

# *Crumb Rubber 101: Background, History, Usage*



George Way, P.E.

Rubberized Asphalt Foundation

Rubber Pavement Association

September 5, 2012

Baton Rouge, Louisiana



**RAF**  
Rubberized Asphalt Foundation

[www.rubberpavements.org](http://www.rubberpavements.org)

[www.RA-Foundation.org](http://www.RA-Foundation.org)

## Historical Overview of Crumb Rubber in Asphalt

**1960s Charles McDonald Experiments w/AR**

**1970s AR Field City of Phoenix and ADOT Chip Seal Coat(SAM)**

**1978 Several AR patents**

**1985-88 AR Gap Graded & Open Graded Mixes**

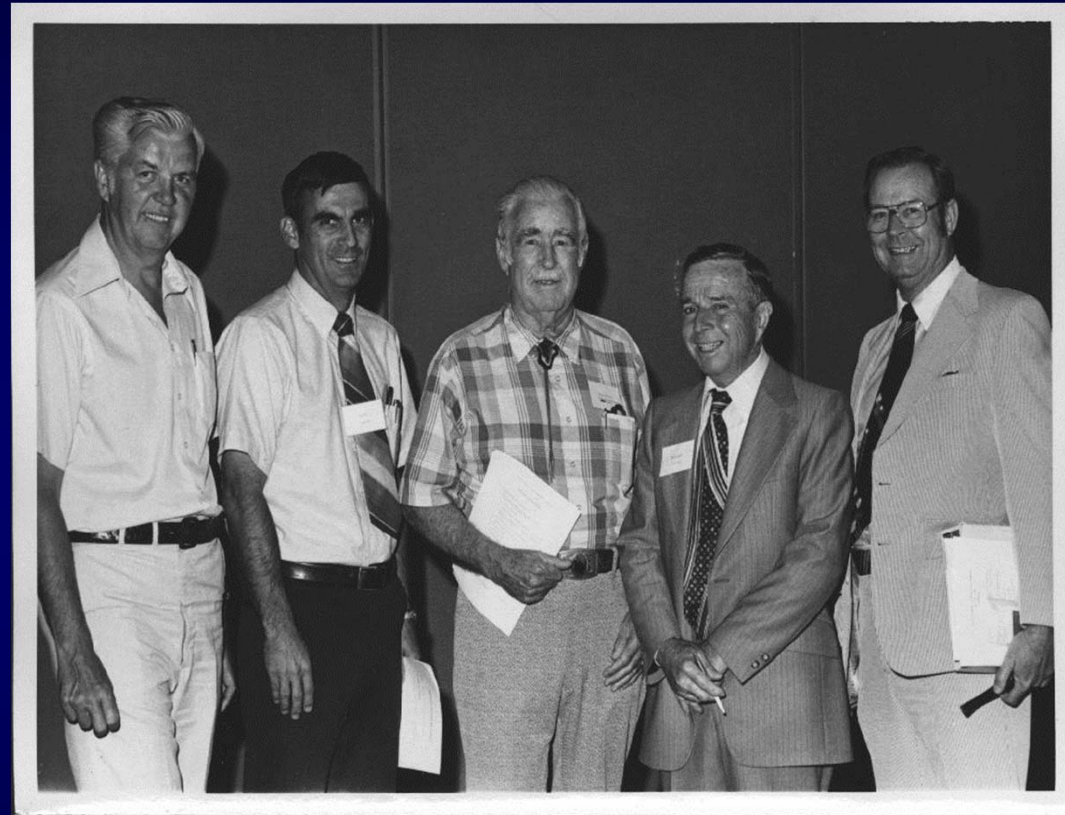
**1993 ISTEA controversy**

**1994 ASTM Specification**

**1995 Patents expire**

**1997 RPA Formed**

**2000-2009 Three International AR Conf.**



Charlie (center) at First National A-R Conf. 1980

Others: Dr. J. Love FHWA, Dr. J. Epps Tex A&M,  
Dr. B. Galloway TTI, Gene Morris ATRC

# **History of Crumb Rubber-Asphalt**

**1920-1950's Pre-Rubber Asphalt**

**1960's Early Development**

**1970's Chip Seal Coats**

**1980's Gap Graded & Open Graded Mixes**

**1990's Politics & Starting Over**

**2000's Performance, Research, Environment,  
Costs**

**2010+ Market Changes, International**

**Asphalt-Rubber PG Binder Grading, WMA**

# 1920-1950's Need For All Weather Pavements

**Get the Roadway  
Out of the mud**

**Weather proof and  
Water proof the roadway**

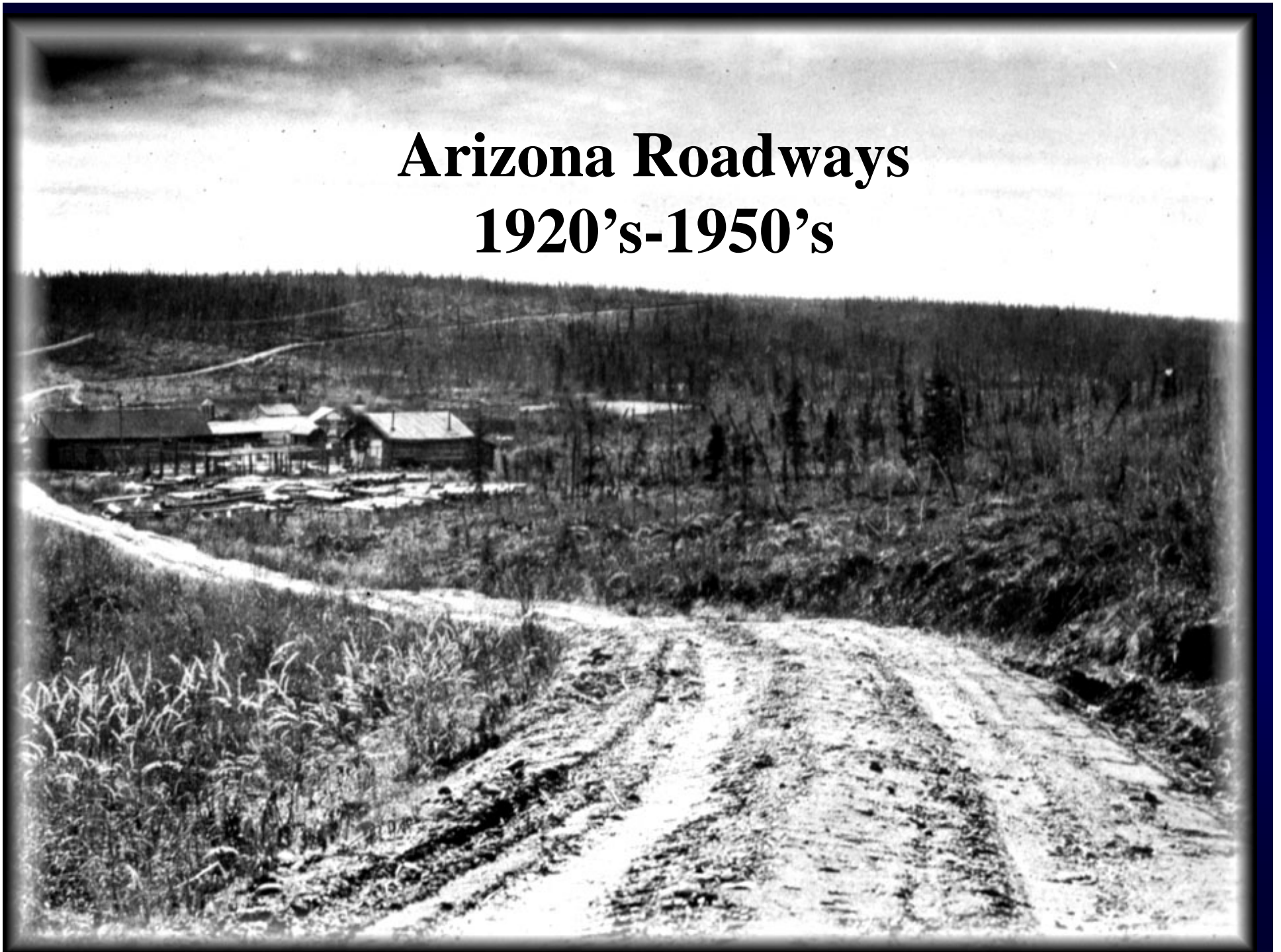
**Develop a pavement surface  
That is weather proof and  
Water proof**

**Pavement stand up to wet  
Weather, poor soil mud,  
And heavy truck traffic**



Washington-Richmond road, 1919  
NMAH, Archives Center, API Collection

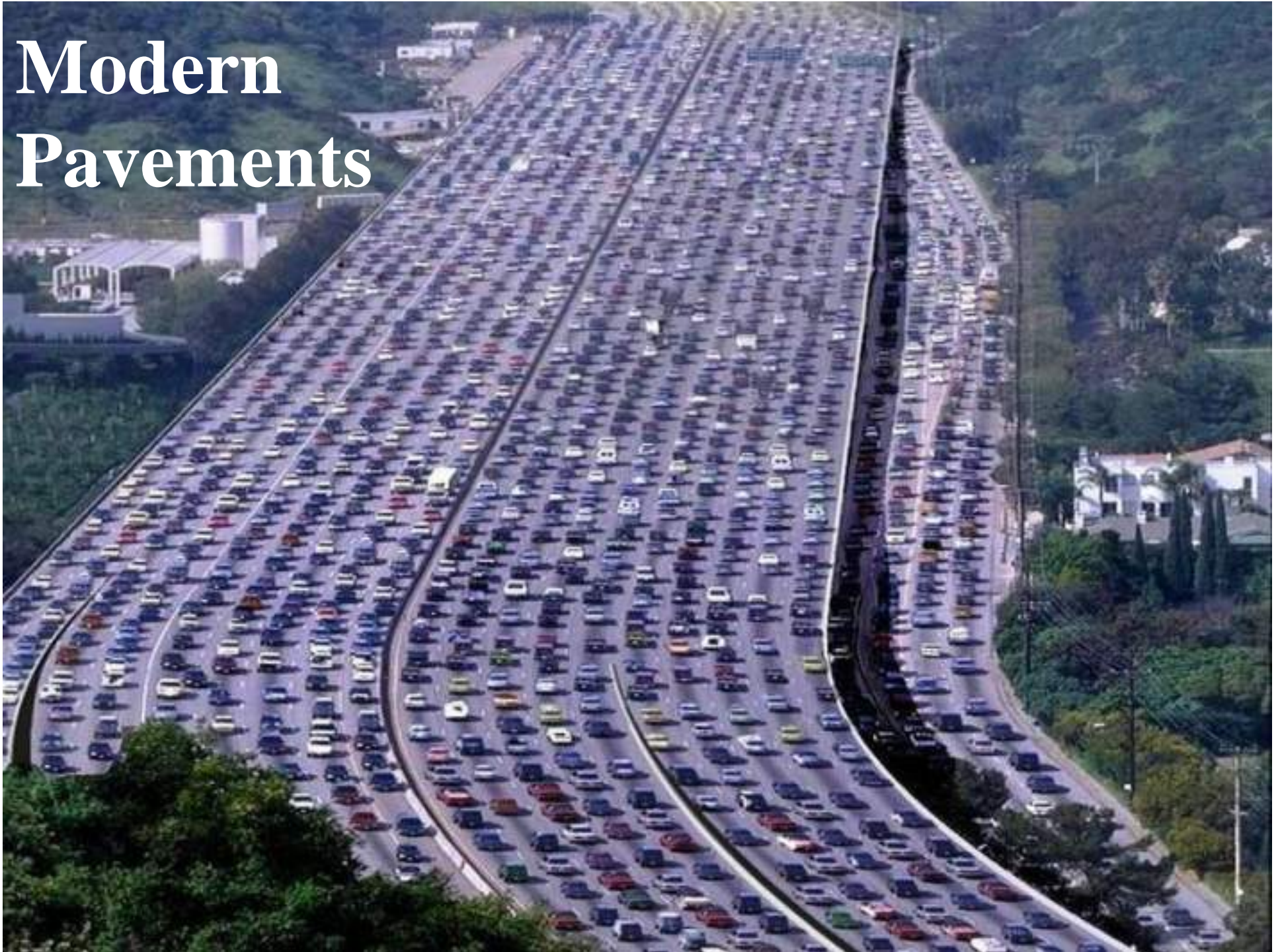
# Arizona Roadways 1920's-1950's



# Arizona

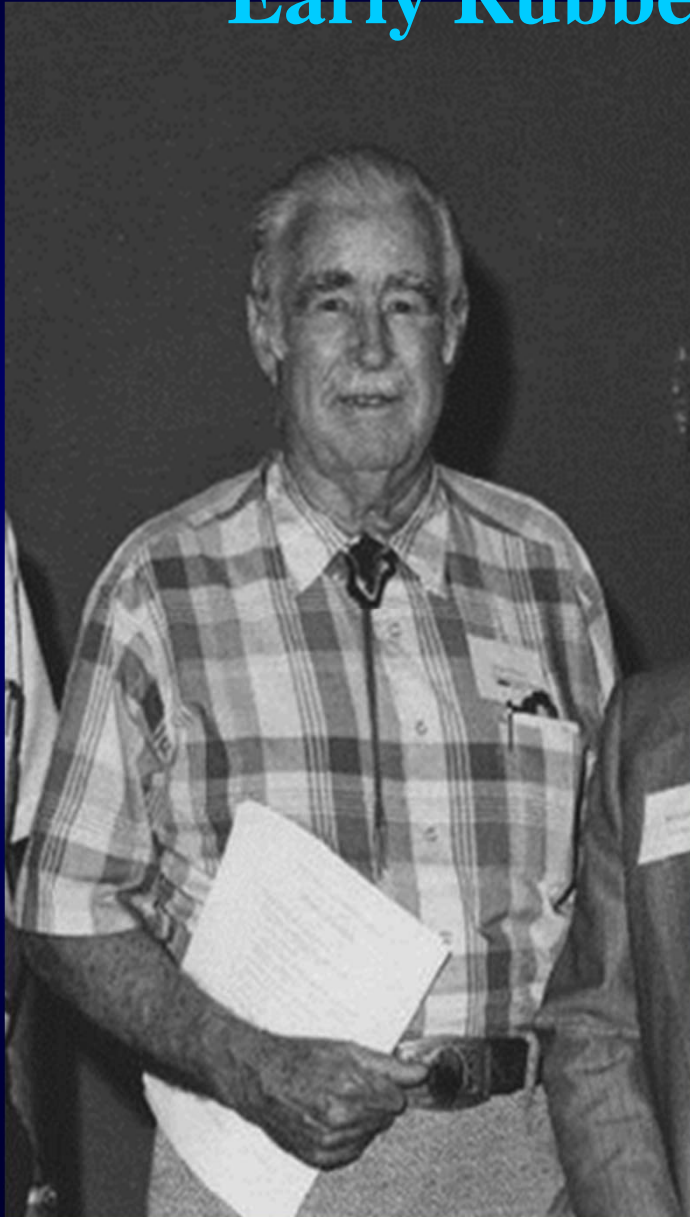


# Modern Pavements



# 1960's Charles H. McDonald

## Early Rubber in Asphalt Development



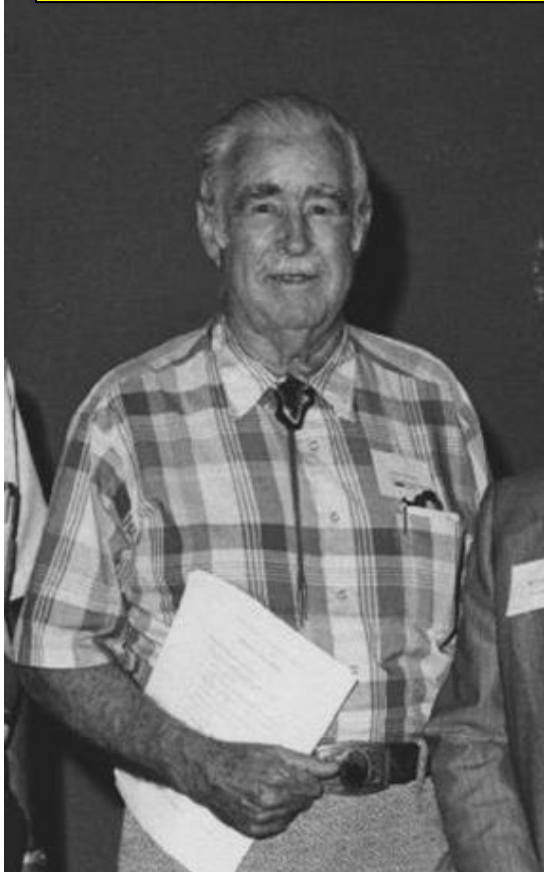
- 1950's Used asphalt to patch cracked roof of trailer when travelling with US Bureau of Public Roads (now FHWA).
- Mixed in ground tire rubber while heated to increase flexibility.
- Created pot-hole "band aid" for City of Phoenix 1960s





Phoenix, Arizona failed streets in the 1960's.  
McDonalds goal to maintain failed streets until reconstruction.

Charles McDonald  
Inventor of  
Asphalt Rubber



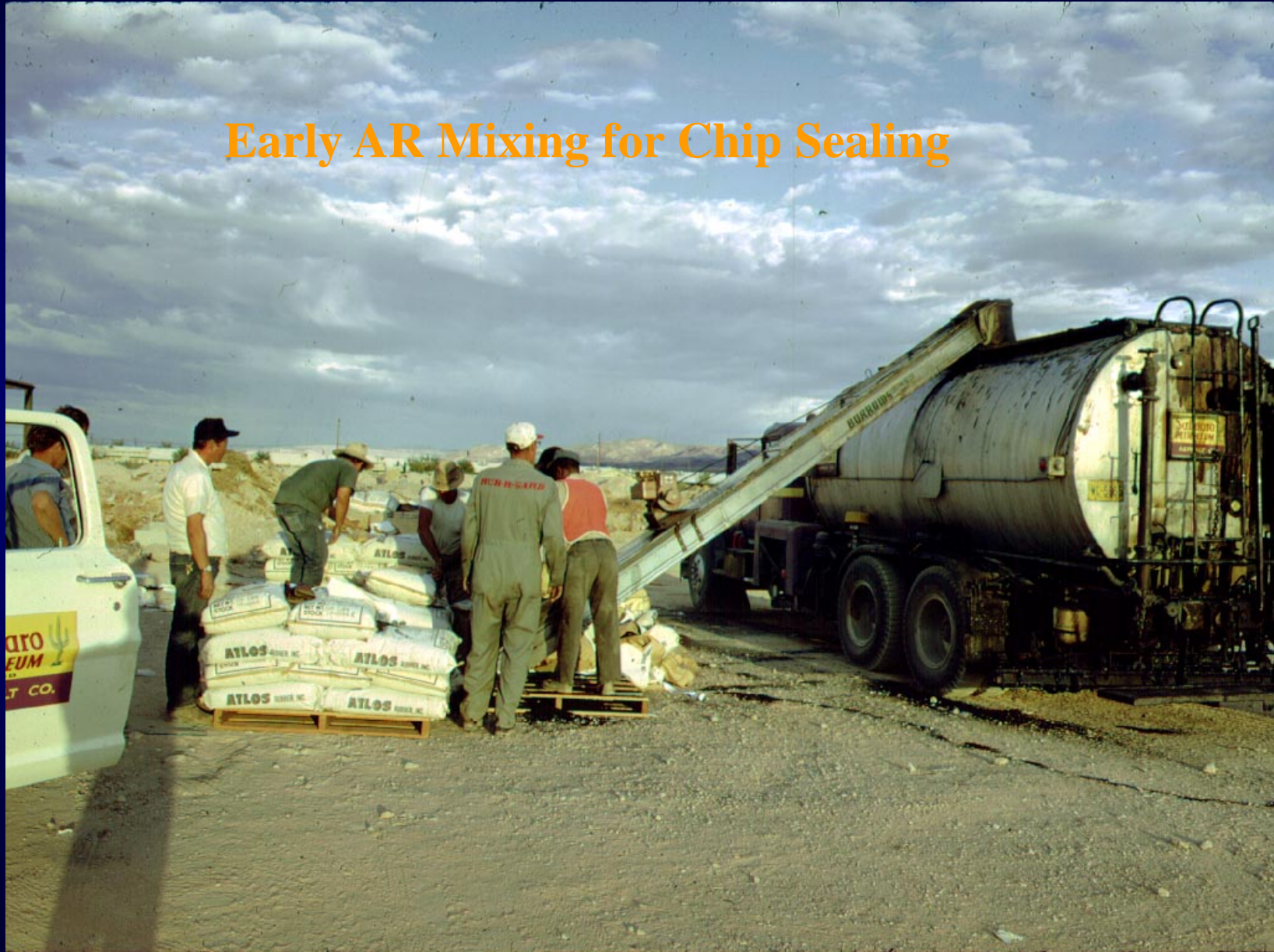
McDonald  
Applying  
AR Band Aid  
Patch  
Circa 1966

Asphalt  
Rubber  
Band Aid  
Patch  
Circa 1966



## 1970's AR Chip Sealing

### Early AR Mixing for Chip Sealing



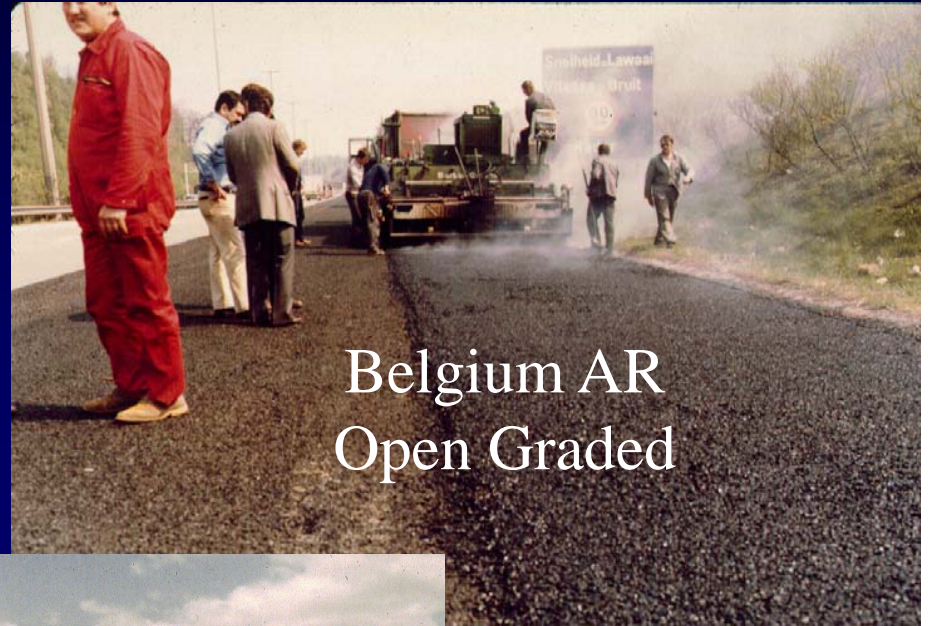
# Early Chip Seal Spreader Truck Technology Mid 1970s



# Early Hot Mix Application Placed 1975 Through Mid 1980's



Arizona AR SAM

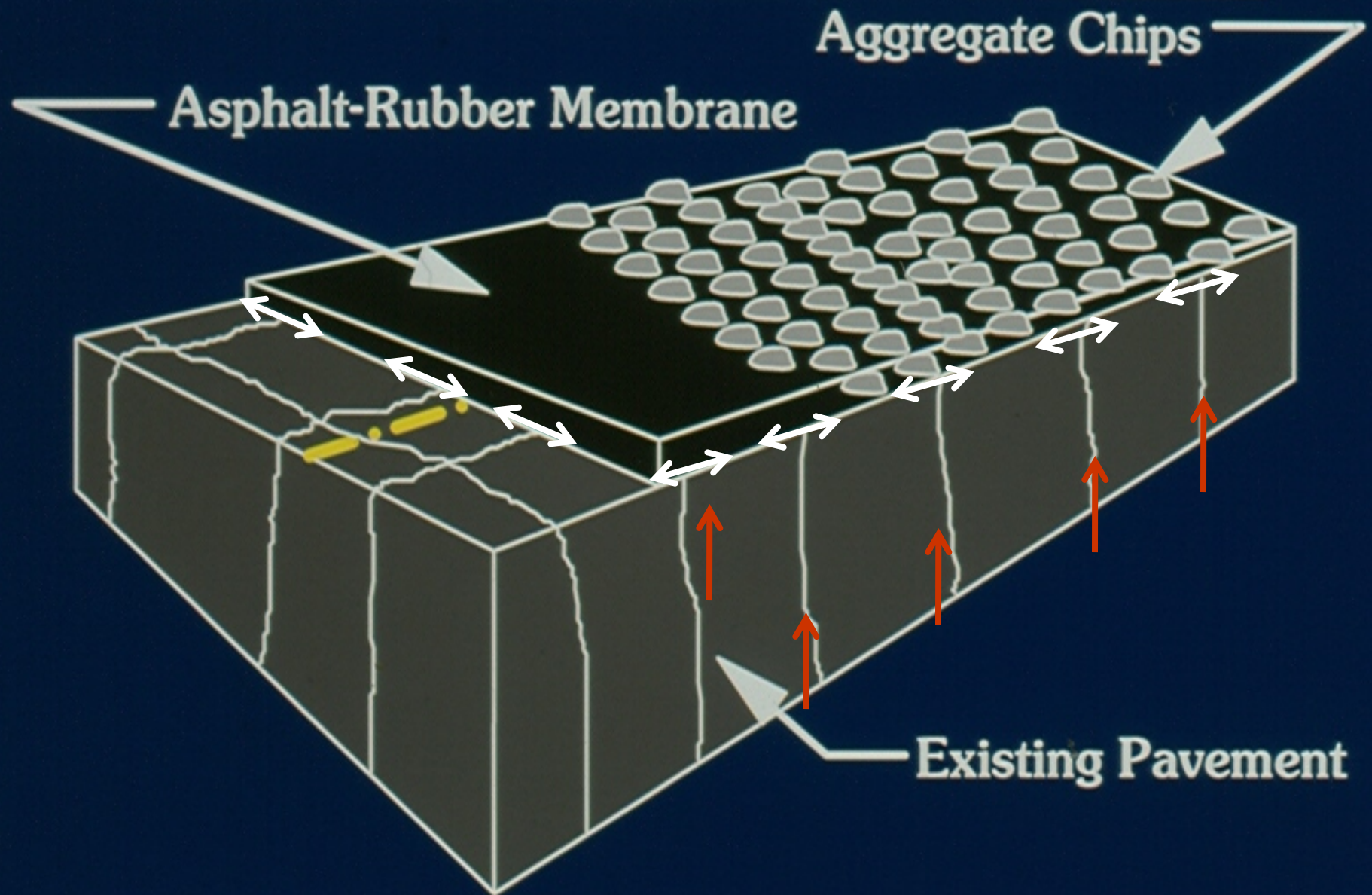


Belgium AR  
Open Graded

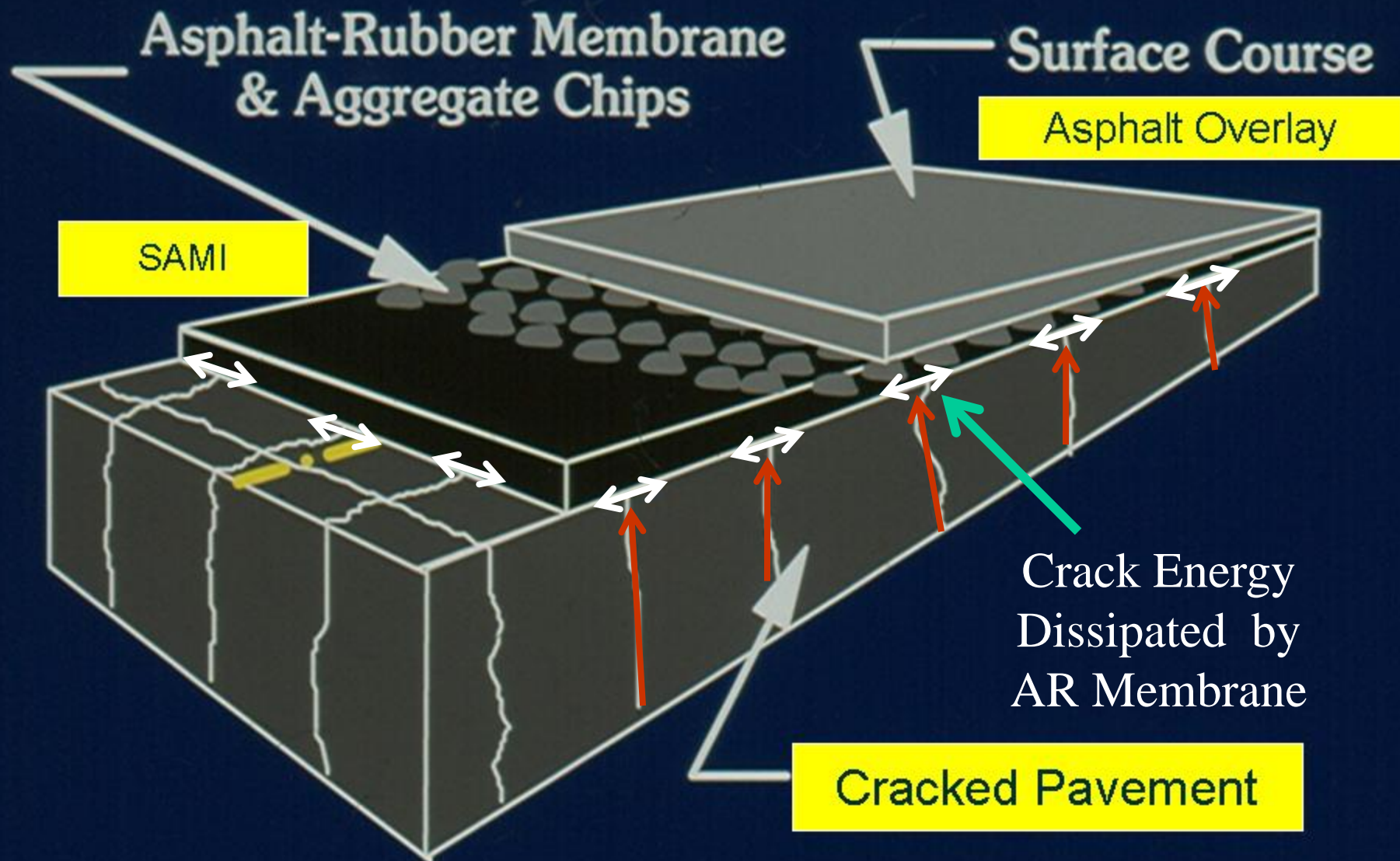


South Africa AR SAM

# Stress Absorbing Membrane (SAM)



# Stress Absorbing Membrane Interlayer (SAMI)

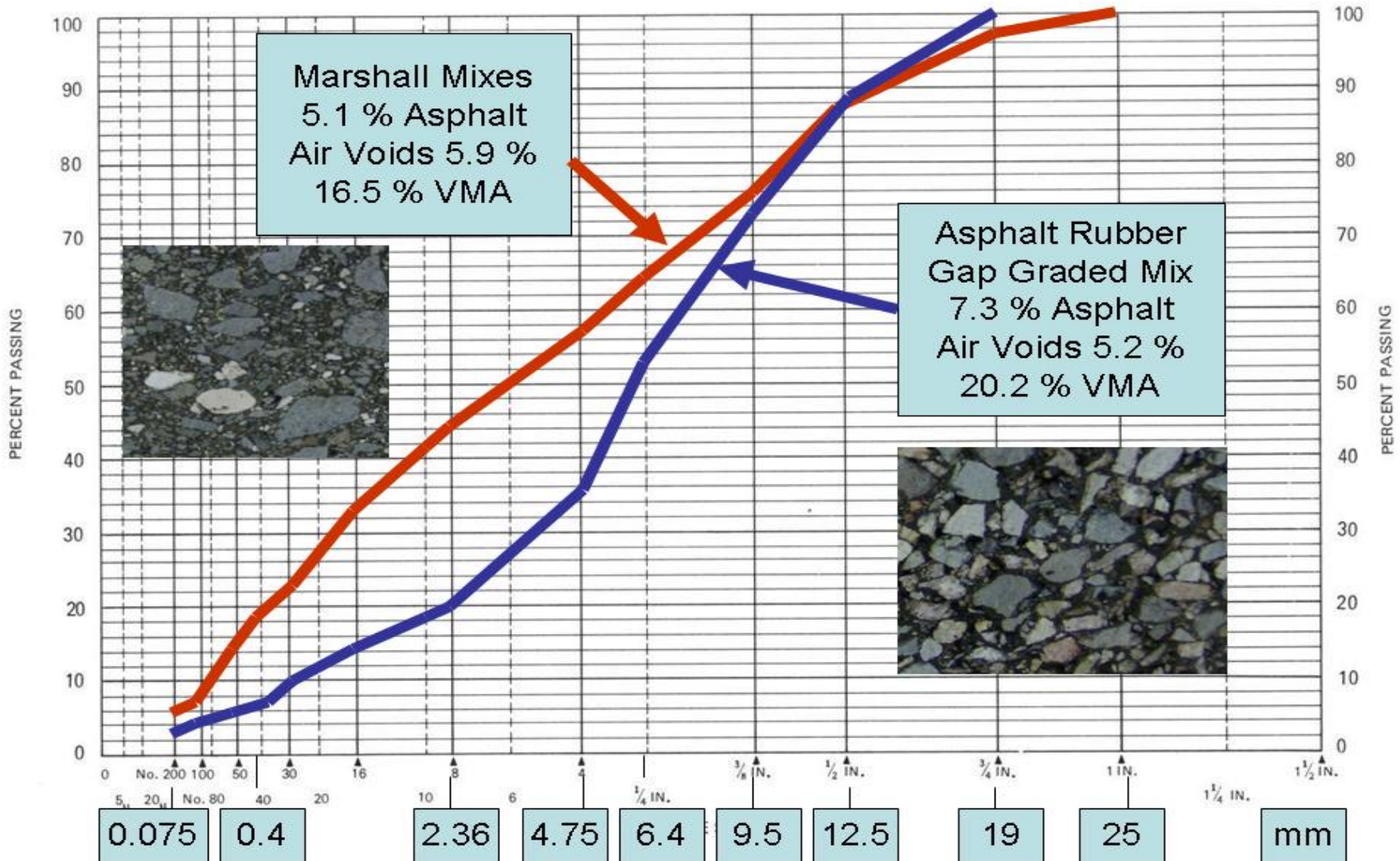


# *Asphalt-Rubber Binder Application SAM/SAMI*



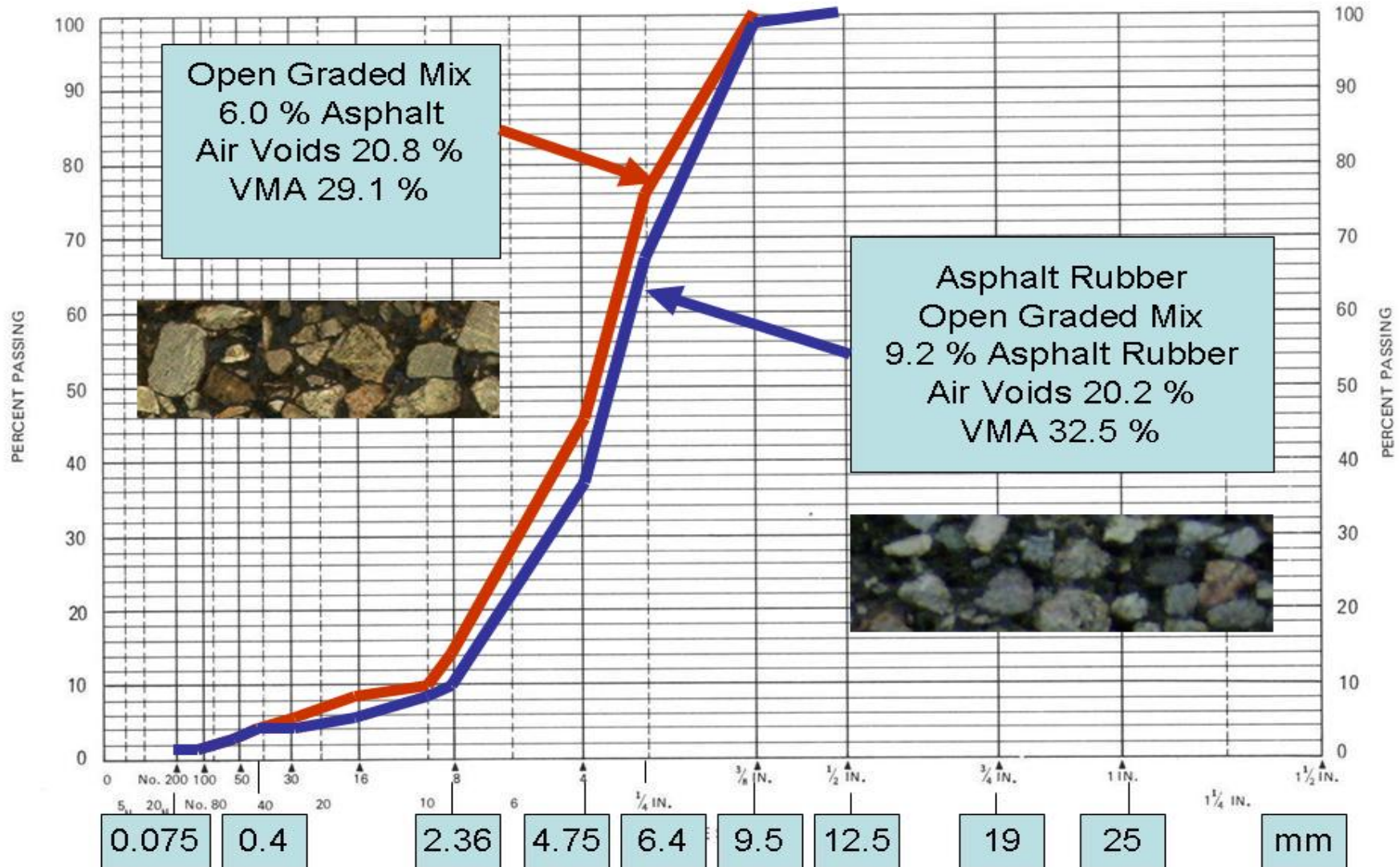


GRADATION DESIGN RECORD  
SIEVE SIZES RAISED TO 0.45 POWER



**1980's Marshall Mix Gradation for HMA  
And Gap Graded Asphalt Rubber Mixes**

GRADATION DESIGN RECORD  
SIEVE SIZES RAISED TO 0.45 POWER



1980's Open Graded Mix Gradations

# Example Dense-Graded HMA vs. AR Open Graded

Item 341 Dense-Graded Hot Mix Asphalt  
Type C (Coarse Surface)

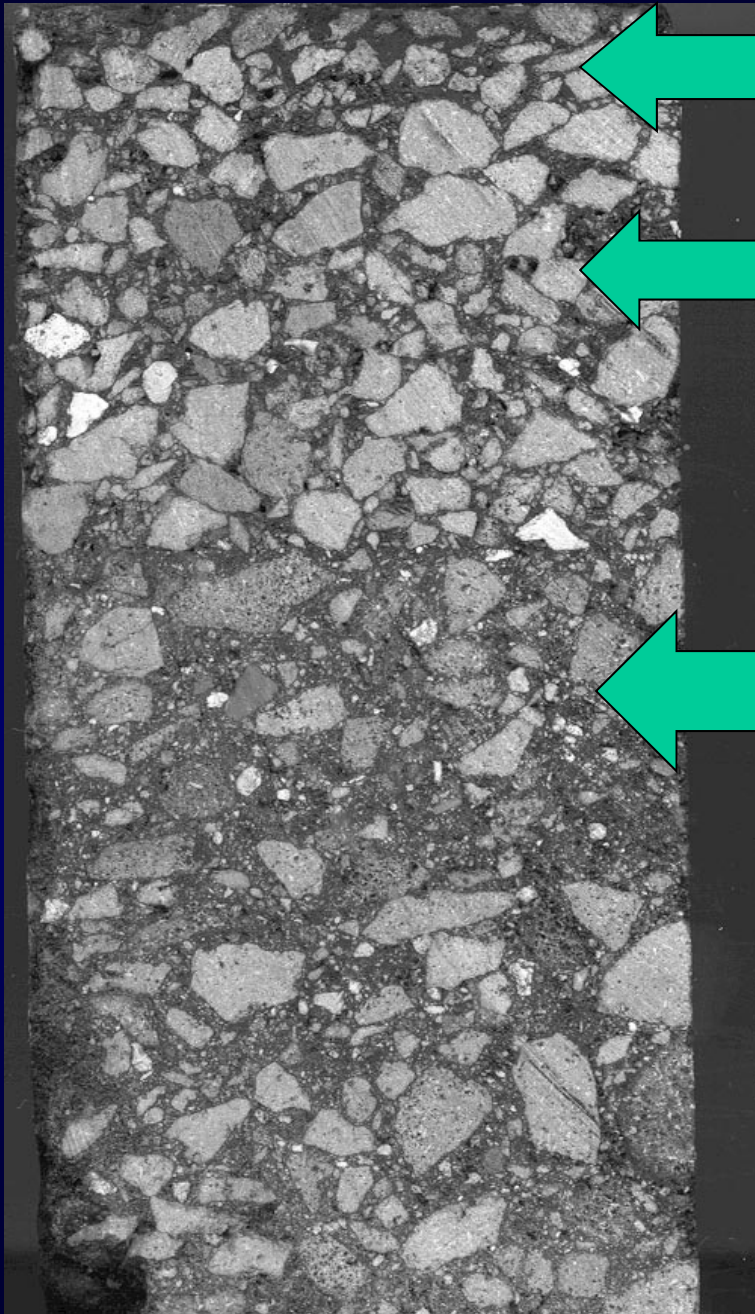
**Dense Graded**



Item 342 Permeable Friction Course (PFC)  
PG 76 Mixtures

**Open Graded  
w/Asphalt Rubber**

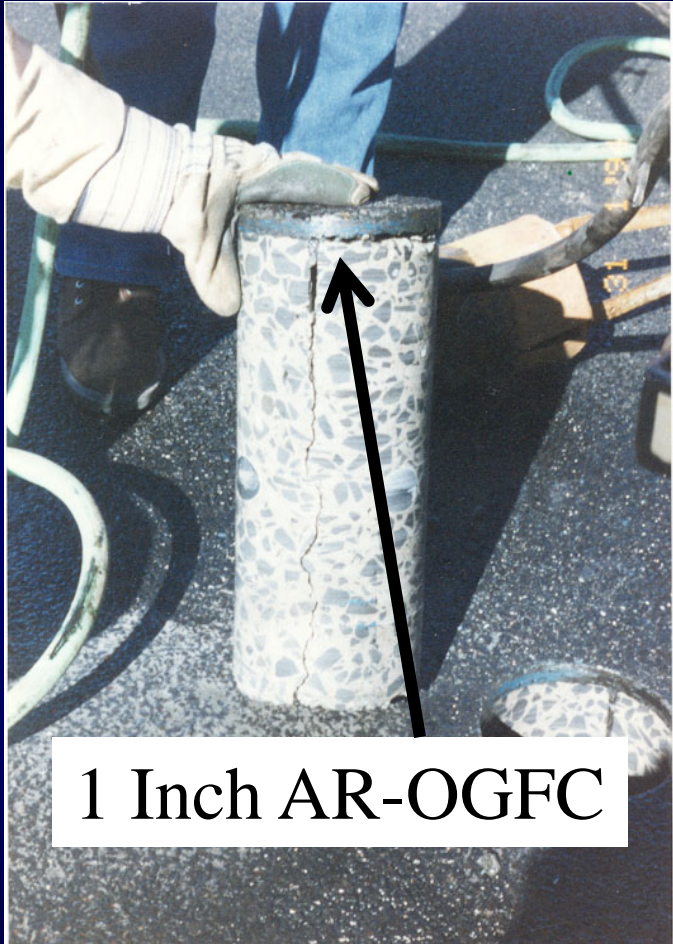




AR-OGFC

AR-AC

HMA  
Base  
Mix



1 Inch AR-OGFC

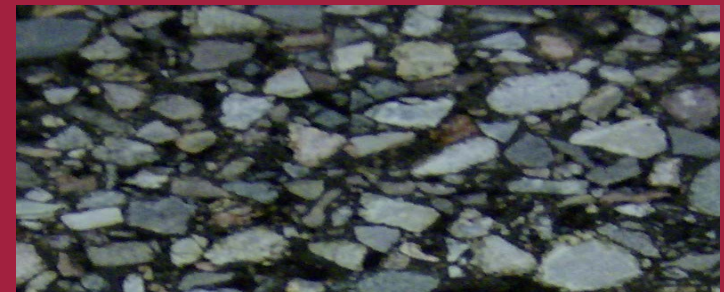
# Asphalt-Rubber Mixes

HMA Dense Graded Average  
Overlay Thickness  
140 mm – 5.5 Inches



HMA % of Miles  
With Fatigue Cracking  
20 %

Asphalt Rubber  
Hot Mixes  
Average Overlay  
Thickness  
45 mm – 1.7 Inches



Asphalt Rubber % Of Miles  
With Fatigue Cracking  
2 %

# **1990's Politics and Starting Over**

**1993 ISTEIA controversy/ARPG**

**1994 ASTM Specification**

**1995 Patents expire**

**1997 RPA Formed to replace ARPG**

**RPA Dedicated to research and  
technology transfer**

# 1994 ASTM AR Definition & Specification

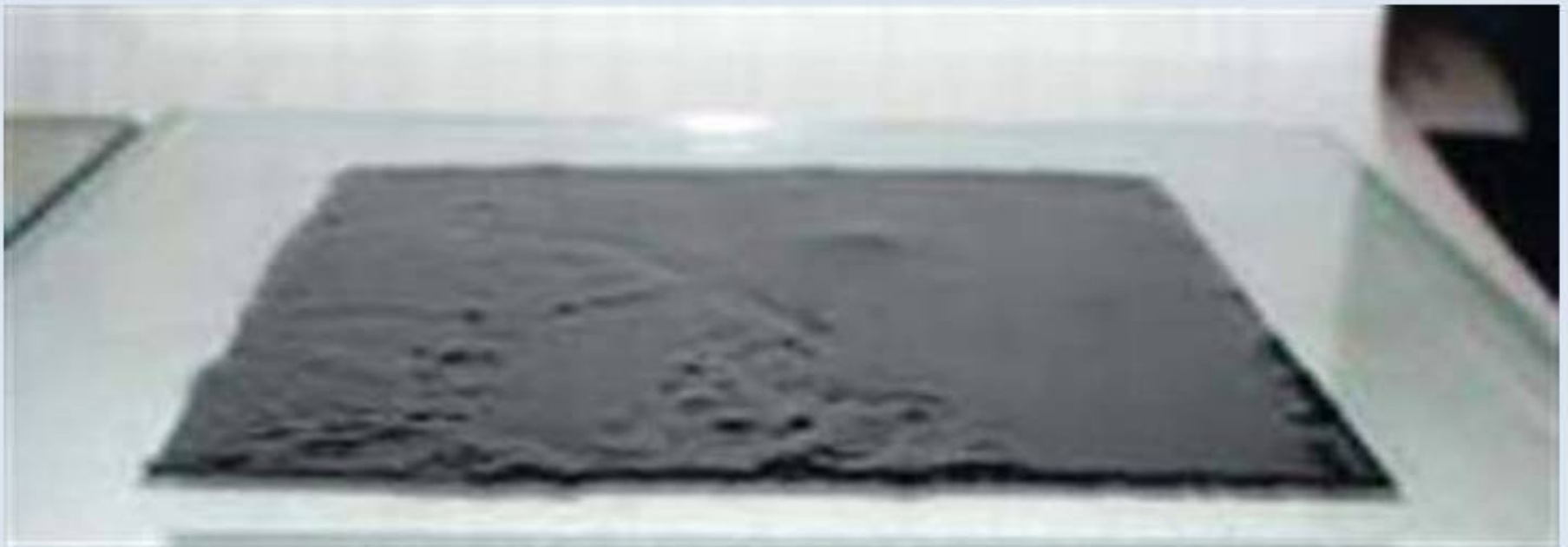
Asphalt-Rubber as defined by ASTM D8,  
Spec. ASTM D6114

“Asphalt-Rubber is a blend of asphalt cement, reclaimed tire rubber and certain additives, in which the rubber component is at least 15% by weight of the total blend and has reacted in the hot asphalt cement sufficiently to cause swelling of the rubber particles.”

**Asphalt-Rubber Binder with Rubber Particles**



**Asphalt Binder, Neat asphalt, Polymer Asphalt, Terminal Blend**





# Crumb Rubber related terms

CRM – Crumb Rubber Modified Asphalt

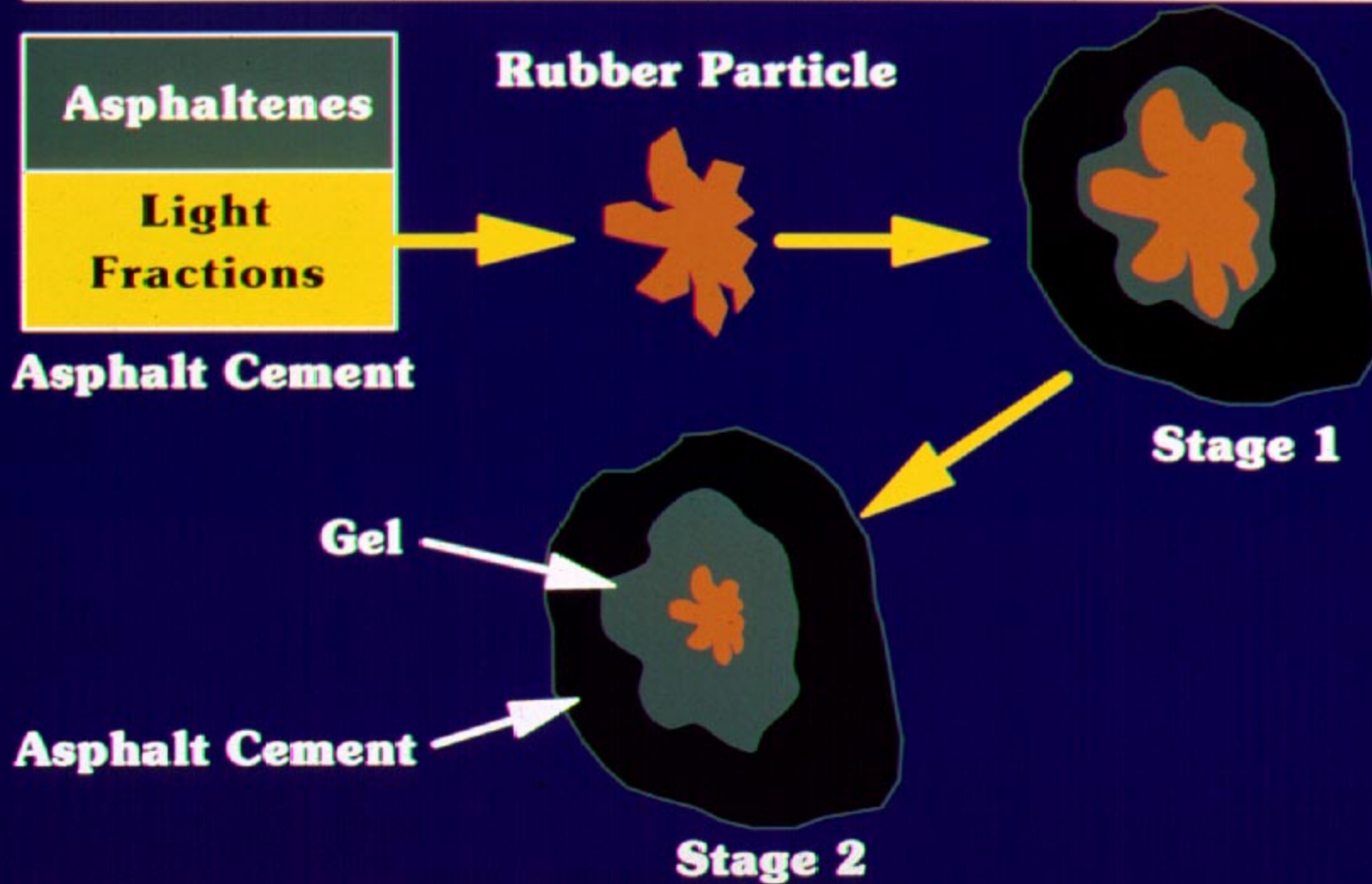
GTR – Ground Tire Rubber

RTR – Recycled Tire Rubber

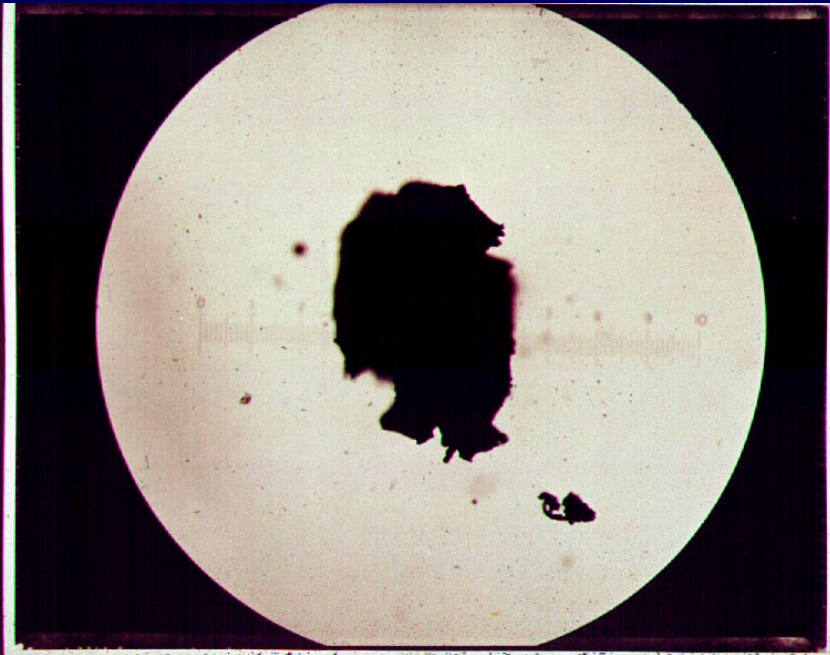
- No. 10 mesh and smaller is used (less than 2 mm)
- Free of wire and other contaminants
- 0.5% fiber or less.



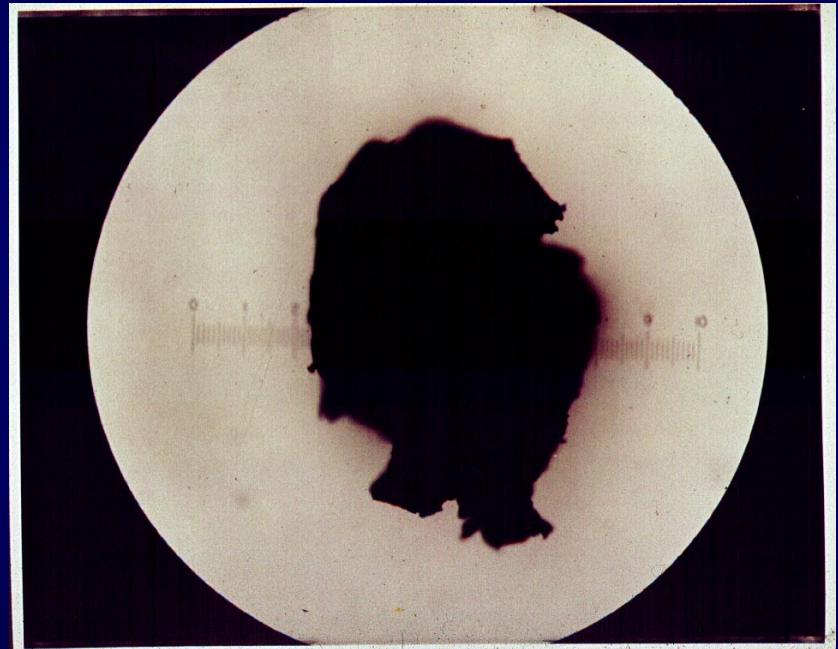
# Reaction Stages of Asphalt & Rubber



# Rubber Particle Interaction



Before

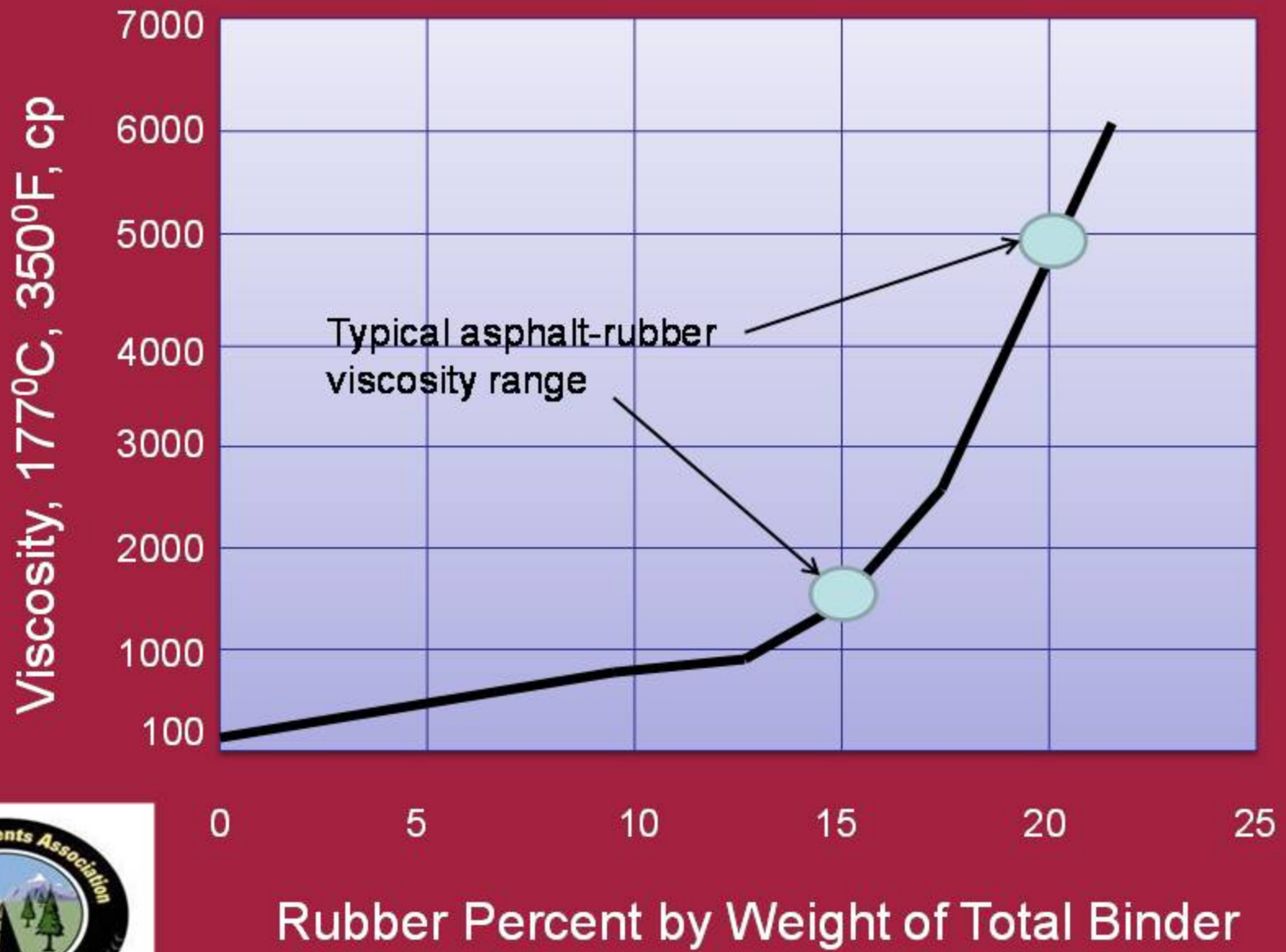


After

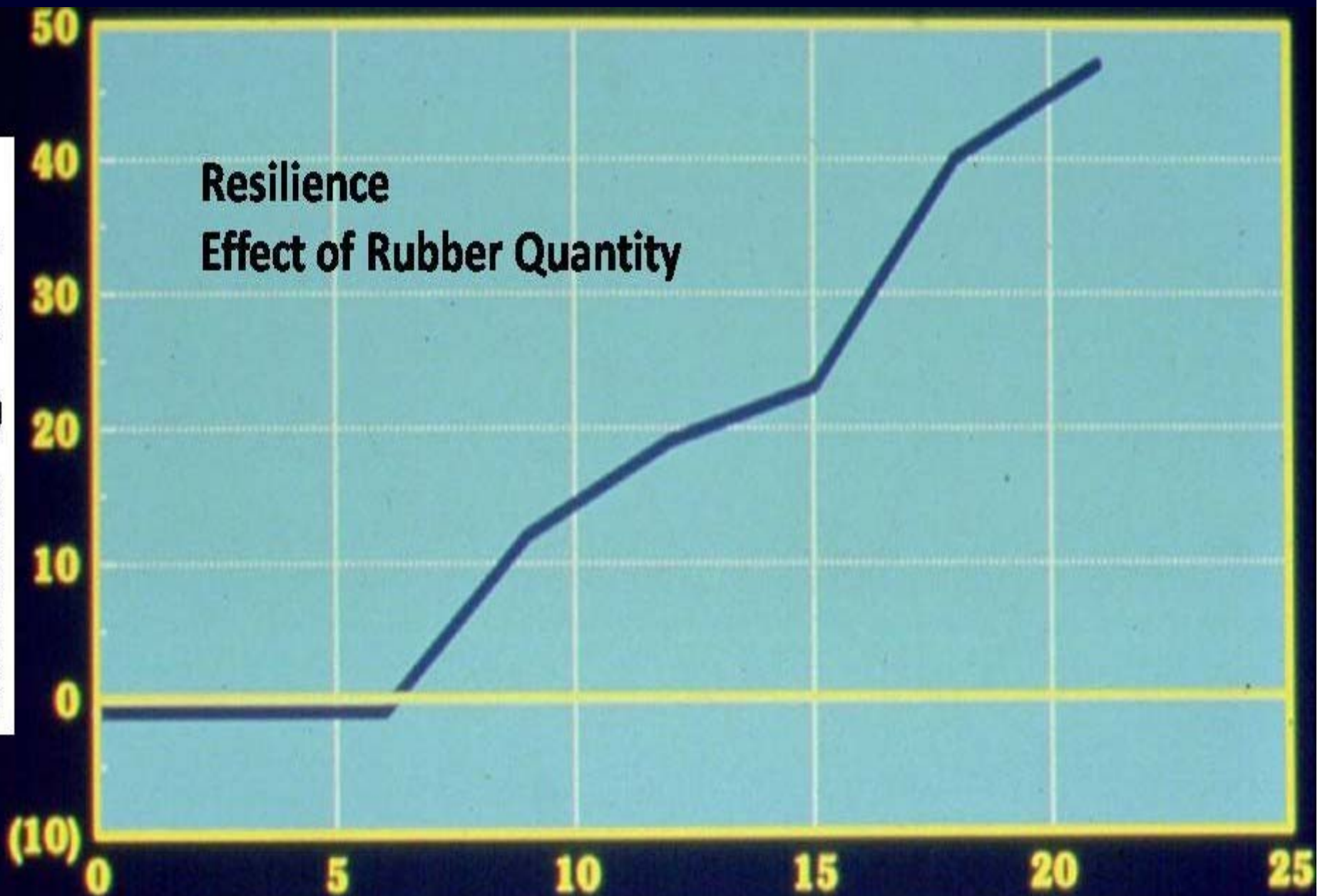
## Quality Control Circa 1982



## Effect Rubber Quantity, Rotational Viscosity



**Resilience @ 77° F**



**Percent Rubber by Weight of Total Binder**

Agency	ADOT <sup>1</sup>	ADOT <sup>1</sup>	ADOT <sup>1</sup>	ASTM	Caltrans	FDOT <sup>4</sup>	TxDOT <sup>1</sup>	TxDOT <sup>1</sup>	TxDOT <sup>1</sup>
Binder Type	1	2	3	1	2	ARB 12	I	II	III
CRM Type: Scrap tire (ST)	ST	ST	ST	ST	75±2% ST	ST	ST	ST	ST
High Natural (HN)	---	---	---		25±2% HN	---	---	---	---
Minimum CRM by total weight of binder, %							15	15	15
Minimum CRM by weight of asphalt cement, %	20	20	20	15	18	12			
Base Asphalt Cement Grade	PG 64-16	PG 58-22	PG 52-28	Not Specified <sup>2</sup>	AR-4000				
						PG 64-22	PG 58-28	PG 58-28	PG 58-28
Asphalt Modifier (extender oil) by weight of asphalt cement, %	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	Not Allowed	May be allowed but not specified	2.5-6.0	Allowed but not used	Allowed but not used	Allowed but not used	Allowed but not used
Minimum Interaction Temperature	163°C 325°F	163°C 325°F	163°C 325°F	177°C 350°F	190°C 375°F	150°C 300°F	---	---	---
Maximum Interaction Temperature	190°C 375°F	190°C 375°F	190°C 375°F	190°C 375°F	218°C/425° 226°C/440° F	175°C 350°F	---	---	---
Minimum Interaction Time	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes	User Defined	45 minutes	15 minutes	---	---	---

1 ADOT and TxDOT specifications are published in English units; for this table, temperature values were converted from °F to °C and rounded.

2 ASTM directs the user to select binders based on climate

3 Caltrans dual units specifications are presented in this table.

4 FDOT provides respective values for °C and °F that are not exact conversions of each other; temperature limits presented in this table are as shown in the FDOT Standard Specifications and have not been adjusted.

Sieve Size	Caltrans	Caltrans	TxDOT	TxDOT	TxDOT	ADOT	ADOT	FDOT	FDOT	FDOT
% Passing	Scrap Tire (Green-book)	High Nat'l (Green-book)	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Type A	Type B	Type A	Type B	Type C
2.36 mm (#8)	100	100	100			100				
2.00 mm (#10)	98-100	100	95-100	100		95-100	100			
1.18 mm (#16)	45-75	95-100		70-100	100	0-10	65-100			100
600 µm (#30)	20-Feb	35-85		25-60	90-100		20-100		100	70-100
425 µm (#40)					45-100					
300 µm (#50)	0-6	30-Oct	0-10				0-45	100	40-60	20-40
150 µm (#100)	0-2	0-4						50-80		
75 µm (#200)	0	0-1		0-5			0-5	--	--	--



Binder Designation Climate Zone		CRA 1 Hot	CRA 2 Mild	CRA 3 Cold
Grade of base asphalt cement PG recommended; Pen suggested Grade		PG 64-16 Pen 60/70	PG 58-22 Pen 85/110	PG 52-28 Pen 120/200
Rotational Viscosity; 350° F (C) Spindle 3, 20 RPM, Pa·s, [cp] ASTMD2196		1.5-4.0 [1500-5000]	1.5-4.0 [1500-5000]	1.5-4.0 [1500-5000]
Penetration; 77 F (C), , 60 sec. (ASTM D 5)	Min	10	15	25
Softening Point; (AASHTO T-53 or ASTM D 36) °C or F	Min	57 [135]	54 [130]	52 [125]
Resilience 77 F (C) ASTM D 5329 %, min.	Min	30	25	15

Test Performed	Minutes of Reaction					Specified Limits
	60	90	240	360	1440	
Viscosity, Haake at 177°C, Pa-s	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.0	1.5-4.0
Centipoise cP	2700	2800	2800	2800	2000	1500-4000
Resilience at 25°C, % Rebound (ASTM D3407)	34		36		32	30 Minimum
Ring & Ball Softening Point, °F (ASTM D36)	150.0	150.5	152.5	154.5	145.0	135 Minimum
Needle Penetration at 4°C, 200g, 60 sec., 1/10mm (ASTM D5)	22		24		26	10 Minimum

# Where are the RPA members?

**Germany, United Kingdom, Mexico, Canada, United States, Austria, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Australia, South Korea, South Africa, Netherlands, China, Brazil, Poland, Barbados, Saudi Arabia, Italy and Sweden**



# TAB Members

**George Way**

**Kamil Kaloush**

**Jorge Sousa**

**Doug Carlson**

**Mark Belshe**

**Anne Stonex**

**Jack Van Kirk**

**Richard Stubstad**

**Barry Takalou**

**Hussain Bahia**

**Robert McGinnis**

**Joe Cano**

**Serji Amirkhanian**

**Byron Lord**

**Jon Epps**

**Maghsoud Tahmoressi**

**K. C. Evans**

**Dale Rand**

**Doug Bernard**

**Peter Seebaly**

**Shakir Shatnawi**

# **TAB ASTM Activities**

## **Standards Developed**

**ASTM 6114 Asphalt-Rubber Specification**

**ASTM 6932 Open-Graded Friction Course  
Design & Construction**

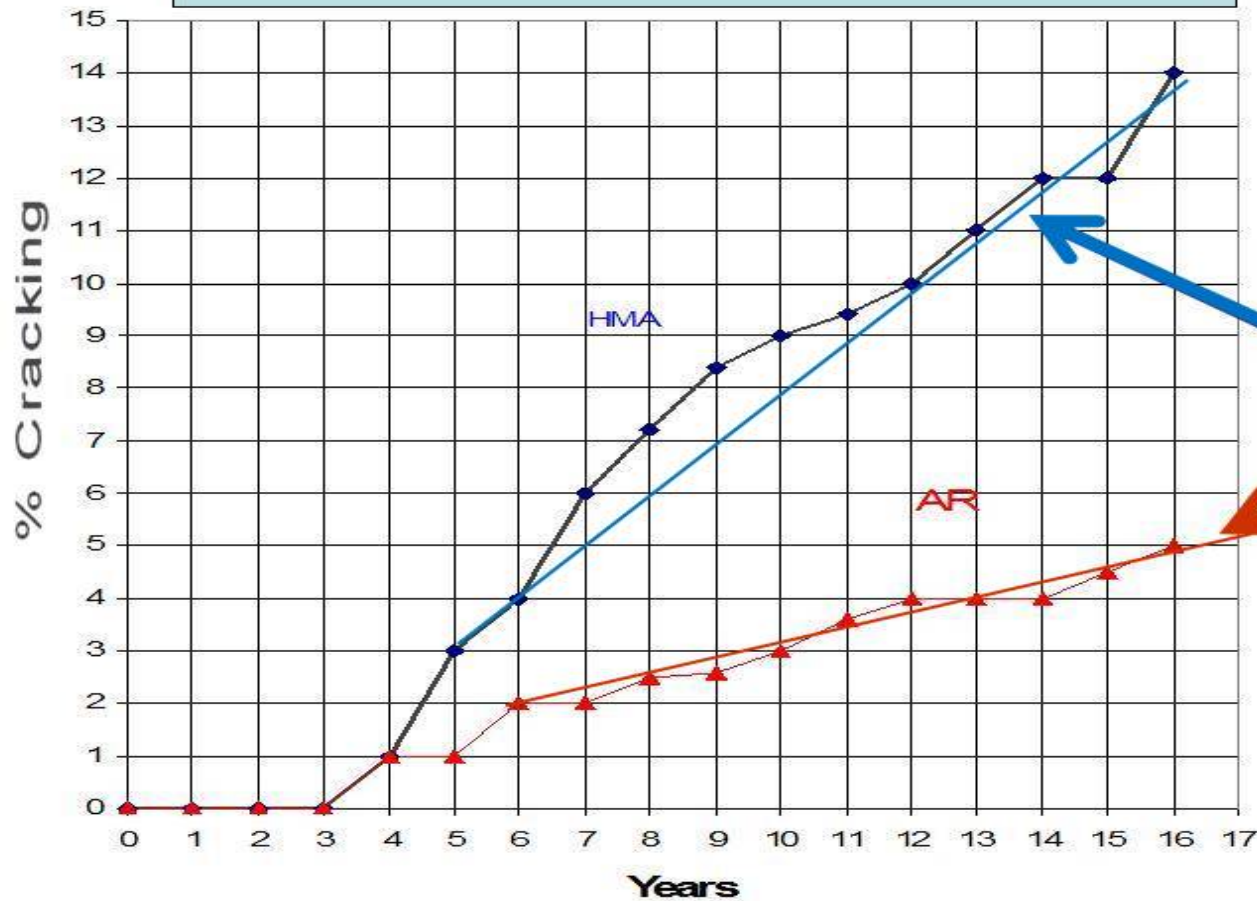
**ASTM 7064 Open-Graded Friction Course  
Mix Design**

**ASTM 7584 Asphalt-Rubber Cape Seal  
Newly developed Standard**

*ASTM 7741 Test Method for Measurement  
of Apparent Viscosity of Asphalt-Rubber or  
Other Asphalt Binders by Using a Rotational  
Hand Held Viscometer*

# 2000's Performance, Research, Environment & Costs

Arizona DOT % Cracking vs. Years of age

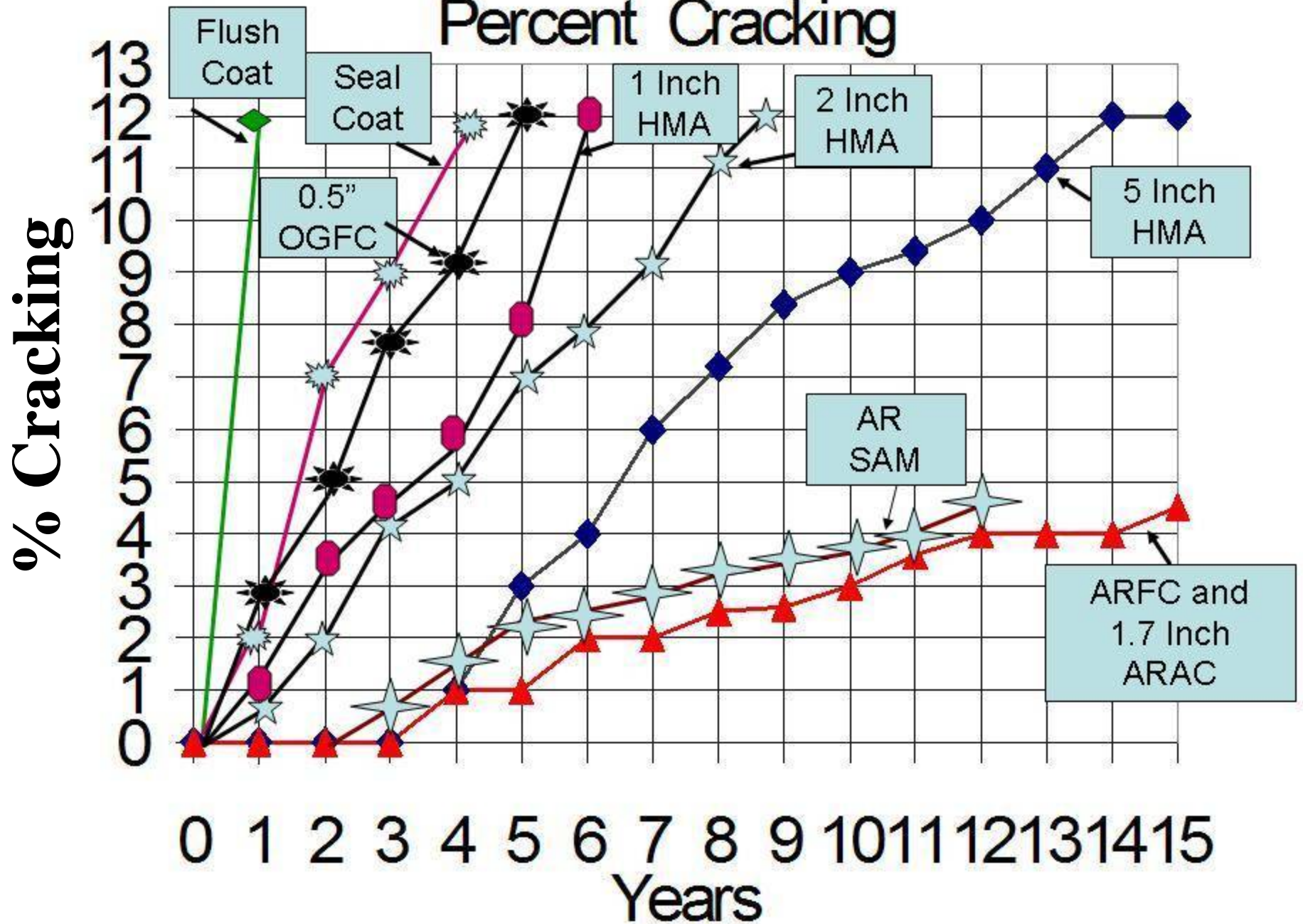


HMA Dense graded mixes

AR mixes

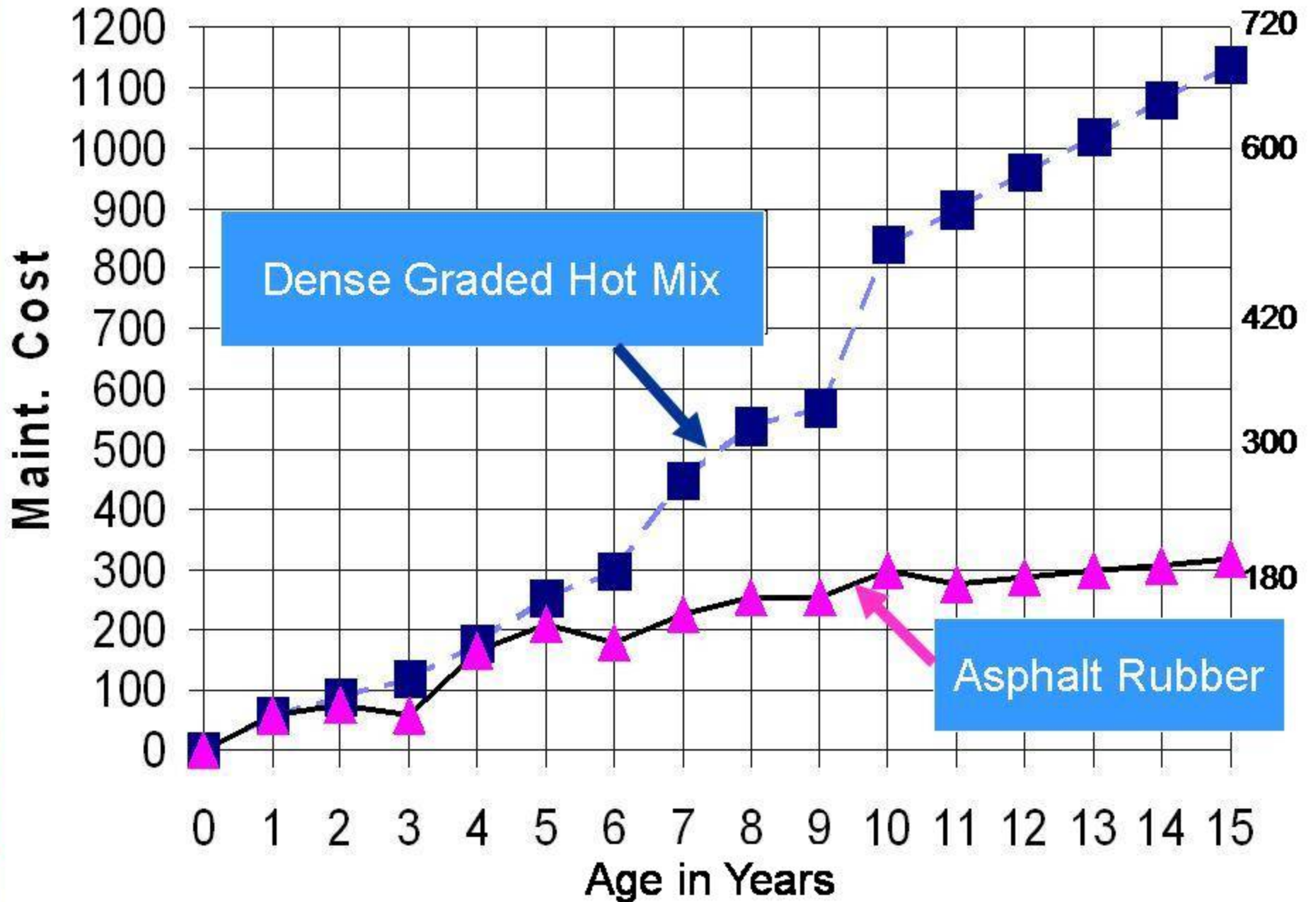


# Percent Cracking



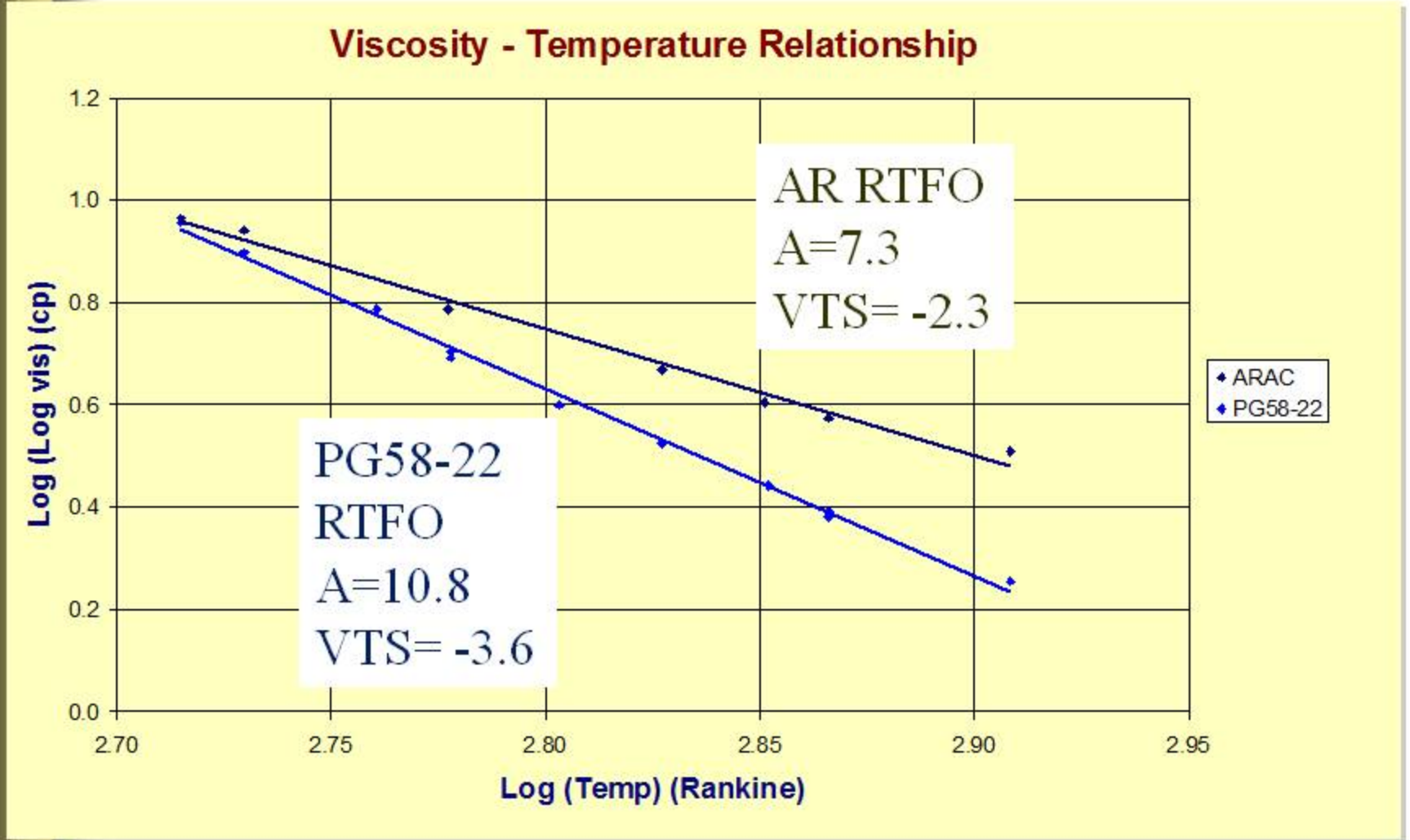
# Maintenance Cost \$/lane -Kilometer

\$/Lane-mile





# PG 58-22 With and Without Rubber



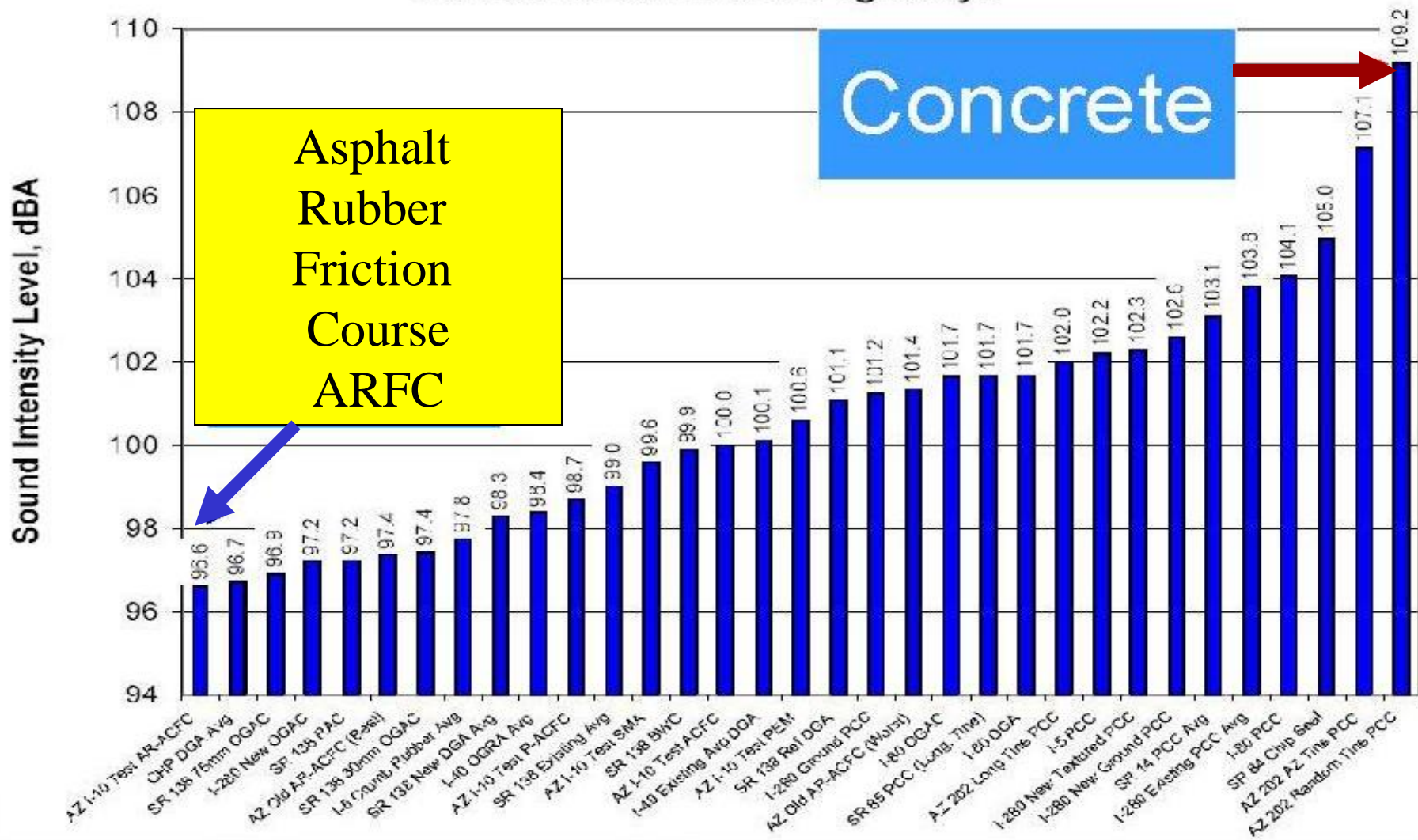
<b>Binder Type</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>RTFO</b>	<b>RTFO</b>
	<b>A</b>	<b>VTS</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>VTS</b>
<b>PG 58-22 base asphalt</b>	<b>11.164</b>	<b>-3.764</b>	<b>11.076</b>	<b>-3.722</b>
<b>PG 58-22 after rubber added (AR)</b>	<b>8.3595</b>	<b>-2.726</b>	<b>8.0475</b>	<b>-2.598</b>
<b><i>AR binder equivalent A VTS like a PG 70-40</i></b>	<b><i>8.129</i></b>	<b><i>-2.648</i></b>	<b><i>8.129</i></b>	<b><i>-2.648</i></b>
<b>PG 64-16 base asphalt</b>	<b>11.163</b>	<b>-3.755</b>	<b>11.116</b>	<b>-3.728</b>
<b>PG 64-16 after rubber added (AR)</b>	<b>8.39</b>	<b>-2.738</b>	<b>8.543</b>	<b>-2.781</b>
<b><i>AR binder equivalent A VTS like a PG 76-34</i></b>	<b><i>8.532</i></b>	<b><i>-2.785</i></b>	<b><i>8.532</i></b>	<b><i>-2.785</i></b>



# ADOT US 60 LOWEST NOISE ROAD

Location	Before Dba	After Dba	Difference Dba
Shoulder (15m)	79.8	72.6	7.2
Soundwall (30m)	76.6	67.1	9.5
Residential (120m)	51.7	45.6	6.1

## Tire/Pavement Noise Sound Intensity California & Arizona Highways



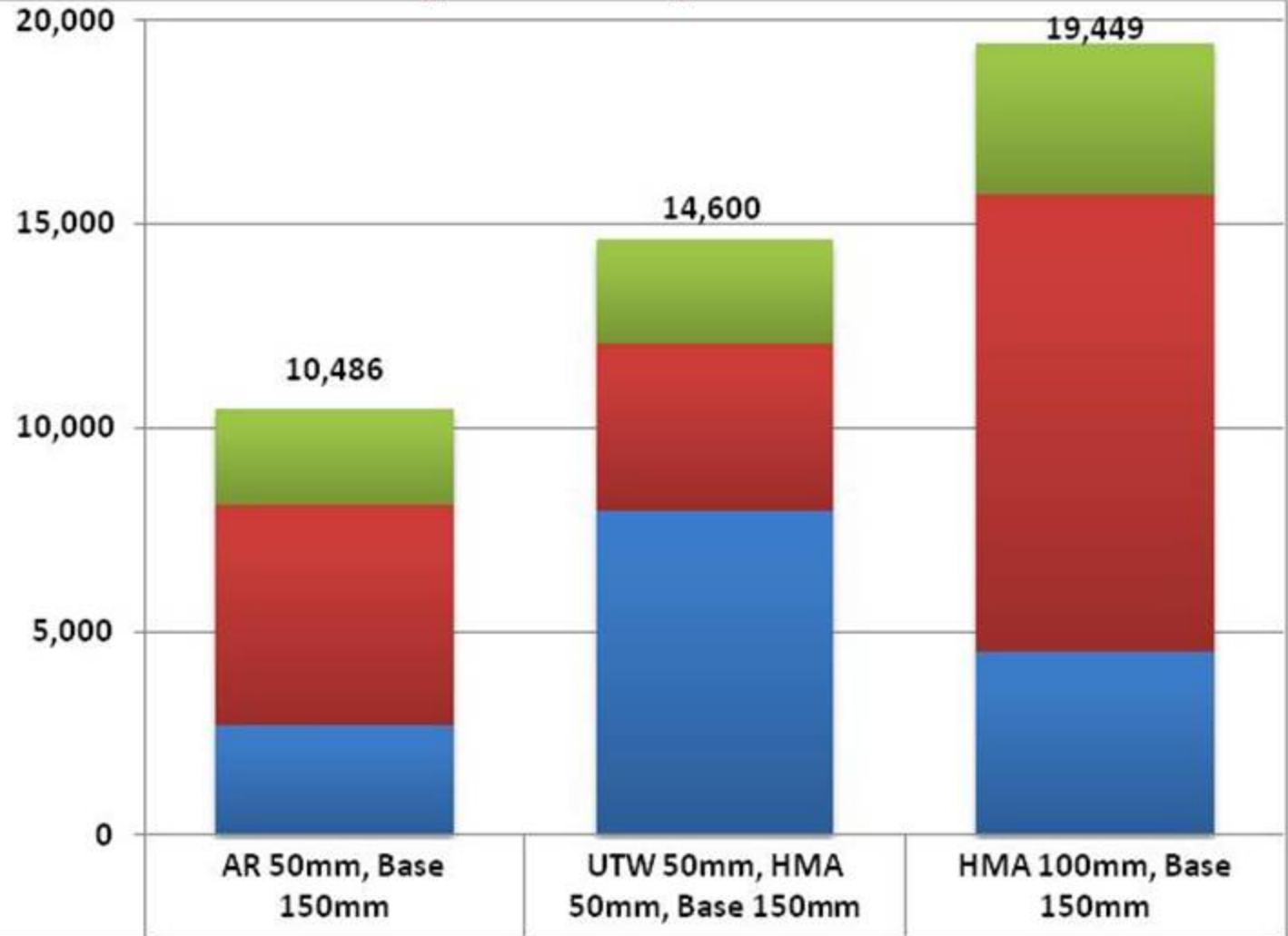
Asphalt Rubber Open Graded  
Quietest Surface

Overlay with  
Asphalt Rubber

Concrete  
Pavement



# Total Annual kg CO2 Eq. / km



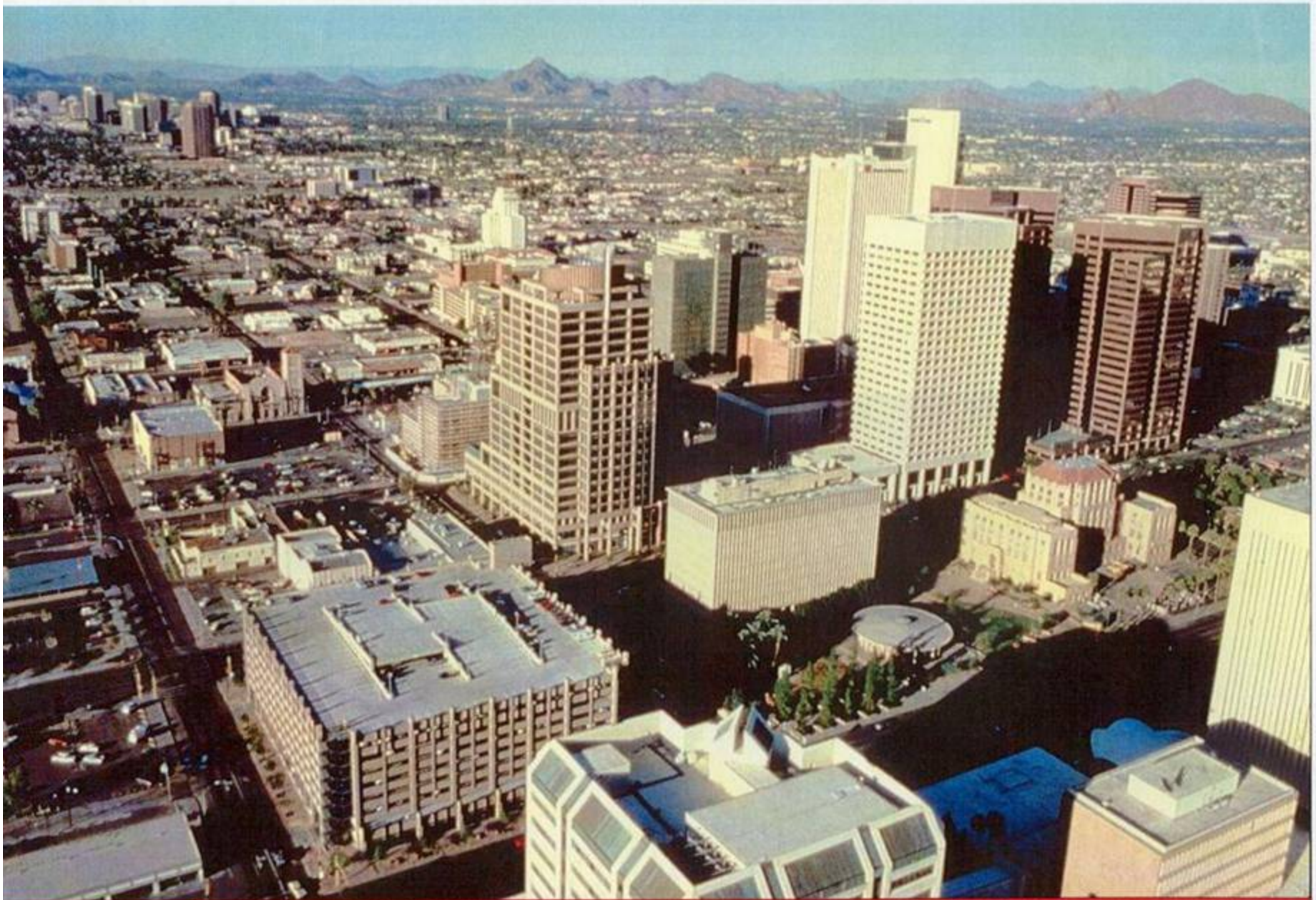
■ Transportation kg An. CO2 Eq. / km	2,386	2,526	3,722
■ Mixing kg An. CO2 Eq. / km	5,381	4,124	11,210
■ Production kg An. CO2 Eq. / km	2,718	7,951	4,517

# Recycling of Asphalt-Rubber Mix 2007

ARFC Hot Plant  
Recycled mix into  
I-19 Frontage Road



ARFC Recycled in  
Place on I-19, note  
Joint cracks

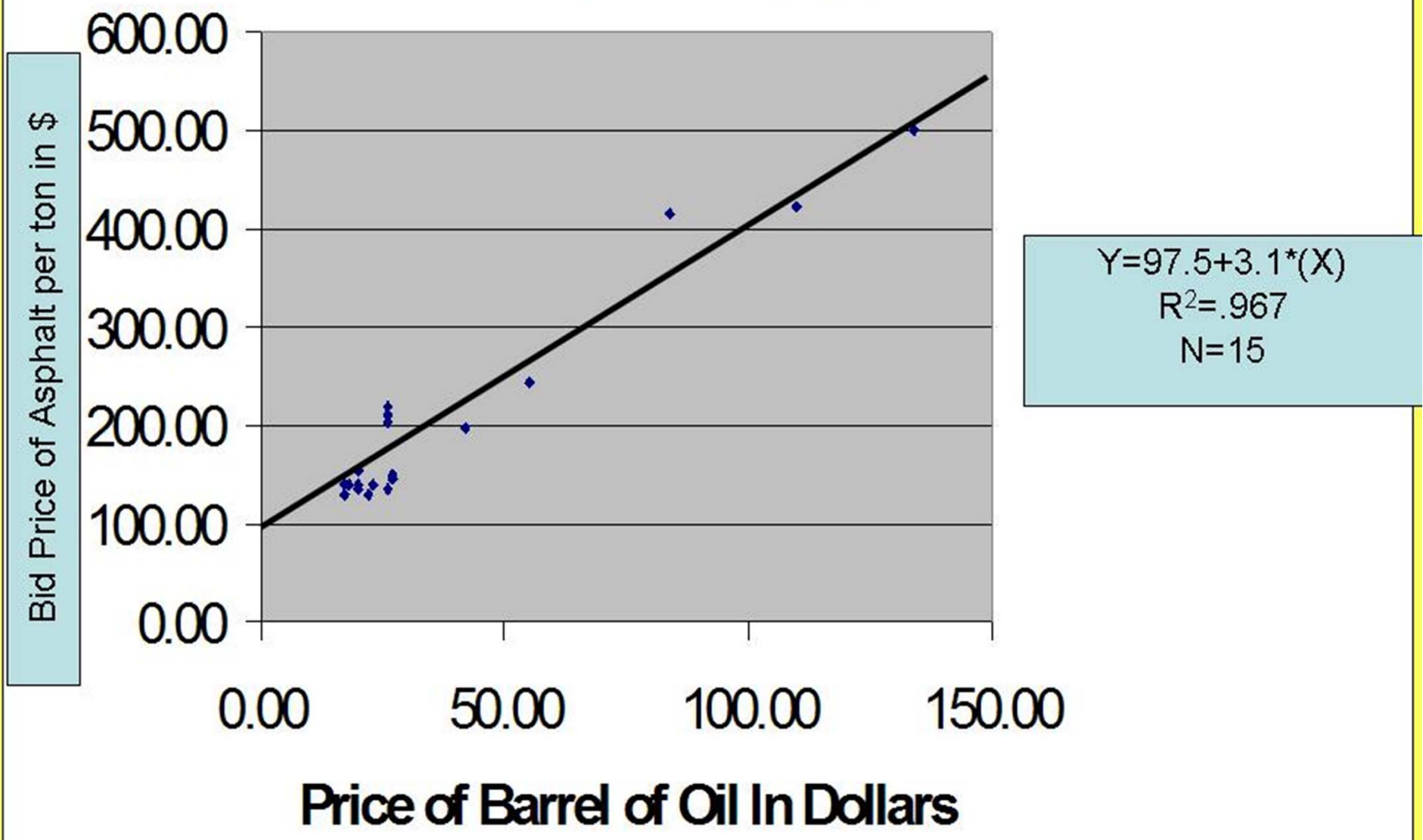


Phoenix  
Arizona

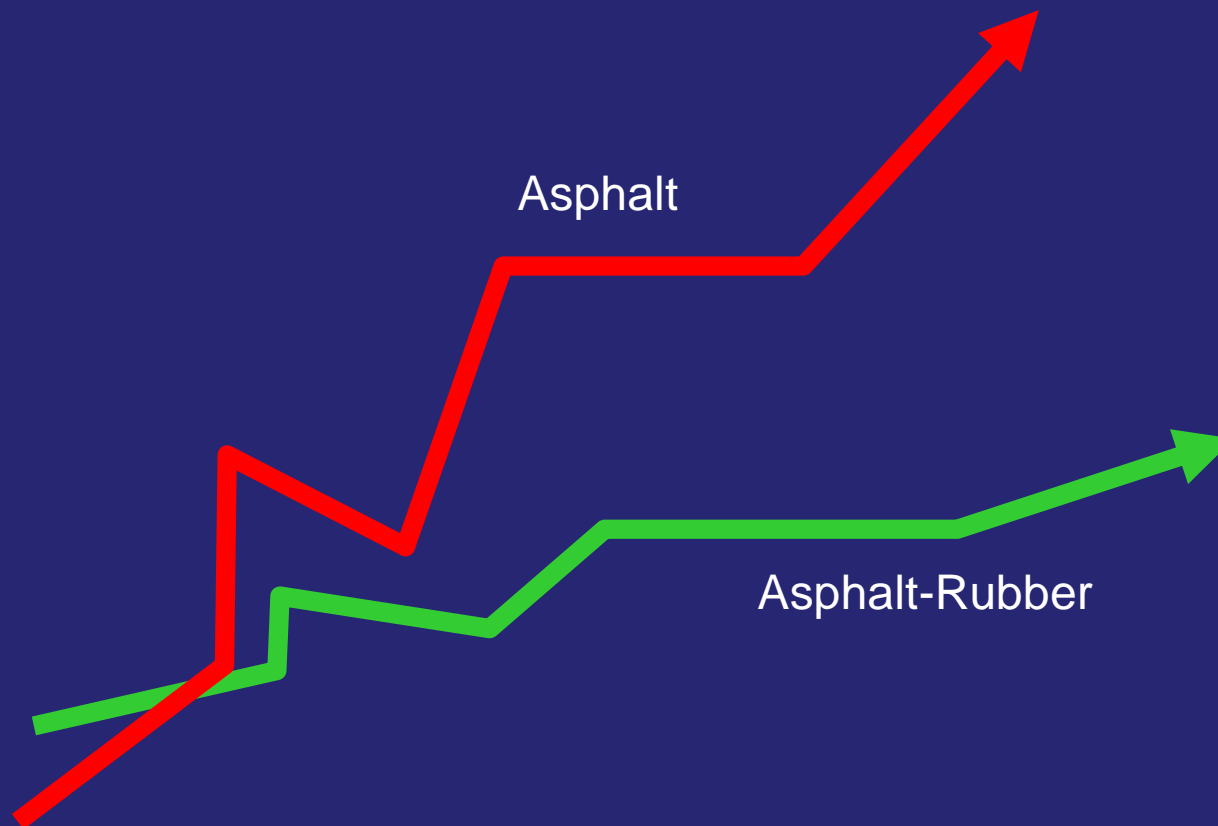
**Urban Heat Island Initiative for  
Material & Technology Innovations**



# Arizona Bid Price of Asphalt 1994-2008 vs. Price of a Barrel of Oil



A 20% scrap tire rubber content is very attractive with the high cost of asphalt.



When in 2008 asphalt passed \$300/ton, the raw material cost for A-R became less.

# 2010+ Market Changes, International

- Cost of Asphalt
- Cost of Polymer
- Availability of Polymer
- Tighter Highway Funding Budgets
- Pavement Preservation Needs
- Thinner Pavements and/or Surface Treatments
- Reasons to Consider Rubberized Asphalt with GTR

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

# Asphalt-Rubber PG Binder Grading

Example satate PG grading asphalt with crumb rubber - Louisiana – PG 82-22rm

- Wet Process
  - Asphalt Rubber (15% + Rubber and Other Additives Optional)
  - GTR Modified with Suspending Agent or other additives (30 mesh rubber, 8-12% content)
  - Terminal blend (dissolved rubber, a recycled polymer modified asphalt)
    - AC-20-5TR
    - MAC-10TR
    - PG 76-22TR



## NCAT GTR Performance Grade Study

- 11 rubber sizes and sources
- 10% Rubber Content
  - One binder had 15%
- PG 67-22 Base Binder
- Graded by Following AASHTO specification
- 1 mm gap on DSR
  - Only one had particulate where 2 mm gap is needed
- Binders will be put into OGFC mixes and tested

GTR Source	Original DSR	RTFO DSR	PAV DSR	BBR – S	BBR – m	True Grade
1	83.6	87.0	17.1	-34.8	-24.9	83.6 – 24.9
2	72.8	77.8	19.4	-31.2	-25.1	72.8 – 25.1
3	80.4	88.0	15.6	-36.1	-24.2	80.4 – 24.2
4	79.0	86.7	17.1	-35.6	-23.0	79.0 – 23.0
5	77.9	82.0	17.6	-35.8	-25.6	77.9 – 25.6
6	80.7	85.6	17.7	-34.5	-23.6	80.7 – 23.6

# Asphalt-Rubber PG Binder Grading

AASHTO States balloting on PG  
grading asphalt with crumb rubber,  
2 mm DSR gap

In addition Binder ETG developing a  
new DSR Geometry for AR Testing

# Asphalt-Rubber PG Binder Grading

## New DSR Geometry for AR Cup and Bob

### Shear Stress and Strain

$$\tau = \frac{T}{2\pi LR^2}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{\theta R_e}{(R - R_e)}$$

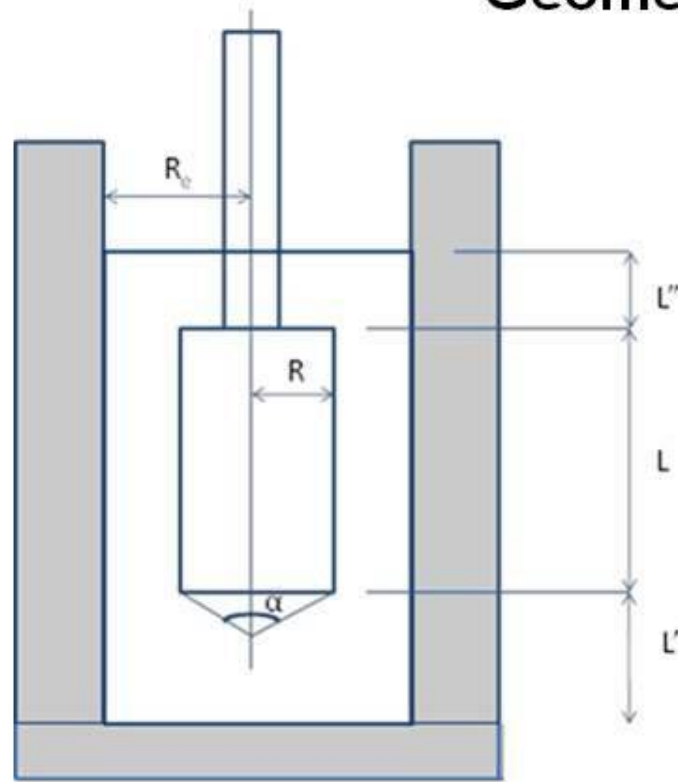
T= torque

$R_e$  = radius of the cup

R= radius of the bob

$\Theta$  = angular rotation of the bob

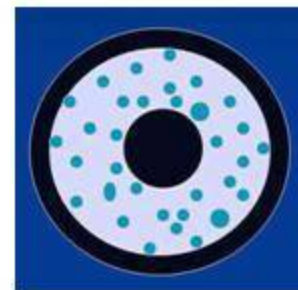
### DSR Cup and Bob Geometry





# DSR Geometries

- Parallel plate to plate
  - Plate Diameter: 12.5 mm
  - Gap: 1 mm or 2 mm
- Cup and bob
  - Cup diameter: 27.5 mm
  - Bob diameter: 14 mm
  - Effective gap: 6.75 mm



# 4 mm Gap Trial

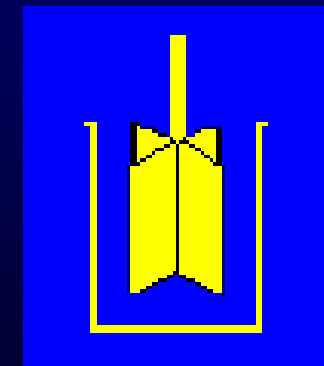
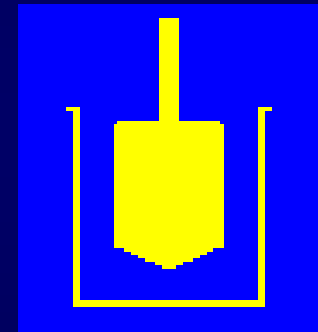
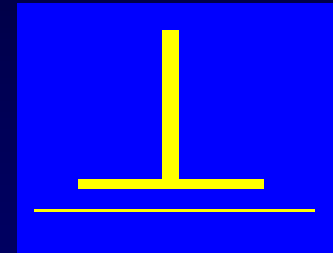


# Objective

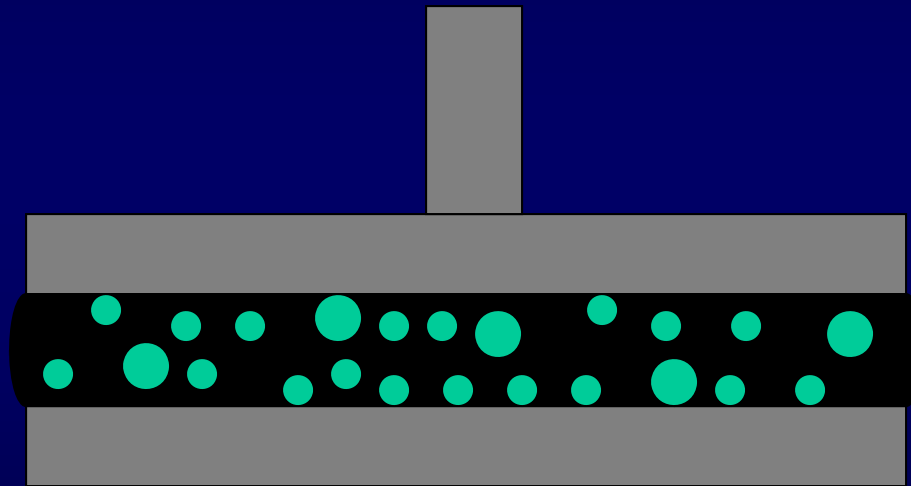
- Identify suitable testing methods for GTR under the Superpave procedures
  - Using smooth parallel plates for testing
- Concerns
  - Large gap requirements due to large particle size
  - Trimming of parallel plates
  - Sedimentation of particulates
  - Deformation of Asphalt at geometry surface, rather than entire volume of GTR sample

# Geometries Used

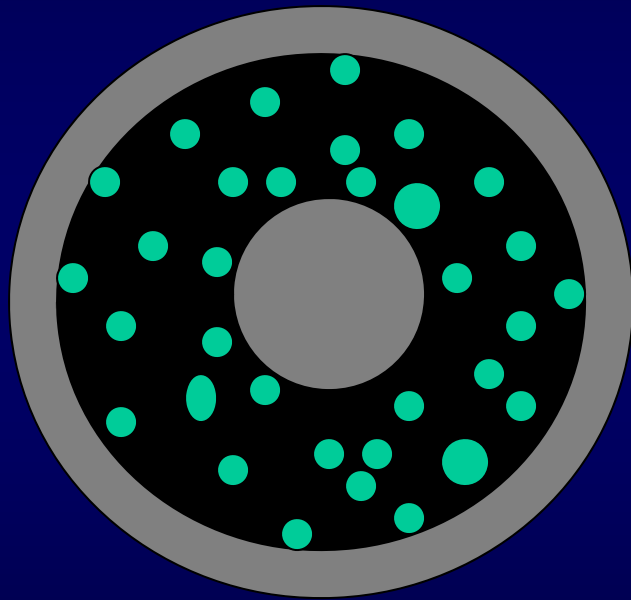
- Parallel Plate
  - Plate Diameter: 12.5 mm
  - Gap: 1 mm
- Couette Set (Cup and Bob)
  - Cup Diameter: 27.5 mm
  - Bob Diameter: 14 mm
  - Effective Gap: 6.75 mm
- Vane 14mm Set (Cup and Vane)
  - Cup Diameter: 27.5 mm
  - Vane Diameter: 14 mm
  - Effective Gap: 6.75 mm



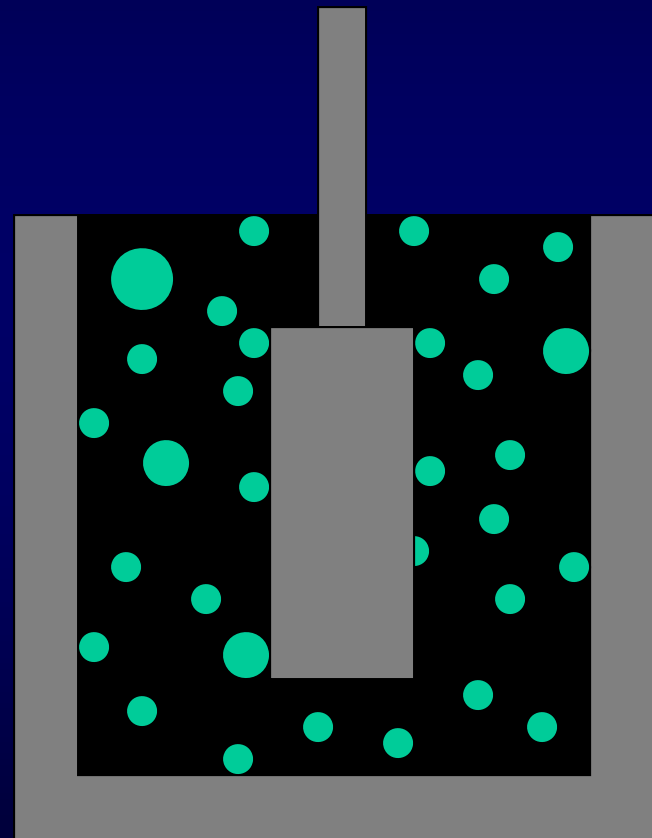
# Parallel Plate



# Cup & Bob



Top View



# New Geometry Evaluation

- Preliminary testing indicates that new geometry may give similar results.
- More extensive evaluation is needed to fully validate geometries.
  - Multiple grade binders
  - Full PG grading and MSCR

# Rubber Grading Experiment for Cup and Bob

## Binders

64-22, 76-22, 70-22PPA

Full PG grading and MSCR; PP1, PP2, CB

64-22, 30 mesh rubber 10%, 15%

Full PG grading and MSCR; PP2, CB

64-22, 20 mesh rubber 15%, 20%

Full PG grading and MSCR, CB

64-22 60 mesh rubber 10%, 15%

Full PG grading and MSCR, PP1, PP2, CB

ALF AC rubber

Full PG grading and MSCR, CB

ALF Terminal blend

Full PG grading and MSCR, PP1, CB



# Asphalt-Rubber PG Binder Grading

## How to handle larger CRM

- 60 mesh material is easily handled in 1 mm gap.
- 30 mesh material handled in 2 mm gap.
- 20 mesh material may require 4 mm gaps.
- What is the limit of gap size?
- Are other geometries available to test larger particles?

# **Future Rubberized Asphalt PG Grading**

**PG grade all recycled tire rubber (RTR) asphalt binders;  
Percentage (5%) to percentage (22%)**

**Hybrid – RTR and polymer**

**RTR in all mixes, Dense graded, Gap Graded, SMA and  
Open Graded**

**Greater use of RTR in seal coats**

**Recognition that RTR in asphalt is a green product  
that saves energy and is good for the environment and  
very cost competitive**

# WMA ARAC California Example

## ARAC Prod/Place/Comp

	Plant Mix Temp	Mix Behind Paver	Comp. Temp.
ARAC	163 °C	143/154°C	149/135°C
Astec W-ARAC	133/143°C	121/132°C	132/110°C
Astec/Evo W-ARAC	132 °C	116/121°C	127/104°C



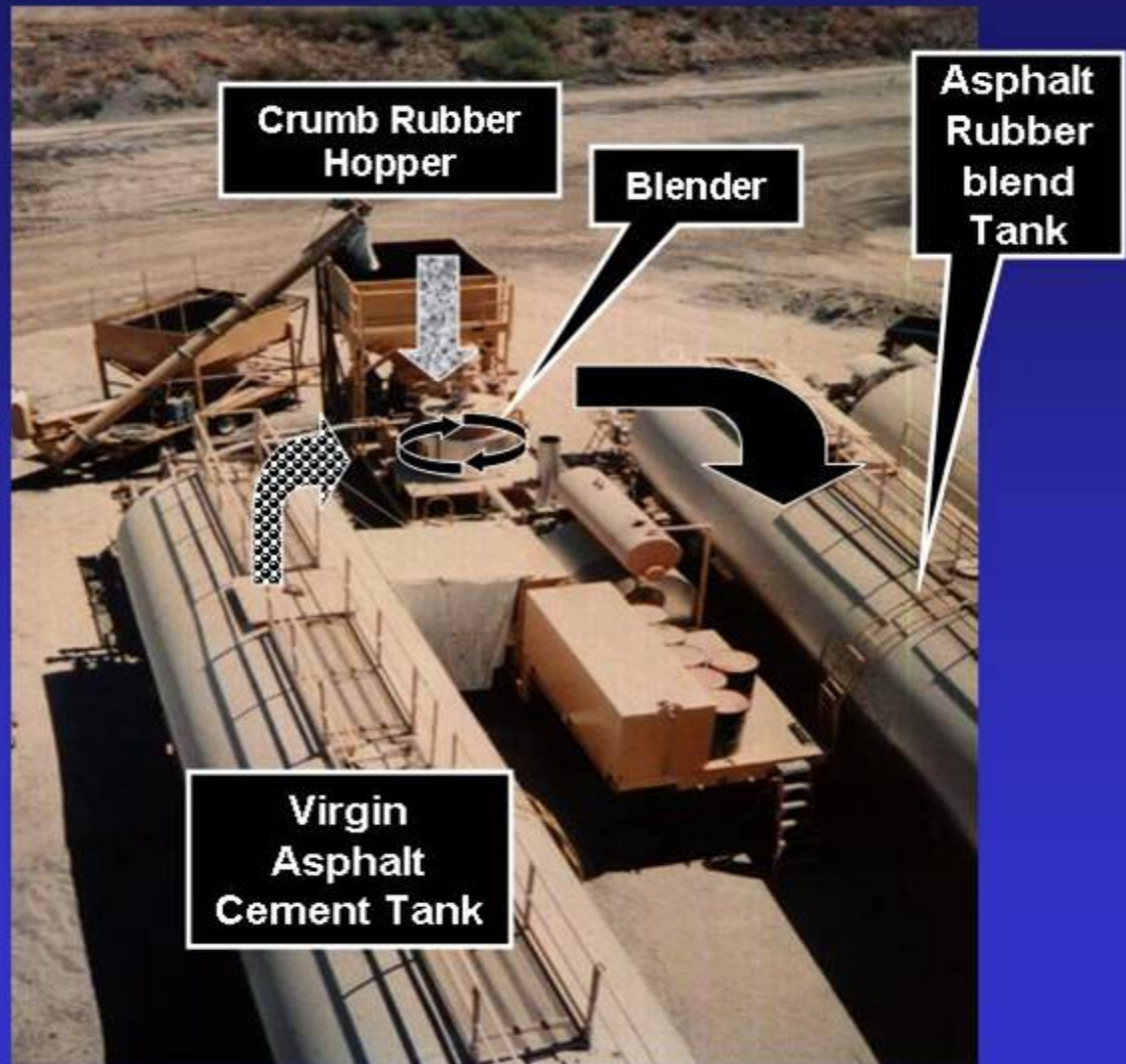
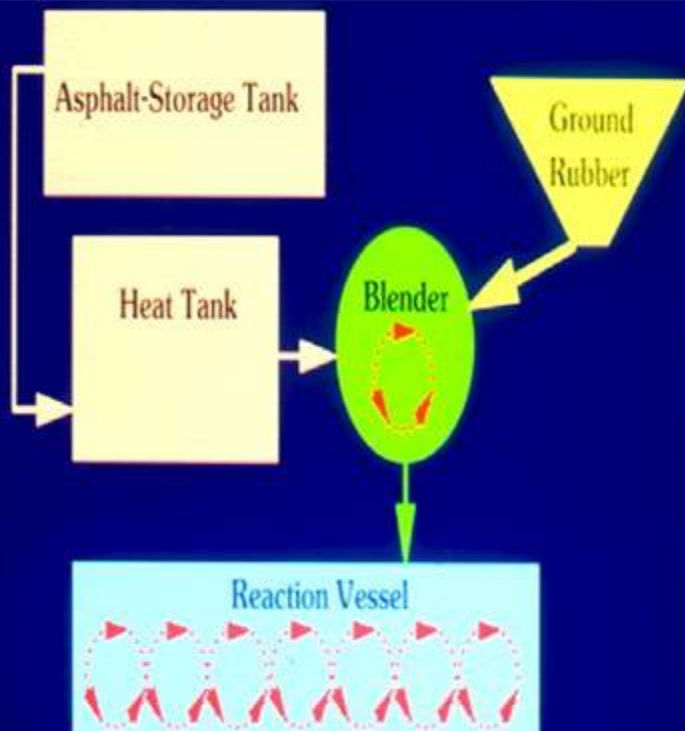
# Crumb Rubber Process



**2000 Lb Sacks  
Stockpiled**



Once blended, the Asphalt-Rubber binder is heated, mixed and agitated in the blend tank from 45 to 60 minutes as specified by the agency.



RUBBER WEIGH HOPPER

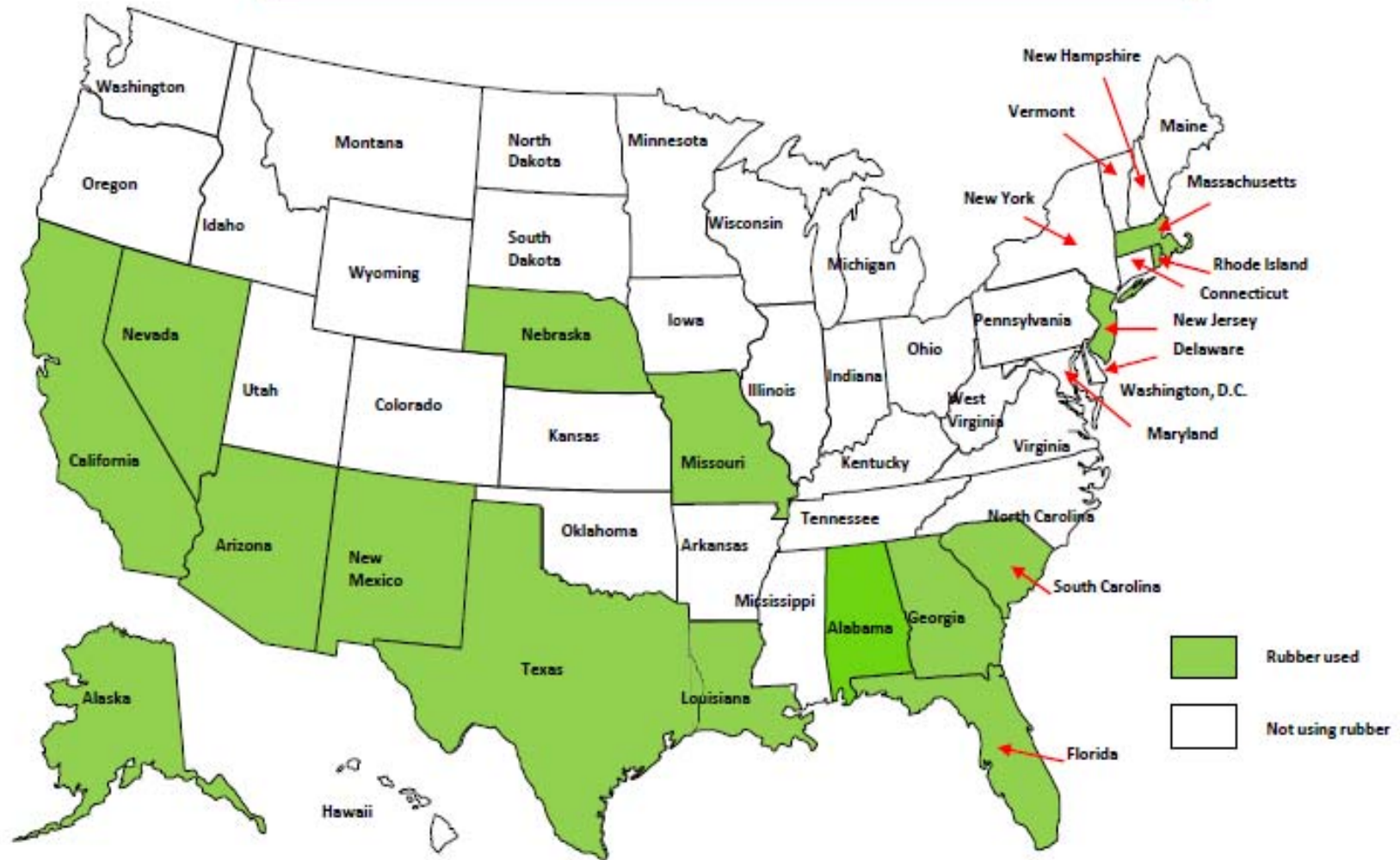
HIGH SPEED MIXER

CONTROL PANEL





## States Where Tire Rubber is Used in Asphalt (DOT Spec or Special Provision)





# Arizona Asphalt Rubber Benefits

Less Reflective Cracking

Less Maintenance/More Durable

Less Raveling

Good Rut Resistance

Good Skid Resistance

Smooth Ride

Good in hot & cold climates

Less Splash & Spray Better Drainage

Less Noise

Cost Effective

Engineering Use for Old Tires



Environmentally  
Friendly



# Asphalt Rubber a New Direction



Thank You!  
[www.rubberpavements.org](http://www.rubberpavements.org)  
[www.RA-Foundation.org](http://www.RA-Foundation.org)

