Importance of Proper Emulsified Asphalt Sampling and Testing

A State's Perspective

Jason Davis
LADOTD Materials Lab

LTRC Emulsion Design, Construction, and Performance Conference

Sampling and Testing

- Why sample and test?
- Want to get...





Sampling and Testing

- Why sample and test?
- ...Not





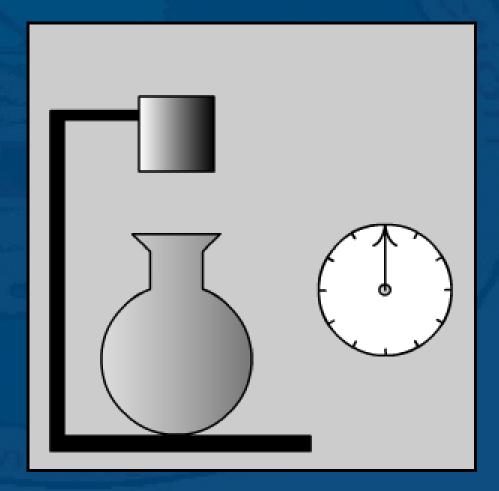
Sampling and Testing

- What do we do?
- 2 layers of protection
- Source testing (Materials Lab)
 - Verify supplier testing
- Job testing (District Lab)
 - Check consistency with source

District Lab Testing

Saybolt Viscosity

- Sprayability
- Pumpability



District Lab Testing

Saybolt Viscosity

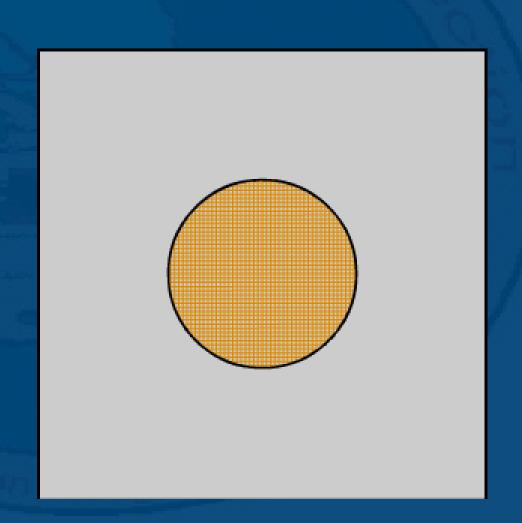
- Sprayability
- Pumpability

Only Viscosity? – Assumptions?

- Saybolt Viscosity
- Sieve

Sieve

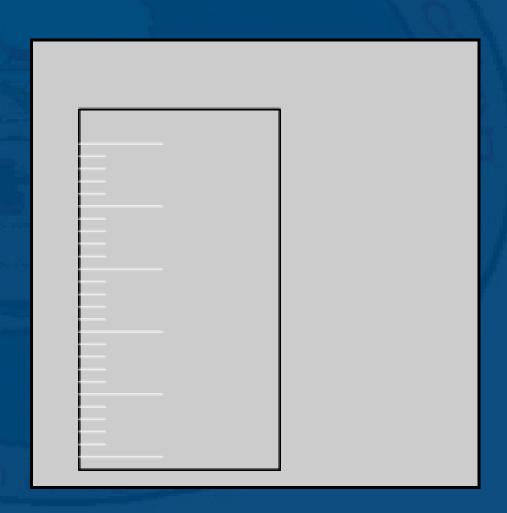
- Check for contamination
- Stability
- Consistency



- Saybolt Viscosity
- Sieve
- Settlement

Settlement

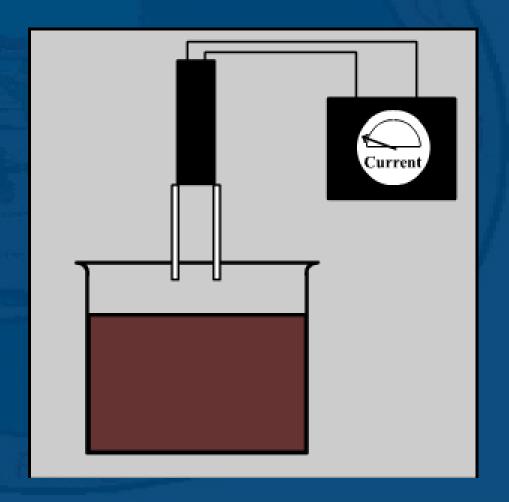
- Storage issues
- Stability



- Saybolt Viscosity
- Sieve
- Settlement
- Particle Charge

Particle Charge

Compatibility with aggregate



- Saybolt Viscosity
- Sieve
- Settlement
- Particle Charge
- Percent Residue

Percent Residue

- Sufficient

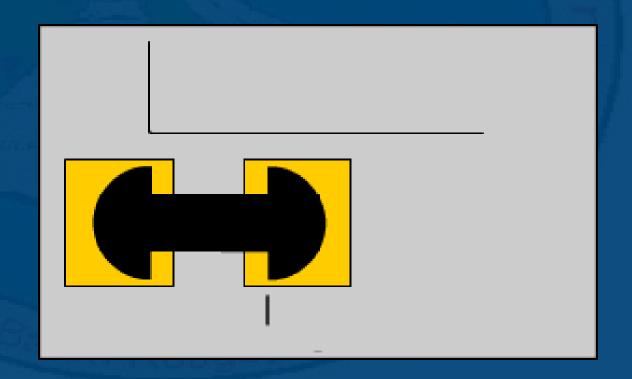
 amount of
 asphalt binder
- Film thickness



- Saybolt Viscosity
- Sieve
- Settlement
- Particle Charge
- Percent Residue
- Ductility / Force Ductility
- Elastic Recovery

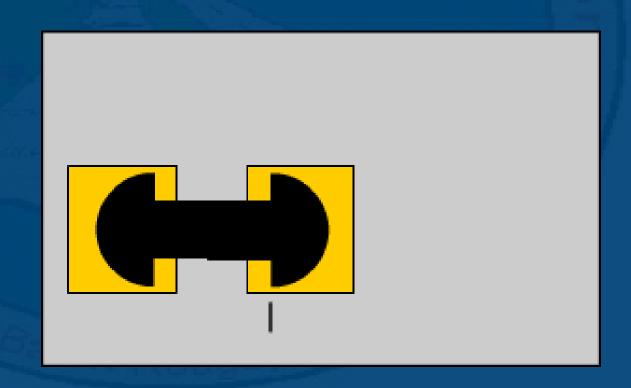
Ductility / Force
 Ductility

- Durability
- Aggregate retention



Elastic Recovery

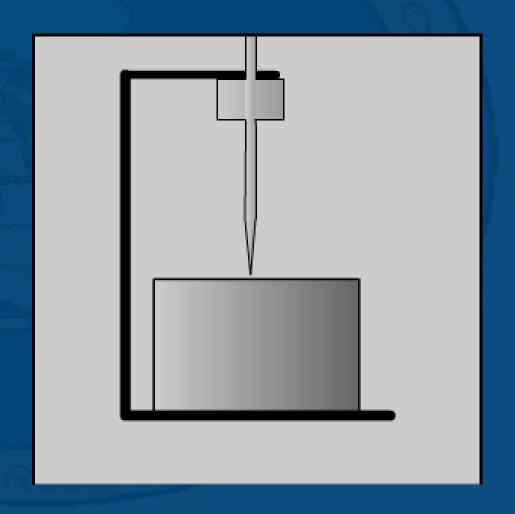
- Durability
- Aggregate retention



- Saybolt Viscosity
- Sieve
- Settlement
- Particle Charge
- Percent Residue
- Ductility / Force Ductility
- Elastic Recovery
- Penetration
- Softening Point

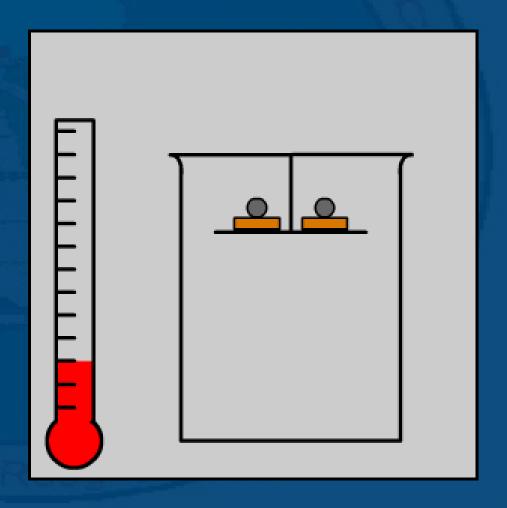
Penetration

- Index Test
- Some relation to climate



Softening Point

- Index Test
- Some relation to climate



Roadway Relevance

- How does it fit together?
- Testing reflected in construction



Factors affecting emulsions

- Temperature changes
- Rough handling
- Air
- Contamination
- Mixing materials (i.e. cationic and anionic)

Samples must be representative

- Sampling Do List
- Clean plastic gallon jugs
- Sample from proper location
 - Between pump and spigot
 - 1/3 down from top of tank
- Allow some material to drain first
 - Sample truck during middle third of unloading
- Fill jug completely

- Sampling Do List
- Properly identify on jug, not cap
- Ship to lab quickly
- Mix slowly before testing
 - Over-mixing -> entrained air / unstable
- Heat gently for testing
- Clean stirring rods, beakers

- Sampling Don't List
- Sample from improper location
 - Between tank and pump
 - Sample surface from top of tank
- Start filling jug immediately
- Re-use jugs

- Sampling Don't List
- Partially fill jugs
- Shake / handle roughly
- Transfer to another container
- Use solvents

- Is the sample representative?
- Inspection Is Critical !!
 - Proper heating / circulation in tank
 - No significant residue in storage tank
 - Material too thick / clogging spray bars?
 - Material black (broken) or uniform brown?
 - Material running off road or puddling?



- Is the sample representative?
- Inspection Is Critical !!
 - Proper heating / circulation in tank
 - No significant residue in storage tank
 - Material too thick / clogging spray bars?
 - Material black (broken) or uniform brown?
 - Material running off road or puddling?

Does it LOOK right?

Can We Do Better?

- Saybolt Viscosity variations
- Possible field tests (i.e. Sieve)
- Residue in Districts
 - Closer to the sampling point
- New residue tests
- PG Grading

Perfect System?

No perfect tests

- Good tests = good product?
- Bad tests = bad product?

Sampling and testing = good assurance

Nothing replaces good eyes !!

Thank you

Questions?