# Design & Optimization of a Rubber-Bitumen Blend in Preparation for a Rubberized-Asphalt Road Trial in the State of Kuwait









Total Area = 17,818 km<sup>2</sup> Citizens = 1.38 million Expatriates = 3.19 million













Total Road Length  $\approx$  7600 km Road Area  $\approx$  90 million m<sup>2</sup>









21 July 2016, Kuwait set a new record for the Eastern hemisphere & Asia, with a reported temp. of 54.0°C (129.2°F)



















- Rutting (ambient temp., binder grade, quality control, •
- •
- Cracking (oxidation, weak base, ...) Fretting (moisture damage, wet agg., compaction, ...) •





Tyres are being cut on site, transported & stored at "Salmi". Kuwait also adds between 5000-6000 waste tyres/day.





# **Uses of Waste Tyres**



# **Pyrolysis Plant**

- 45-50% Fuel Oil
- 10-15% Steel Wire
- 30-35% Carbon Black

Fluidized bed furnace system Waste tir Aligner Preheate Dumper Conveyor Fluidized bed furnace calciner Fuel Waste tir Aligner 0 Ηt Dumper Kiln Conveyor **Clinker** cooler kiln inlet input system

# Fuel e.g. cement kiln























- Rubberized Asphalt is the largest single market for ground rubber in the US, consuming ≈ 12 million tyres annually.
- Typically between 15 & 20% of the normal bitumen may be replaced by crumb rubber.
- 13 DoTs currently implement use of rubberized asphalt (dark green).
- 5 States have performed successful lab & field testing (lighter green).
- Assuming; 1 lane width = 3.75m, wearing course thickness = 5cm, % b.c. = 5%, HMA density = 2.4 ton/m<sup>3</sup>.
- For 20% rubber blend, we will require 4.5 tons rubber per 1 km length per 1 lane (i.e. approx. 500 scrap car tyres).



- The **AR150 blending unit** is a portable unit that holds a control house, a crumb rubber hopper, & a series of pumps & augers upto a blending vessel that you pump into.
- The bitumen & crumb rubber are combined in a blending pot at 3500 rpm & immediately pumped into reaction tank.
- The reaction tank, or holding tank, is a second portable unit. It's a 30,000 gallon tank split into 2 halves of 15,000 gallons each. In that tank, the rubber reacts with the virgin bitumen & the mix is held for a specified period of time while it cures.
- The tank is heated & has agitators at the bottom & midlevel so that the material rotates from the bottom to top & then back down the sides in one continuous motion.







Polyisoprene or Poly(cis-1,4 isoprene)

Rubber







Composition % by mass	Passenger tyre	Truck tyre
Natural Rubber	14 %	27 %
Synthetic rubber	27 %	14 %
Carbon black	28 %	28 %
Steel	14 – 15 %	14-15 %
Fabric, fillers, accelerators, antizonants	16 – 17 %	16-17 %
Average Weight	New 11 kg, Scrap 9 kg	New 54 kg, Scrap 45 kg





Solvent swelling of elastomers







# Variables Affecting Binder Performance:

- Bitumen grade & chemistry
- Rubber type & chemistry
- Rubber content
- Rubber gradation (particle size distribution)
- Shearing Energy (blending equipment used)
- Shearing time
- Shearing temperature
- Holding time (before & after shearing) at elevated temp.
- etc.









#### Design of Optimum Crumb Rubber Content



#### Multiple stress creep recovery (MSCR), % elastic recovery test results

Instantaneous

Elastic Strain

Delayed

Elastic Strain

Strain due to

viscous flow

	Ave. Recovery at 0.1kPa (%)			Ave. R	ecovery	at 3.2 kP	a (%)	
	40°C	50°C	60°C	70°C	40°C	50°C	60°C	70°C
Inman	-	7.97	1.76	0	0	2.08	0	0
Q8	28.43	12.52	3.36	0	25.27	6.11	0	0
Inman +15%	91.07	91.55	93.15	99.41	82.21	70.59	34.77	9.84
Q8+15%	92.27	98.32	99.55	99.73	76.47	57.95	22.48	5.18
Inman +18%	94.92	98.56	99.12	97.6	87.53	80.4	49.05	16.72
Q8+18%	97.65	99.51	99.71	99.91	88.9	92.81	79.18	29.94

#### Multiple stress creep recovery (MSCR), non-recoverable creep compliance (J<sub>nr</sub>) results

	Ave. J <sub>nr</sub> at 0.1kPa (1/kPa)				Ave. J <sub>nr</sub> at 3.2 kPa (1/kPa)			
	40°C	50°C	60°C	70°C	40°C	50°C	60°C	70°C
Inman	-	0.8532	3.9024	14.4025	0	0.945	4.3377	15.7782
Q8	0.0862	0.5366	2.455	9.0424	0.0899	0.5926	2.765	10.1493
Inman +15%	0.004	0.0129	0.0297	0.0055	0.0082	0.0456	0.3521	1.6916
Q8+15%	0.0023	0.0018	0.0014	0.0015	0.0072	0.0477	0.3401	1.5496
Inman +18%	0.0015	0.0012	0.002	0.0118	0.0036	0.017	0.1429	0.8841
Q8+18%	0.0005	0.0003	0.0005	0.0002	0.0024	0.0049	0.0399	0.443

#### PG grading results at 10 rad/s & 12% strain

	Test Temp. (°C)	Phase angle (deg)	Ave. G* (kPa)	G*/sin∂ (kPa)	Pass/Fail temp. (°C)
Inman	70	88	0.7	0.68	Pass 67
Q8	76	87.7	0.5	0.54	Pass 70.7
Inman +15%	100	48.6	0.7	0.91	Pass 97.9
Inman +18%	100	54.1	1.0	1.28	Pass 100
Q8+18%	94	51.2	0.6	0.81	Pass 89.1



#### Example of MSCR Test Output



# MSCR-Test (AASHTO T350-14) - Final Report

Project name: 10/24/2017\_MSCR (V2)

 Date, Time:
 10/24/2017 5:10:18 PM

 Test name:
 10/24/2017\_Inman+15%CRM-40C MSCR\_0.1/3.2kPa

 Operator:
 DSR

 Sample:
 Batch no.:

 Description:
 Configuration:

 Anton Paar SmartPave 102 SN82228255
 PP25/PE SN51061

A

P-PTD200+H-PTD120 SN82196592-82219505





# PelletPAVE

- No need for agitated storage tanks
- No more field blending at the hot plant site
- No additional equipment required
- No chance of material separating in storage tanks
- Typically 2% PelletPave per ton of asphalt



Asphalt Rubber Blend

















- Customs, Port Clearance, Inspection Charges, Enviro. Public Authority, KOC, ...
- Unloading Containers
- 850kg PelletPave sacks
- Cover from Sun







- Extremely hot summer
- All sacks burst
- Some material fused
- Re-bagging into 15kg PE bags



Traditional Marshall Method of Mix Design













- Stability v.s. bitumen content
- Flow v.s. bitumen content
- Bulk density v.s. bitumen content
- Air voids v.s. bitumen content
- Voids filled with bitumen v.s. bitumen content

### **Preliminary Rubberized-Asphalt** Marshall Mix Designs (by Consultant)

Phoenix Ind. Mix Designs	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%
	Pellet	Pellet-	Pellet-
	-Pave	Pave	Pave
Optimum binder content (%)	5.50	5.70	5.80
Air voids in total mix (%)	4.48	4.48	4.48
(allowable range 4-6%)			
VMA (%)	17.30	17.30	17.30
(min. requirement 14%)			
Dust to bitumen ratio	0.77	0.74	0.73
Effective Specific gravity	2.622	2.621	2.617

Kuwait MPW Marshall design criteria for Type III wearing course asphalt concrete mix HMA

	Min.	Max.
No. of compaction blows		75
Stability (kN)	18	-
Flow (0.25mm)	8	16
VMA (%)	14	-
Air Voids (%)	4	6
VFB (%)	63	75

HMA





#### Confirmation of Rubberized-Asphalt Mix Designs

Phoenix Ind. Mix	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%	
Designs	Pellet	Pellet-	Pellet-	
	-Pave	Pave	Pave	
Optimum binder	5.50	5.70	5.80	
content (%)				
Air voids (%)	4.48	4.48	4.48	
(allowable range 4-6%)				
VMA (%)	17.30	17.30	17.30	
(min. allowable 14%)				
Design dust to	0.77	0.74	0.73	
bitumen ratio				
Effective Specific	2.622	2.621	2.617	
gravity				



Comparison of Marshall Voids results (based on W<sub>a</sub>, W<sub>w</sub>, SSD & KCPC G<sub>mm</sub>) Contractor lab. (by mass of agg.) MOD-HE lab. (by mass of mix)

Compare the MOD 2.5% PelletPave (binder content = 5.5% by mass of mix) with KCPC 3.5% PelletPave (binder content 5.48% by mass of mix) as both mixes have almost the same total binder content. Evidently, for the same total binder content one can observe an almost doubling of the voids content as one moves from 2.5% to 3.5% PelletPave. This is irrefutable evidence that the rubber component is causing de-compaction of the mix during the compaction process.



at 2.5%, 3.0% & 3.5% PelletPave contents.

Note from Fig., at any one PelletPave content adding extra ≈ 0.3% additional binder causes significant drop in Stability, (mix sensitivity to binder content)

## **Ongoing Laboratory Activities**



#### **Quality Control on Site**



Reflux hot Extractor (wire mesh cone set)

## Binder Recovery by Solvent Extraction (ASTM D2172)

PelletPave content	Total binder content (by mass of agg.)	Amount of solvent insoluble matter (% by mass of total binder)
2.5%	5.5%	22%
3.0%	5.7%	23%
3.5%	5.8%	24%

Results confirm that solvent recovery is not a reliable tool for determination of binder content of rubberized-asphalt mixes.

Asphalt content of Hot Mix Asphalt by Ignition Method ASTM D6307, 540°C, 1 hour









Rubberized-Asphalt Mix





# Ignition Method on sample of PelletPave modifier

PelletPave



## Pure PelletPave in Furnace at 540°C



#### Ignition Method on sample of PelletPave modifier



PelletPave sample before Furnace

PelletPave sample after Furnace, average amount unburnt  $\approx 26\%$ 





شكرا

