



VAA Asphalt News

The Newsletter for Members and Friends of the Virginia Asphalt Association

April/May 2011 Issue

2010 Paving Awards

Submit your nominations for the Virginia's Best:

Municipal, Commercial and Federal/Military/Toll/Airport

paving awards categories. Don't wait until the last minute! All information can be found on our website:

www.vaasphalt.com

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VAA ANNUAL MEETING DRAWS OVER 110 ATTENDEES



David Branscome of Branscome Paving Company our 2011 VAA President

From March 30th to April 2, over 75 delegates and 30 spouses attended the 60th Annual Meeting. Held at the Tides Inn in Irvington, Virginia, delegates represented 43 member companies of the Virginia Asphalt Association.

As in recent years, the meeting started with a reception on Thursday night. *On Friday morning, the Secretary of Transportation gave a talk on the status of the Governor's Transportation Plan and Virginia's transportation priorities and funding.* Following the Secretary, VAA Delegates heard presentations from Ms. Connie Sorrell—Chief of Operations, Dr. Gary Allen—Chief of Information and Technology, Mr. Emmett Heltzel—State Maintenance Engineer, Mr. Mark Cacamis—State Construction Engineer, and Mr. Andy Babish—State Materials Engineer.

The morning session was followed by an afternoon of cold, wet golf for some, wine tasting for others, or simple free-time to enjoy the area. Friday evening was the meeting banquet dinner. During the banquet, John Roland—VAA Director of Environmental Affairs, was honored for his 17 years of service. (John retired from VAA on December 31 and now works part-time for the VAA.)

On Saturday morning, delegates heard presentations from Commissioner Greg Whirley, Deputy Commissioner Charlie Kilpatrick and Chief

Engineer Mal Kerley. Topics of discussion included current and 2012 funding of the maintenance division's resurfacing program; life cycle cost analysis and alternate bidding; patching and hired equipment; and VDOT organization.

The 60th Annual Meeting drew to a close at noon on April 2. The 61st meeting will be April 12—14, 2012 at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Mark your calendars.

Virginia's \$600 Million Bond Sale Completed

On May 13, the Associated Press reported Virginia had completed the sale of \$600M in bonds for transportation funding. The sale of the bonds were part of the Governor's Transportation bill signed into law in April 2011.

First of three planned bond sales.

This is the first of three planned bond sales. The Governor's plan includes 900 projects identified for funding over the next 3 years. The projects identified in the bill

included small safety projects and mega projects such as the US 460 corridor and third tunnel crossing in Hampton Roads.

This is the largest infusion of funding for the transportation program in over a decade.



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*If you would like to become a
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Potential Spec Changes for 2012

Paving has barely started and specification improvements are being considered for 2012. These changes range from asphalt materials to traffic engineering items.

In terms of asphalt materials, a special provision is planned to formalize the use of recycled shingles with and without RAP in mixes to achieve a binder grade bump.

For asphalt placement, the timeframe of May 1 to October 1 associated with non-tracking tack coat use will be applied in 2012.

The specification and use guidelines for SMA are being reviewed and updated. The mix gradations are being evaluated against mix performance to ensure a stone skeleton is achieved. Also, a finer SMA mix (SMA-4.75) is being developed.

The specification for SM-4.75 has been completed and final comments are due in early June.



Finally, application of B-VI tape, through either embedment or adhesive, is being proposed.

Asphalt Training Program Status

As reported on in previous editions of *Asphalt News* and presented at the Annual Fall Asphalt Conference, VDOT and VAA are working together to improve the asphalt training program.

The asphalt training program has been divided into three areas—Asphalt Field, Asphalt Plant and Asphalt Mix Design. For each area, Level 1 and 2

criteria are being formalized. Level 1 will be an introduction to the subject and Level 2 will be more in-depth info.

Currently, the team is focusing on Asphalt Field and Asphalt Plant schools. These schools are planned to be ready for the 2012 training season. Asphalt Mix Design is scheduled for completion by 2013.

Green Asphalt—What We Are Doing Now

The big buzz word for the last few years has been—"Green." It has been applied to cars, houses, buildings and construction.

For the asphalt industry, being "Green" is just as important. As a neighbor in many communities, asphalt plants must co-exist with families and businesses. Many plants have embraced the warm mix asphalt technology. By being able to reduce plant production temperatures, the fumes emitted from a plant are reduced or eliminated. This technology has allowed fuel usage to decrease, which benefits the company and the environment. This one technology has spread rapidly since the initial special provisions were adopted in 2009.

Currently, half of the asphalt plants supplying material to VDOT are warm mix equipped and almost 70% of asphalt supplied in 2010 to VDOT were produced using a WMA technology.

In addition to using WMA technology, most plants incorporate recycled materials in their mixes. This has reduced and in many cases stopped the disposing of RAP and old shingles in landfills. Additionally, these recycled materials have lessened the demand for virgin aggregates and binder.

Clearly asphalt is "Green." These efforts at the plant are not only good for the environment and local community, but the contractor as well.

Nontracking Tack Coat Required Starting May 1

May 1st brought something new to the asphalt paving contractors—the requirement to use nontracking or trackless tack coat materials in lieu of conventional tacking materials. Initially planned to be a requirement starting January 1, 2011 for all new contracts, the enforcement date was delayed due to concerns with handling and application in colder weather.

Introduced to Virginia in 2005, these materials have been evaluated for applicability and performance. Since 2006, VDOT had required trackless tack on certain contracts and they were a separate pay item. Additionally, depending on the type and location of work, contractors chose to use nontracking tack to minimize or eliminate clean-up of tack on bridge decks, cross-walks and other pavement markings.

In October 2009, VDOT announced that these materials would be mandatory starting in 2011. Since then, VDOT has approved four materials for use by contractors.



Virginia Legislative Updates

The 2011 Virginia Legislative Session was very busy. Several transportation related bills were introduced and signed into law.

The bill that garnered much attention was the Governor's Transportation Plan. But in addition to this bill, the Quiet

Pavement Bill was passed—HB 2001. Both bills have been covered in this and previous editions of *Asphalt News*.

HB 1965 requires local planning commissions to prepare and submit CIPs that include life-cycle cost analysis. This requirement extends to road-

way and other transportation improvements.

HB 2022 pertains to establishing a uniform permitting process and tiered fees for overweight and oversized vehicles. Make yourself familiar with each law.

Other News and Notes

Dr. Jose Gomez, P.E. was named as the new director for the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research (VCTIR—formerly known as the Virginia Transportation Research Council). Jose joined VCTIR in 1992 as a structural and bridge researcher. Until his promotion, he served as Associate Director for Structures, Pavements and Geotechnical Engineering.



Dr. Gary Allen—VDOT Chief of

Innovation and Technology, announced his retirement during the Garver Leadership Institute. Gary has had nearly a 38 year career with VDOT in the research arena. Good luck in your new ventures!

Allowable DBE Credits—VDOT CD-2011-01 was effective March 8, 2011, regarding the calculation of DBE credits. See the memorandum for specifics at the vdot website: www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/const/cdmemo-1101.pdf

Co-Op Updates

Asphalt Liquids—On April 26th, VAA and VDOT held a joint meeting to discuss asphalt liquid issues.

Joint Asphalt—On May 3, VAA and VDOT met to discuss current asphalt issues such as specifications, quiet pavements initiative, and SM-4.75.

Pavement Marking—On May 24th, VAA and VDOT held its first co-op meeting. The primary focus of this meeting was the VDOT pavement marking policy.

Mark Your Calendar

- ◆ NAPA Mid Year Meeting
Lake Tahoe, NV
July 18-19
- ◆ VAA Fall Asphalt Conference
Richmond, VA.
October 3 - 5
- ◆ VAA Invitational Golf Tournament
Mattaponi Springs Golf Club
October 5
- ◆ SEAUPG Annual Meeting
Savannah, GA
November 14-17

VDOT Recognized by DEQ

DEQ, in its December 2010 newsletter, credited VDOT for their voluntary efforts to reduce air pollution from the use of consumer products including paints, coatings and **asphalt**. VDOT specifications limit by contract the chemical make-up of some of these products to reduce ozone producing emissions during hot summer months. Use of cutback asphalts are restricted in Virginia's non-attainment areas during the ozone season (May—September) and VDOT approved asphalt emulsions must meet prescribed volatile organic chemical (VOC) limitations. As an example, these voluntary actions by VDOT on all of the regulated consumer products are expected to reduce VOC emissions by 6 tons per summer day in the Richmond Petersburg area alone.

MEMBER NEWS

W-L Construction and Paving was hit by a Tornado during the severe storms that passed thru Virginia in late April. The Office located in Chilhowie and the shop were destroyed, fortunately there were no injuries.



This years **VAA Annual Meeting Golf Tournament** was held on a cold and blustery day. Of those members brave enough to play, the winning foursome consisted of: Mal Kerley, David Branscome, Burton Short III and Richard Schreck.

Welcome to Bunn Enterprises

our first Specialty Contractor. Bunn installs underdrains in eight states. Contact: Kevin Bunn at bunnenterprises@roadrunner.com.

Lee-Hy Paving and Branscome, Inc. are the newest members of the VAA Platinum Sponsorship Club. Their support and the support of the other companies is used to help defray costs at association sponsored meetings and functions.

Congratulations to Superior Paving Corp, Branscome—Richmond and Branscome, Inc. for being the low-bids on the three VDOT quiet asphalt pavement sections. An open

house may be held later this summer to showcase the technologies being used. Stay tuned.

New Membership Plaques. Virginia Asphalt Association is distributing new membership plaques to each member. Look for yours soon.

IN MEMORIAM

Gordon F. Penick Jr. dies at 88. Mr. Penick died at his home on Tuesday April 17, 2011. He was chairman of Lee Hy Paving and a World War II fighter pilot.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Enforcement Bill Vetoed by Governor

Governor McDonnell vetoed the bill passed during this year's General Assembly that would have increased the penalty authority of DEQ for certain repeat permit violations. The bill allowing supplemental projects to be proposed in lieu of penalties for violation of the Department of Conservation and Resources rules, became law as did the further definition of what fees localities can impose to administer storm water programs. In recent months, DEQ's enforcement office appears to be taking a more aggressive approach in their penalty calculations.

2009 TRI REPORT

DEQ has released its 2009 report on chemical releases (toxic release inventory or TRI) from on-site facilities. Virginia industries reports showed an 8.3% reduction in the amount of chemicals released to the air, water and land over 2008 releases. A total of 900.4 million pounds were released.

SPCC Plan Updates Due by November



EPA will not be providing any additional extensions of the deadlines to include recent amendments to the Oil Pollution Prevention Rules. Updates to facility Spill Prevention Control Countermeasure (SPCC) plans are due to be completed by November 2011. The main changes impacting the asphalt industry include: 1) exemption of asphalt mixes from the rule, 2) flexibility in containment strategies for liquid AC by considering its properties (e.g. secondary containment not required so long as the asphalt cement if spilled can be shown to not reach US waters), 3) containment must be provided at fuel or oil loading/unloading locations,

and 4) a sites security plan must be prepared to prevent vandalism problems. Information was recently forwarded to asphalt producer members which provides additional guidance on what needs to be done to comply with the amended EPA rules. The National Asphalt Pavement Association will also be coming out with a summary of the rules in the near future. *Although EPA doesn't conduct many inspections in Virginia, there is always that chance and DEQ inspectors may also ask to see the updated SPCC plan during their site visits after this November.* Contact the VAA office if you have any questions.

New OTC Director

The Ozone Transport Commission (OTC) has hired a new executive director, William Driscoll, to guide work to reduce ozone levels from Virginia to Maine. The OTC annual meeting is being held in Washington D.C. on June 15, 2011.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory

EPA has published its greenhouse gas emissions inventory for 2009. The six main greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride were equivalent to 6,633 million metric tons and represents a 6.1% decrease from the previous year. The reduction is attributed to a decrease in fuel and electricity consumption across all economic sectors.

New Ozone Standard

The EPA is expected to announce what the new ozone standard will be to better protect human health and welfare in August of this year. The current standard of 75 ppb is expected to be dropped to 70 ppb but could be set as low as 60 ppb. Anything below 70 ppb would cause a dramatic increase in the number of areas that would be thrown into non-attainment status.

Fugitive Dust Control Petition Denied

A petition was filed several years ago by citizens and environmental groups from southwest



Virginia that would have required companies with trucking operations that include: hauling, coal, aggregates and other materials to have their permits modified to require vehicle cleaning prior to departure from the facility onto public roadways. Included would also be requirements for companies to clean up any materials spilled onto

roadways. After numerous Air Pollution Control Board meetings and comments from citizens, environmental groups and industry lobbyists, the Board finally voted at its March 2011 meeting. The petition was denied, but DEQ staff was instructed to develop guidelines to be used by inspectors that encounter problems with fugitive dust being emitted

during hauling operations. The board expressed sympathy for those petitioners that live immediately adjacent to roadways with heavy coal truck traffic. The logistics of modifying all of the effected permits would have been a difficult if not an impossible task.