

Period Covered: Through April 30, 2005 (Quarterly Report)

ALDOT Progress Report
for the

State Planning and Research Program

PROJECT TITLE: Southeast Superpave Center		
PROJECT MANAGER(S): Don Watson and E.R. Brown (334) 844-6857	SPR Project No: TPF-5(037) ALDOT Research Project No. 930-370	Project is: <input type="checkbox"/> PLANNING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
Annual Budget	Multi Year Project Total Budget for Project 2,790,826.00 Total Cost to Date for Project 1,791,689.05	

Several projects are being conducted by the Southeastern Superpave Center. A summary of the projects is listed below.

(1) **New Generation Open Graded Friction Course Mix Design Procedure** – Don Watson

Six projects (two from Texas) have been selected for on-site testing and field observation. Projects have initially been tested in Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Texas (2 projects), and South Carolina. Remaining work will include field permeability testing over time, update to the mix design procedure, and update to the construction guidelines.

(2) **Utilization of Automated Real-Time Testing for HMA Quality Control and Assurance** – Randy West

This project proposes using the following Automated QC Methods:

- a. Belt sampling
- b. Moisture Content
- c. Gradation
- d. Binder Viscosity
- e. Binder Flow Meter
- f. HMA Temperature

The automated equipment has been placed on the existing HMA plant of East Alabama Paving located in Opelika, Alabama. This project will evaluate the consistency of the automated equipment and data collection systems and compare data to standard QC sampling and testing results.

Mr. Randy West has given several presentations at various agency and industry meetings during this report period and interest in advancing this technology appears to be strong.

(3) **Characteristics of Tire/Pavement Interaction On Noise in HMA Pavements** - Doug Hanson

NCAT has tested over 320 pavement surfaces from Michigan, Alabama, New Jersey, Maryland, Colorado, Nevada, California, Arizona, Florida and Texas. Agency test sections at the NCAT Test Track are also being monitored every 1 million ESALs to evaluate the effect of age and traffic on pavement noise.

NCAT has proposed a research study for FHWA funding to build test sections with various mixes and layer thickness to evaluate the ability to build quieter pavements. The test sections will include dense-graded Superpave, SMA, and OGFC mixtures. Plans currently are to contract with East Alabama Paving to place such test sections on the inside lane of the NCAT test track for evaluation.

(4) **Training** - Don Watson

During this period a Georgia DOT workshop for Superpave Mix Design Certification for 15 personnel was held. The training included 14 GDOT and one FHWA personnel. One of Georgia's binder personnel has been trained and certified in performing the asphalt binder tests. Three contractor technicians (one from Ga. and two from S.C.) were also trained and tested for Superpave Mix Design certification.

(5) **4.75 mm Mix** - Randy West

Southeastern states have shown interest in further study of 4.75 mm mix design and performance. Randy West is coordinating a pooled fund effort through the Superpave Center to perform this research.

ACTIVITIES NEXT REPORTING QUARTER:

The Southeast Superpave Center will continue to work on the above listed projects until they are complete. Alabama DOT has also requested several training sessions for personnel and Florida DOT has scheduled a Superpave mix design training and certification workshop.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED OR ANTICIPATED:

No significant problems were encountered during the last quarter or are anticipated in the next quarter.

STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE

Percentage of work completed to date for total project _____ 92.36 _____

Project is: 100.00 percent
_____ X _____ on schedule _____ behind schedule, explain:

Expected Completion Date: _____ May 31, 2005 _____