



ASPHALT RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

An FHWA Research Program Comprising Western Research Institute, Texas A&M University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Nevada-Reno and Advanced Asphalt Technologies.

Asphalt Research Correspondent

What Is the Asphalt Research Consortium?

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The Asphalt Research Consortium is a group of five organizations bringing an unprecedented depth and range of asphalt pavements experience to bear on the needs of the asphalt pavement community. The participants are Western Research Institute (lead organization), Texas A&M University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Nevada-Reno, and Advanced Asphalt Technologies, with direction from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and input from the Binder, Mixture and Construction, and Models Expert Task Groups.

Leading the efforts of the Asphalt Research Consortium are Mr. Michael Harnsberger, ARC Program Manager, Western Research Institute; Dr. Hussain Bahia, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Dr. Dallas Little, Texas A&M University; Dr. Peter Sebaaly, University of Nevada-Reno; Dr. Ramon Bonaquist, Advanced Asphalt Technologies; and Dr. Raymond Robertson, Western Research Institute.

This ambitious team effort aims to accelerate progress in addressing key asphalt pavement performance issues. The return on the research investment will be both fundamental and applied. The fundamental deliverables will be a clearer understanding of asphalt failure modes

and validated models that predict pavement performance. The applied deliverables will be validated, user-friendly test methods that differentiate pavement design methods, materials and construction methods to minimize the risk of early pavement failure.



Engineered paving materials (EPMs) are a prominent aspect of the Consortium's research. These are modified asphalt paving mixtures developed for specific performance-related purposes, such as increased fatigue, moisture or rut-resistance or resistance to thermal cracking and aging. The process of developing EPMS requires an expanded understanding of the engineering properties of the constituent materials.

Stakeholder communications are integral to the Asphalt Research Consortium approach. Workshops and symposia are planned, and the ARC will use publications, the internet, and Expert Task Group reviews to share results and garner feedback. In fact, this Asphalt Research Correspondent newsletter is an initial effort to reach out to the asphalt research community. Please visit us at the [Asphalt Research Consortium website](#) hosted by University of Nevada-Reno.

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