

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION







# IMPACTS OF MIX REJUVENATORS ON PERFORMANCE

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Ohio Asphalt Paving 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference



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#### The Problem is...

# Cracking

- Although there are
   many causes...traffic
   conditions, pavement
   structure, poor drainage,
   climate
- Focus is on how recycled materials are used
  - Reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP)
  - Recycled asphalt shingles (RAS)



#### **RAP and RAS**

# Benefits

- Economics
- Reduced rutting
- Environment
- Source of aggregate

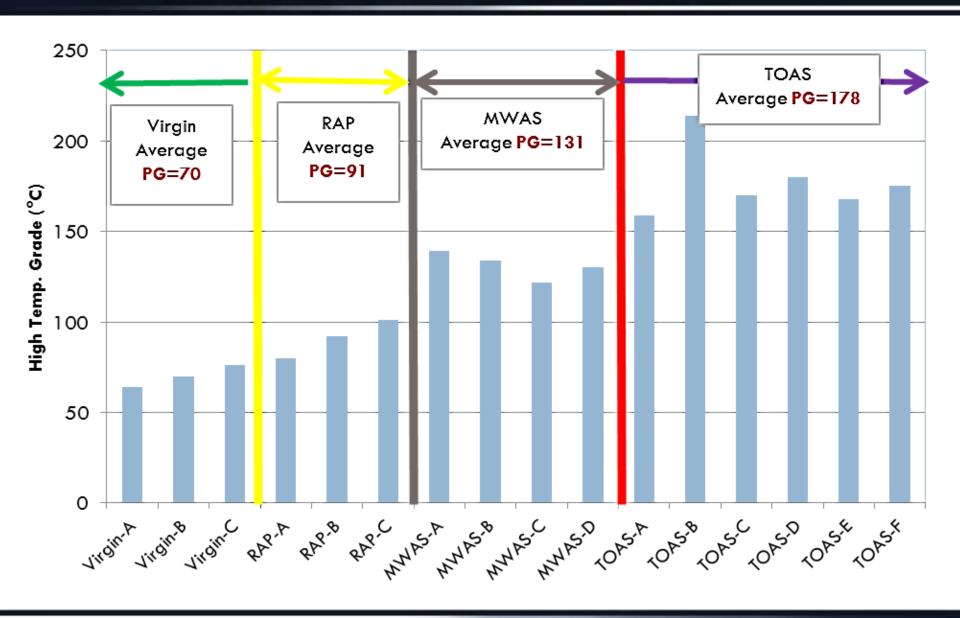


# Disadvantages

- Stiffens mix
- Dry mixtures
- Mixes may be more prone to cracking



#### **RAP and RAS PG Grade Determination**



#### **Recycled Materials Usage Statewide**

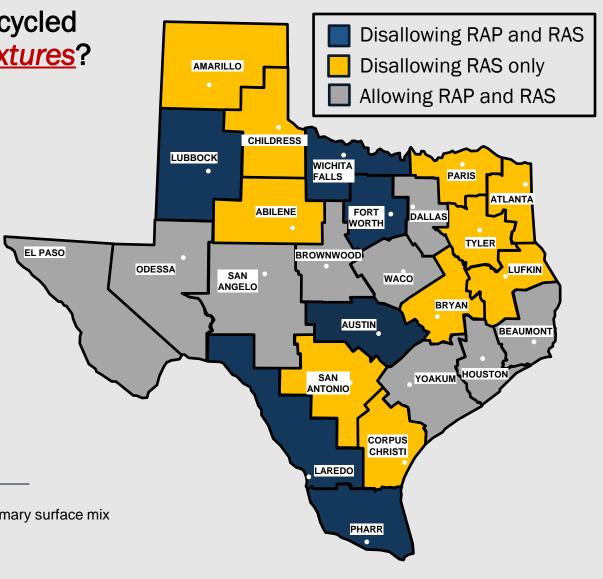
- What is the latest on recycled materials in <u>surface mixtures</u>?
  - No recycle
    - 6 districts
  - No RAS
    - 16 districts
      - Additional 2 districts without RAS producers, 1 only 1 contractor uses
  - Allow RAP
    - 19 districts
  - Allow RAP and RAS
    - 9 districts

Notes:

LBB does not allow RAP in SMA which is their primary surface mix YKM most producers don't use RAS

ELP no RAS producers

ODA no RAS producers

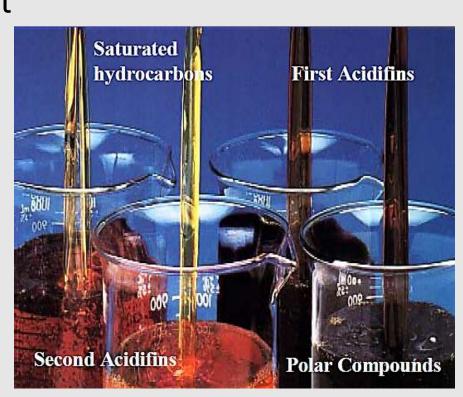


#### **Methods to Address Cracking**

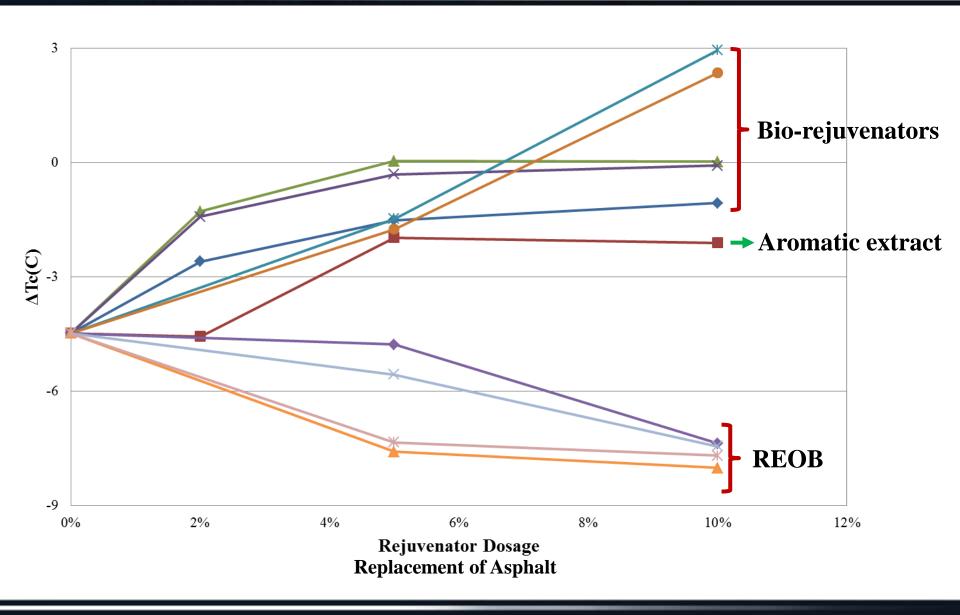
- Limit the quantity of RAP/RAS
  - Maximum recycled binder ratio
- Discount the effective asphalt content of RAP/RAS
  - TxDOT currently uses 100% effective for designing with RAP and RAS
- Use Superpave mix design procedure to allow more asphalt
  - TxDOT shift is towards using Superpave gyratory compactor
- Use softer virgin binders
  - PG 58-28
  - Consider lower temperature grade binders (e.g. PG XX-28, PG XX-34)
- Use a balanced mix design approach
  - Overlay test (cracking)
  - Hamburg wheel tracking test (rutting)
- Add rejuvenators to the mix

#### **Rejuvenator Types**

- Bio-based (vegetation based)
  - Arizona Chemical, Green Asphalt
     Technologies, Ingevity, Cargil,
     Collabortive Aggregates,
     Sonneborn, Roadscience
- Aromatic extracts
  - HollyFrontier, Reclamite
- Re-refined waste materials
  - Re-refined engine oil bottoms (REOB)
  - Re-refined waste fast food vegetable oil

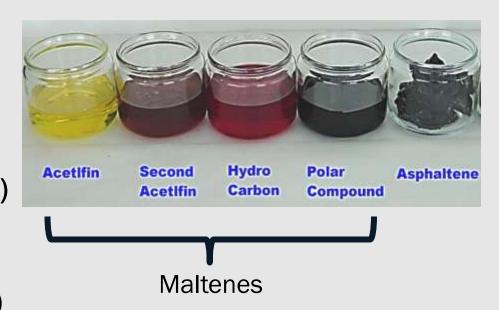


# **Bio-Based and Aromatic Extract Vs. REOB**



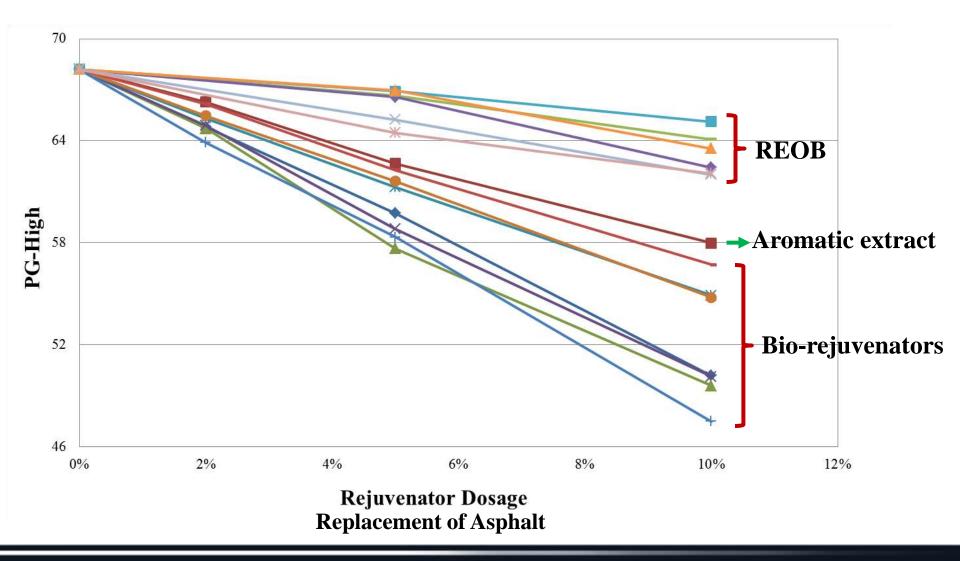
# **Rejuvenator Function**

- Asphalt composition
  - Asphaltenes (insoluble, brittle, not affected by oxidation)
  - Maltenes (oily, flexible, affected by oxidation)
- Role of rejuvenators
  - Re-balance maltene fraction of asphalt
- Dynamic Shear Rheometer (DSR)
  - Lowers high temperature PG grade
- Bending Beam Rheometer (BBR)
  - Softens aged binders (creep stiffness, S)
  - Improves relaxation (m-value)



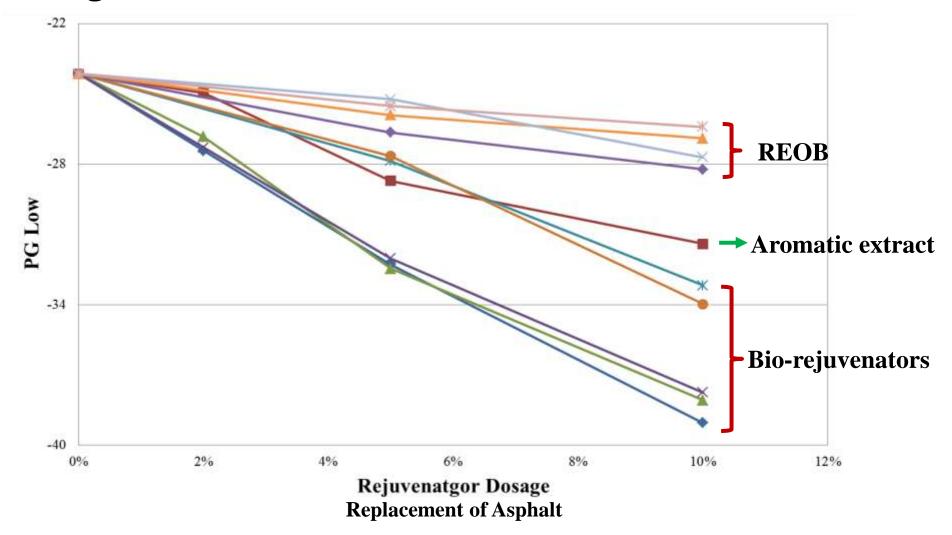
# **Rejuvenator Effectiveness**

# Virgin Binder PG 64-22



# **Rejuvenator Effectiveness**

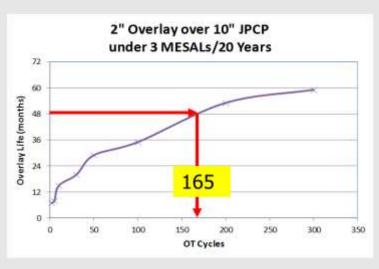
# Virgin Binder PG 64-22



# **Four Step Design Process**

- Step 1 Select rejuvenator
- Step 2 Select rejuvenator dosage range (binder testing)
- Step 3 Obtain balanced mix design data (mix testing)
- Step 4 Select dosage based on engineering judgement



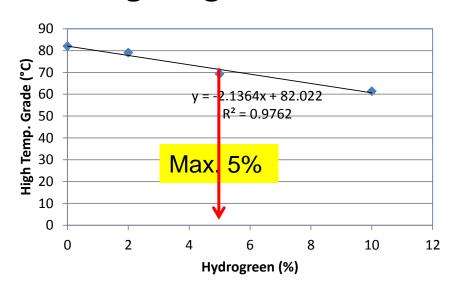


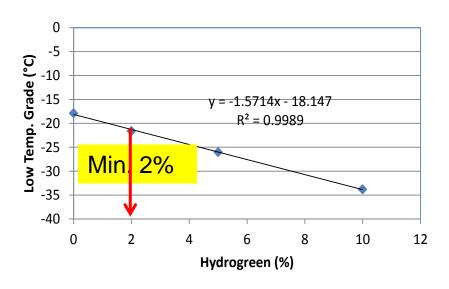
# Step 1 - Select Rejuvenator

- Arizona Chemical/Kraton
- Green Asphalt Technologies
- Ingevity
- Cargil
- Collabortive Aggregates
- Sonneborn
- Roadscience
- Texas Road Recyclers
- HollyFrontier

# **Step 2 – Select Rejuvenator Dosage Range**

- Example : Original Binder Specified = PG 70-22
- Proposed: 10% RAP, 5% RAS, PG 64-22
  - Extract and combine asphalt from RAP and RAS with virgin binder at proposed binder ratios according to the mix design (e.g. PG 82-16)
- Add rejuvenator until DSR high temperature grade and BBR low temperature grade match original specified binder (PG 70-22)
  - Dosage range = 2% 5%

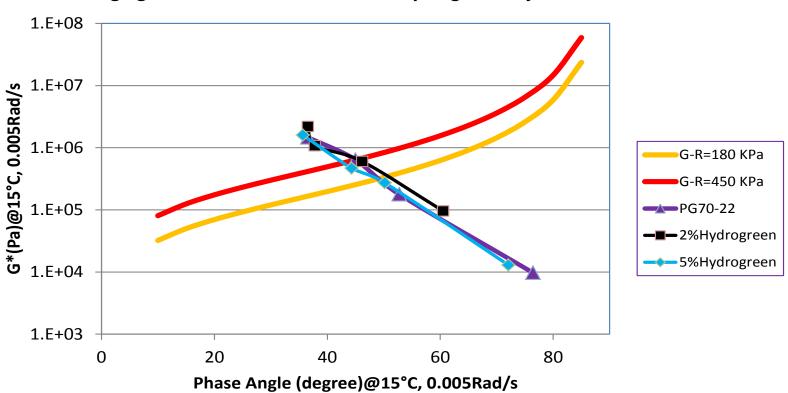




# **Step 2 – Select Rejuvenator Dosage Range**

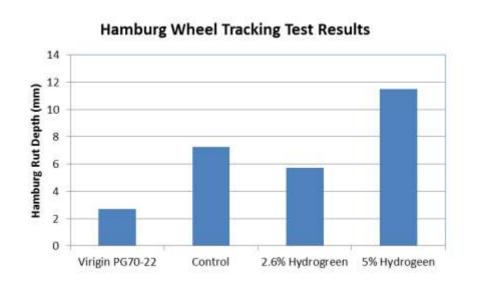
- Check aging characteristics
  - Glover-Rowe parameter
  - Goal is to match aging characteristics of virgin binder

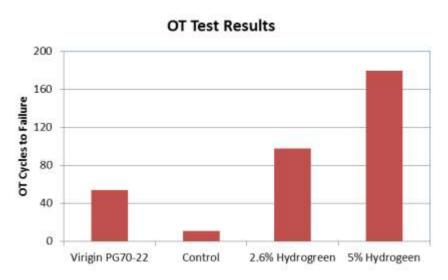
Aging Characteristics: PG70-22 Vs. Hydrogreen Rejuvenated Binder



# **Step 3 – Obtain Data from Balanced Mix Design**

- Perform Hamburg wheel tracking tests and Overlay tests on mix produced in the laboratory
  - Overlay requirements are determined by Overlay program (TxACOL)
  - Number of cycles are project specific (traffic, climate, pavement structure, etc.)





# **Step 4 – Select Rejuvenator Dosage**

- Use data gathered from Steps 1-3 to select rejuvenator dosage
  - Use engineering judgement to decide actual dosage
    - Higher rejuvenator dosage in areas more prone to cracking
    - Lower rejuvenator dosage in areas less prone to cracking
  - Factors include:
  - Traffic conditions
    - Interstate/high traffic levels
      - May consider lower rejuvenator dosage
    - FM roads with less traffic levels
      - May consider higher rejuvenator dosage
  - Pavement structure
  - Climate

#### **Test Sections**

#### Test sections

- Tyler District, SH31, included 5 test sections, 6/14/2014
- Laredo District, FM468, included 5 test sections, 9/15/2015
- Houston District, FM1463, included 4 test sections, 7/16/2016
- San Angelo (coming soon)







# Tyler District – SH31

- Dense Grade Type C Mix Designs:
  - Virgin mix, PG 70-22, AC = 4.5%
  - 10% RAP, 5% RAS, PG 64-22, AC = 4.6%
  - 10% RAP, 5% RAS, PG 64-22, 2.6% Hydrogreen, AC = 4.5%
  - -10% RAP, 5% RAS, PG 64-22, 3.7% Evoflex, AC = 4.7%
  - 10% RAP, 5% RAS, PG 64-22, 2.0% ERA-1, AC = 4.9%
- Reflective cracking was observed on all sections
- After 2.5 years, cracking was similar with all sections







# Tyler District - SH31

- Lessons learned
  - Dosage of rejuvenators may have been too conservative
  - Two lift overlay was constructed over jointed concrete pavement
    - Crack attenuating mix (CAM) was placed before winter and had previously cracked prior to placing test sections
    - Solution Construct both sections at the same time

#### **Laredo District - FM468**

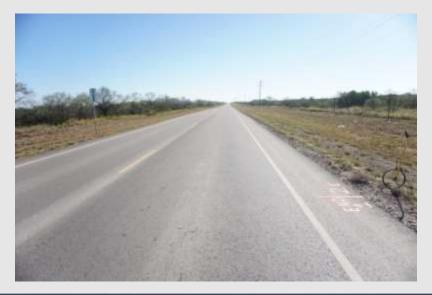
# Superpave Type C Mix Designs

- Virgin mix, PG 70-22, AC =6.1%
- -30% RAP, PG 64-22, AC = 6.3%
- -30% RAP, PG 64-22, 2.2% Road Science, AC = 6.3%
- -30% RAP, PG 64-22, 3.0% Arizona Chemical, AC = 6.3%
- -30% RAP, PG 64-22, 3.2% Hydrogreen, AC = 6.3%

April 8, 2016

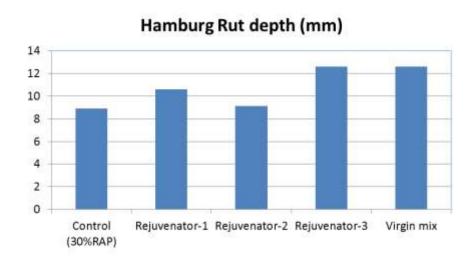
November 16, 2016

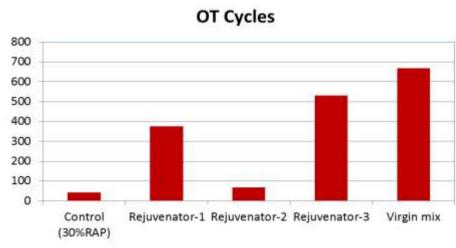




#### **Laredo District – FM468**

- After 15 months, all sections performed well
- Laboratory molded densities did approach 98.0%
  - No rutting observed to date (~15 months)
  - FM468 is in the energy sector
  - High truck traffic due to the Eagle Ford Shale oil production





#### **Houston District - FM1463**

# Dense Grade Type D Mix Designs

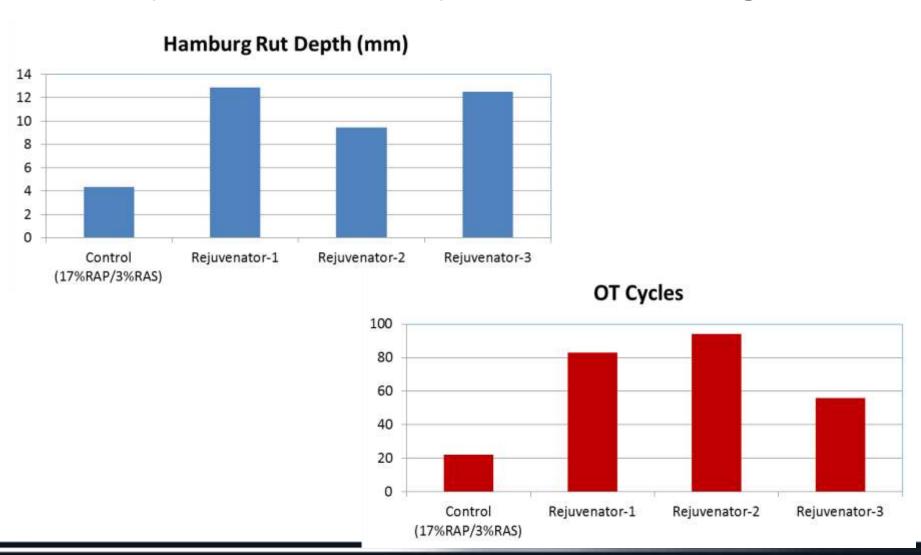
- 17% RAP, 3% RAS, PG 64-22, AC = 5.2%
- 17% RAP, 3% RAS, PG 64-22, 3.5% Arizona Chemical, AC = 5.2%
- 17% RAP, 3% RAS, PG 64-22, 4.0% Sonneborn, AC = 5.2%
- 17% RAP, 3% RAS, PG 64-22, 7.5% Evoflex, AC = 5.2%





#### **Houston District - FM1463**

Too early to tell, but laboratory results look promising...



#### **Conclusions**

- Rejuvenators have been shown to improve cracking resistance of RAP/RAS mixes in the laboratory
- Use of rejuvenators may impact lab molded density and compaction effort in the field
  - Consider changing lab molded density requirements/decrease number of gyrations
  - Roller patterns will need to be adjusted (less compaction effort)
- Too early to determine their effectiveness in the field
  - No problems were encountered with meeting air void requirements
  - Difficult to know cost savings
    - Performance based (more service life)
    - Will allow use of more recycled materials
- Continuation of monitoring field test sections is needed

# **Acknowledges**

 Special thanks to the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) and Dr. Fujie Zhou for the information presented in this presentation

# Questions