

TPF-5(178) Implementation of the Asphalt Mixture Performance Tester (AMPT) for Superpave Validation

Report for Quarter Ending March 31, 2009

Prepared by: Audrey Copeland (Audrey.Copeland@dot.gov), FHWA Technical Liaison

Summary of Progress

- ✓ FHWA, eighteen states, and the Ministry of Transportation in Ontario, Canada have committed over \$1.8 million to participate in this study. *The study is on-going and participants are welcome to join at any time.*
- ✓ Three partner States (FL, UT, and VA) are not purchasing the equipment as part of this study since they already own one or more AMPTs. However, they are contributing a reduced amount (\$30,000) to the study to benefit from the National Training Course and participate in experimental studies.
- ✓ One state, CT, has committed an additional \$75,000 to the study in order to purchase two AMPTs.
- ✓ FHWA, CO, CT, FL, IL, KS, NH, NY, PA, UT, VA, WI and WY have already transferred a portion or all of their funds. The study currently has authorized \$520,120.
- ✓ Applied Research Associates, Inc (ARA) is partnering with Advanced Asphalt Technologies (AAT) and the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) to develop and deliver the AMPT National Training Course. The High Level Design Plan (HLDP) for the AMPT National Training Course was submitted and approved by FHWA.
- ✓ The Preliminary Lesson Plans (PLPs) that will form the framework for the curriculum development were submitted by ARA. The FHWA Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) held a conference call on January 5, 2009 to discuss the PLP and ARA revised the PLPs according to FHWA's comments and recommendations. The PLPs were approved by FHWA in this quarter.
- ✓ The FHWA Office of Pavement Technology is working with the FHWA Office of Acquisition Management to procure AMPT equipment for each participant.
- ✓ FHWA met with Advanced Asphalt Technologies and Dongre Lab Services to evaluate the Continuum Fatigue Damage software option on the IPC Global AMPT. It was decided not to pursue this option for the AMPT pooled fund purchase at this time due to the fact that it is still very early in the research stage.

Planned Activities

Next Quarter (April through June 2009):

- Study partners should transfer their 2009 funding commitments to the lead agency, FHWA.
- The FHWA Office of Pavement Technology will continue working with the FHWA Office of Acquisition Management to release the Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure AMPT equipment for each study participant.
- ARA will submit interim deliverables that provide the power point slide and instructor guide information for Modules 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6. The FHWA Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) will hold conference calls on May 5 and June 9 to discuss interim deliverables and provide comments to ARA on those modules.

Future Activities:

- AMPT equipment will be delivered to study participants in late 2009 and 2010.
- The pilot for the AMPT National Training Course will be held in fall of 2009.

Problems Encountered

None