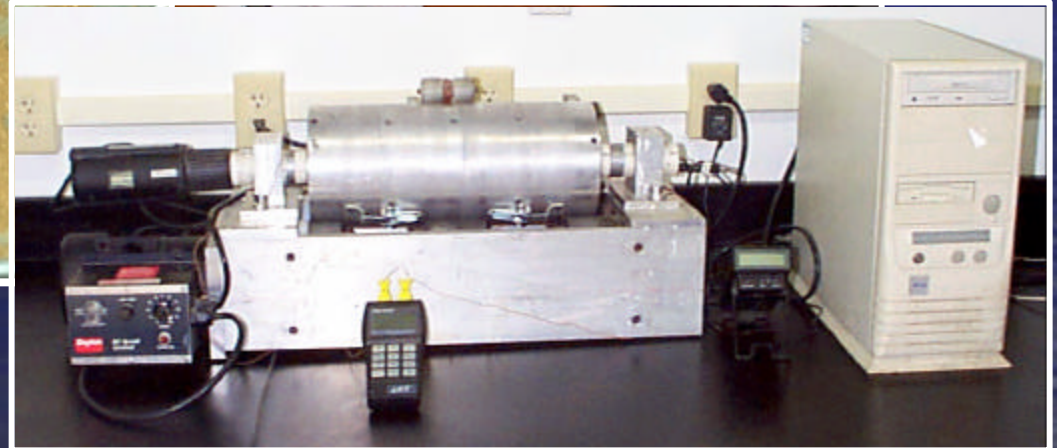
# 90-03 Mix Tenderness.





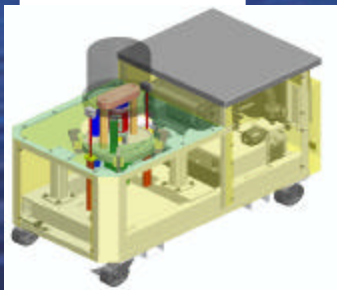
# 90-05 Fine Aggregate Specific Gravity Test

- Issue:
  - VMA Field QC



# Understanding the Performance of Modified Asphalts in Mixtures

NCHRP 90-07, TPF 5-(019)



Asphalt Pavement Team, R&D



# *REFINEMENT* Superpave™



**Partnerships with Products**

***19 State DOT's & 11 Industry Sponsors***



# NCHRP 90-07, TPF 5-(019) Accelerated Load Facility





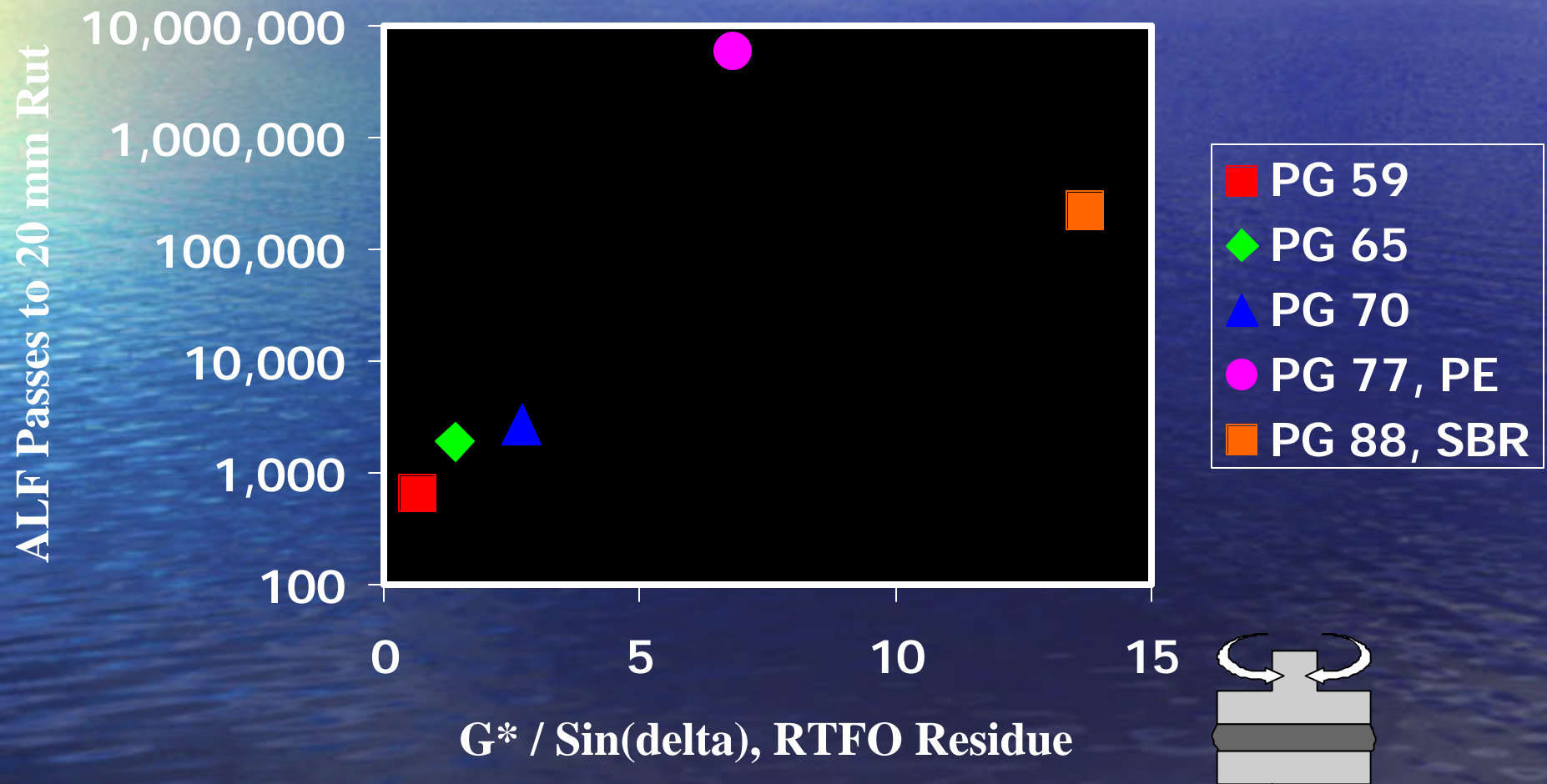
# Historical Perspective

- ✓ '86 Initial Trials
- ✓ '89 WASHTO Field Tests
- ✓ '90 Super Single Tire
- ✓ '93 SHRP binder validation
- ✓ '98 Ultra-Thin Whitetopping



























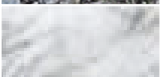
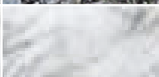
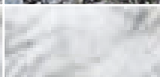
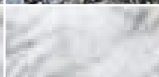
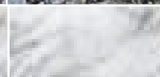
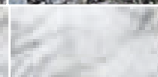
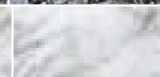


















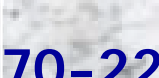




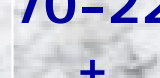





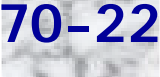







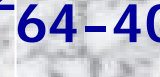































































# FHWA ALF '93 - Key Findings

Tested at 58°C

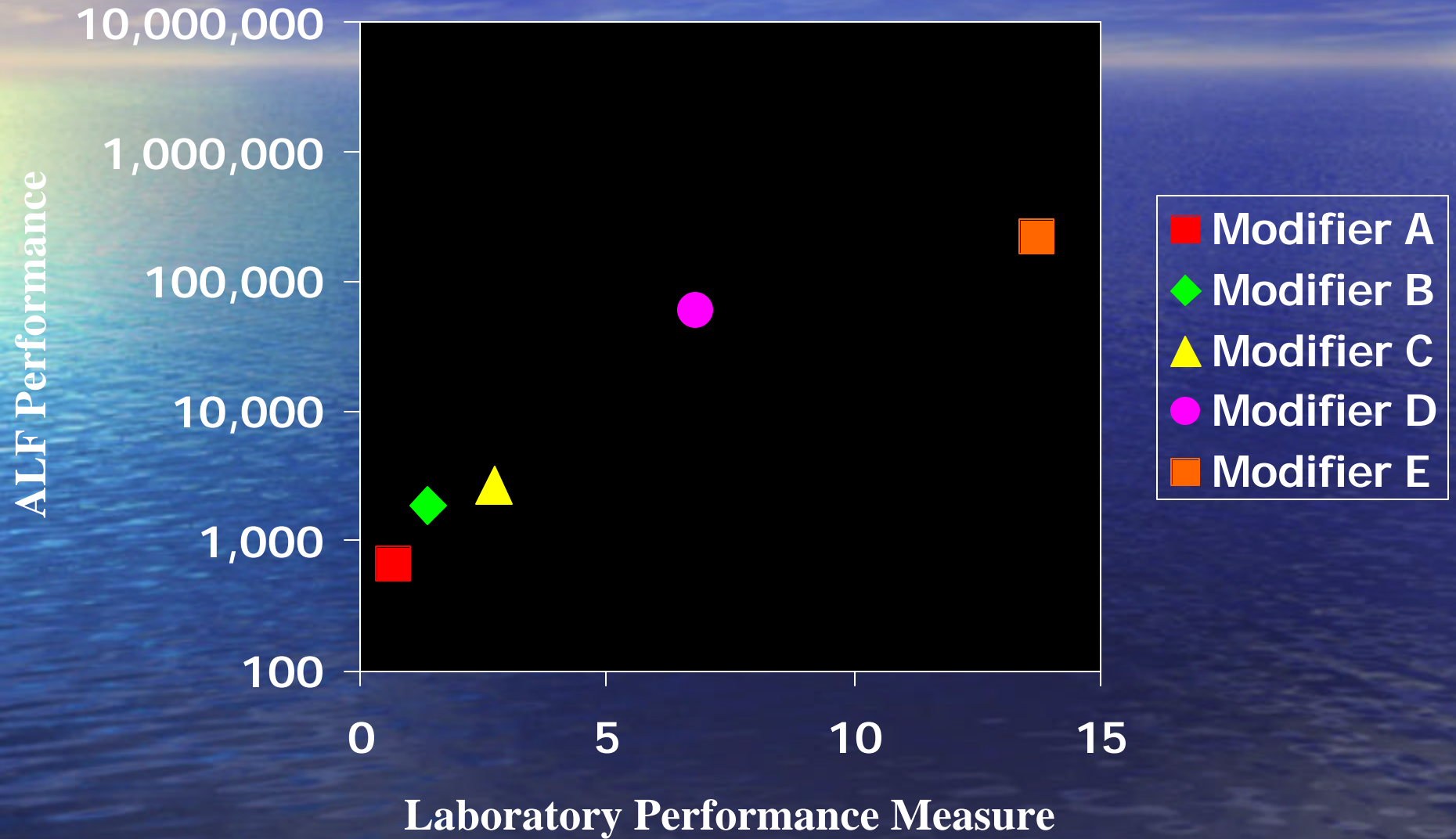




# Final Test Matrix

# Analysis Goal





“So what?”



# Superpave<sup>®</sup> Binder Specification

## Rutting, Fatigue, and Low-Temp. Cracking

WHEN	WHAT	HOW	WHERE
Construction	Safety Pumpability Rutting	Flash Point Rot Visc $G^* / \sin \boxtimes$	230 min 3 Pa-s max T(high)
Early ( <i>RTFO</i> )	Rutting	$G^* / \sin \boxtimes$	T(high)
Late (+ <i>PAV</i> )	Fatigue Low Temp	$G^* \sin \boxtimes$ BBR/DTT	T(inter) T <sub>CR</sub>



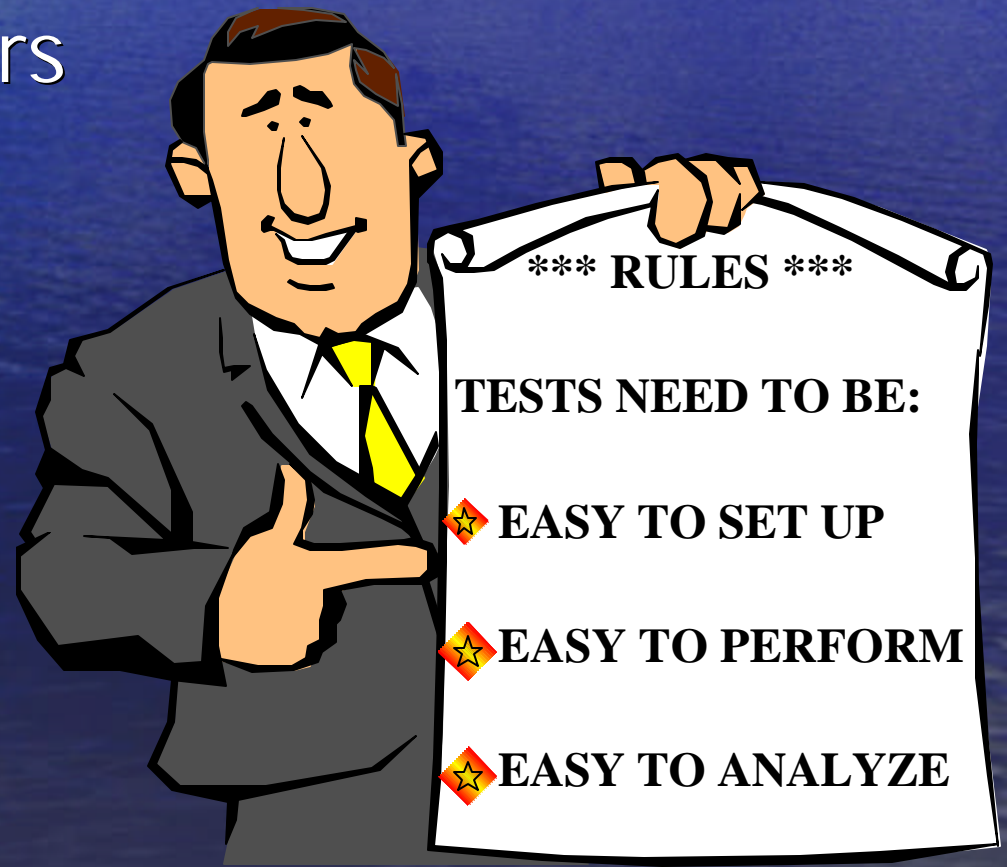
# Superpave<sup>®</sup> Binder Spec. II

## PG based on Degree Days

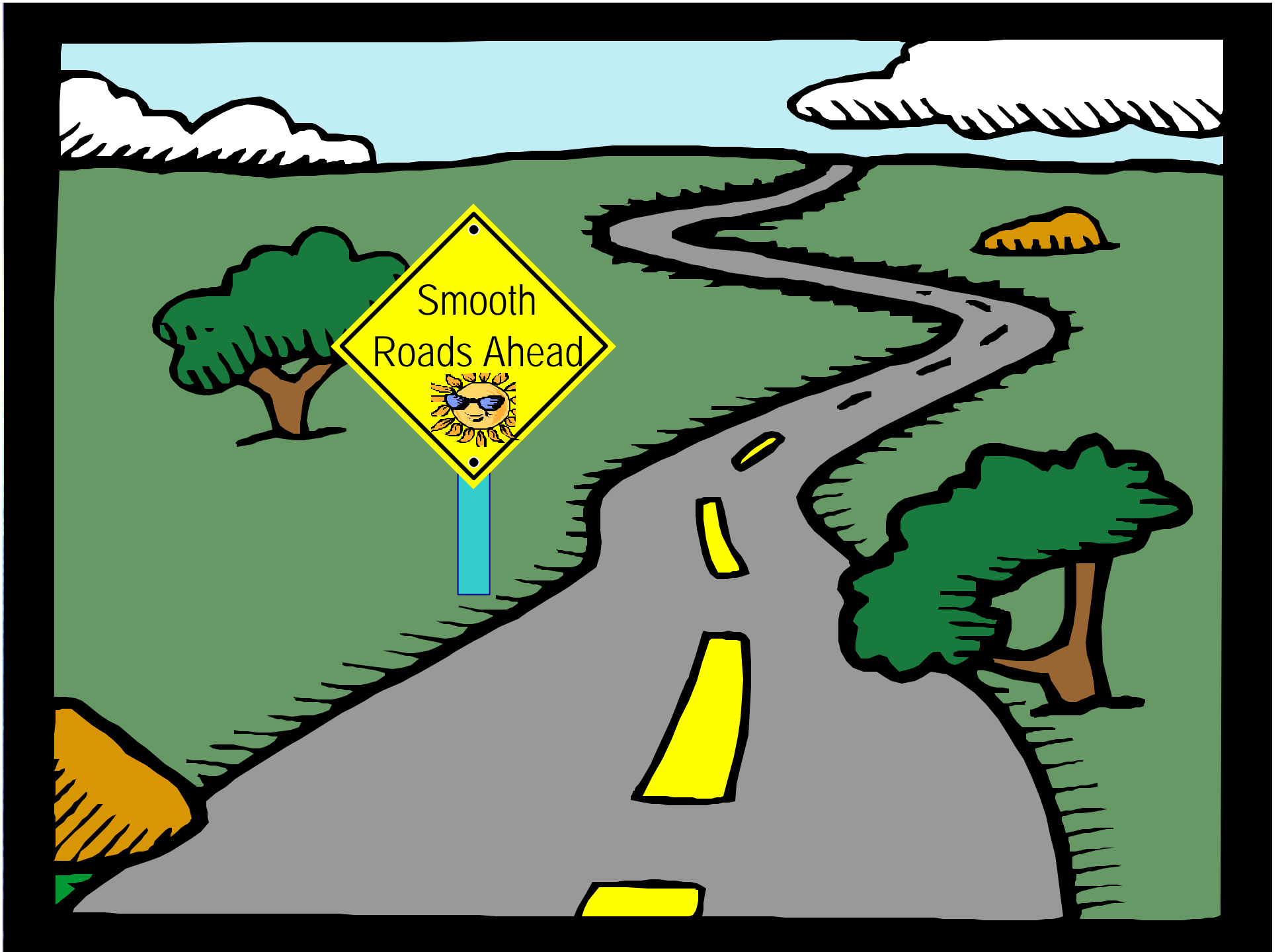
WHEN	WHAT	HOW	WHERE
Construction	Safety Pumpability Rutting	Flash Point Rot Visc $f(G^* \otimes ZSV)$	230 min 3 Pa-s max T(high)
Early <i>Tx Device</i>	Rutting	$f(G^* \otimes ZSV)$	T(high)
Late (+MW)	Fatigue Low Temp	$f''(G^* \otimes DT)$ DT / ABC	T(inter) T <sub>CR</sub>

# "So What?"

- To better handle neat asphalts
- To address modifiers
- To do it faster, better, and more economical!







Smooth  
Roads Ahead

