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Calibre

Asphalt Pavement

Engineering & Maintenance



**Colorado Asphalt
Pavement Association**

AUGUST 21, 2025

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CAPA MISSION: TO
ADVANCE THE USE
AND QUALITY OF
ASPHALT
PAVEMENTS IN
COLORADO.



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Complete Service

- Best Practices
- Innovations
- New Technology
- Training & Education
- Marketing & Promotion
- Spec. Development
- Technical Assistance

Cradle to Grave

- Design
- Construction
- Maintenance
- Asset Management

All Types of Asphalt Pavements



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Who is CAPA?

Membership
24 Members
179 Assoc./Affiliates
81 Local Agencies

Industry Partners





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52nd Annual
Rocky Mountain
Asphalt
Conference &
Equipment
Show
February 19-20



LabCAT Certified Technician
Rocky Mountain Asphalt
Education Center
1996 - Present



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THE COLORADO ASPHALT MARKET:
66 STATIONARY PRODUCTION FACILITIES
5 – 8 PORTABLE PRODUCTION FACILITIES
8 – 9 MILLION TONS



- A majority of producers operate sand, gravel, and quarry operations
- A majority of producers also are paving contractors
- Some producers are privately held, locally owned and operated and some are large, vertically integrated, publicly traded, and nationally/internationally owned.

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Crude Oil Refining Process

The diagram illustrates the crude oil refining process. It starts with 'Crude oil' being heated in a 'Furnace'. The resulting vapor goes through a 'Distillation' column. The top products are 'Gasoline', 'Alkylation recovery', and 'Vapor'. The middle products are 'Aircraft fuel' and 'Industrial oils'. The bottom products are 'Asphalt', 'Bitumen', and 'Residue'. The process also includes 'Catalytic cracking', 'Reforming', 'Solvent extraction', and 'Crystallization'. The final products are 'Gasoline', 'Aircraft fuel', 'Industrial oils', 'Asphalt', 'Bitumen', 'Residue', 'Petrochemical industries', 'Aromatic recovery', 'Diesel, kerosene', 'Lubricants', and 'Greases'.

Components of asphalt.

The image shows four beakers containing different components of asphalt. The first beaker is labeled 'First acidaffins' and contains a dark liquid. The second beaker is labeled 'Second acidaffins' and contains a yellow liquid. The third beaker is labeled 'Saturated hydrocarbons' and contains a white solid. The fourth beaker is labeled 'Asphaltenes' and contains a dark solid. A small dish labeled 'Polar compounds' is also shown.

Crude oil is refined into products such as gasoline, asphalt, and waxes by a process.

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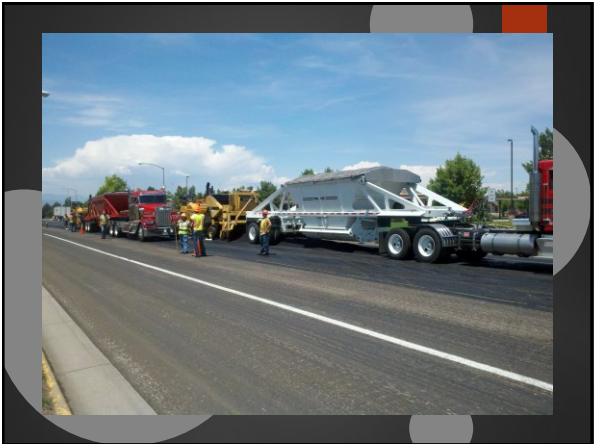
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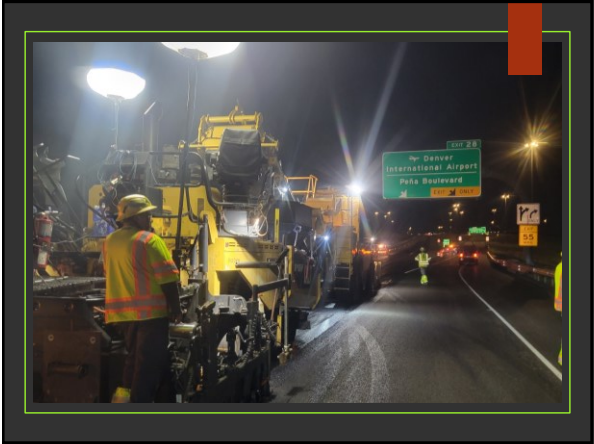
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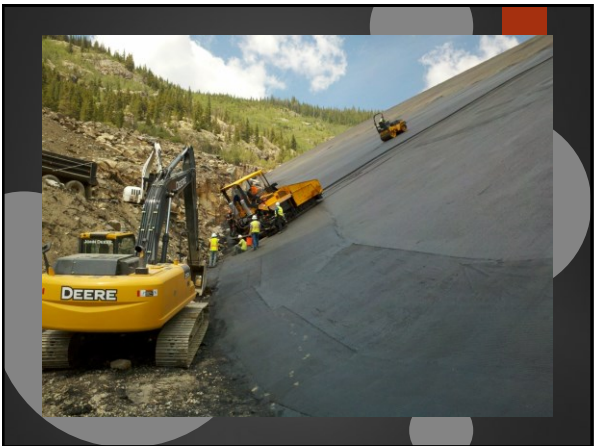
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PAVEMENT DESIGN The design and the type of asphalt mixture used depends on the application – road, parking lot, city street ,



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
Soil Basics 101

Sands (granular)

Silts

Clays (cohesive)

Performance



Atterberg Limits (PI, LL)

% passing -200 screen

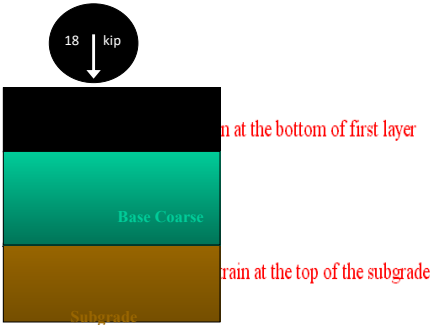
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Subgrade Strength (M_r)

Relative Quality	R-Value	California Bearing Ratio	Resilient Modulus (psi)
Good to Excellent	43	17	25,000
Medium	20	8	12,000
Poor	6	3	4,500

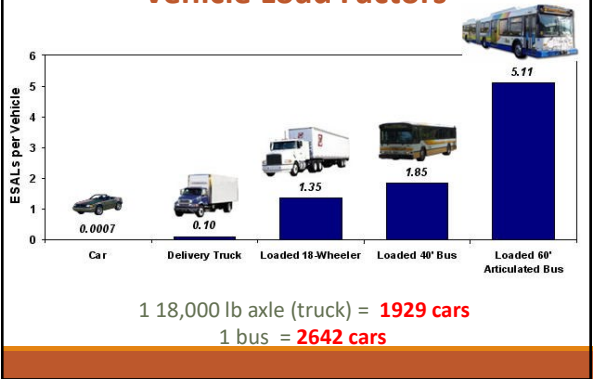
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Structural Section Basics



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Vehicle Load Factors



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Improved material technology

- Superpave has virtually eliminated rutting in Colorado


New Superpave technology with rut resistant coarse crushed stone. Note stone on stone matrix.

Intermediate mix designs gave marginal results.

outdated mix with high percent of fines and AC tended to rut and shove.



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Q: How long do asphalt pavements last?

A: Longer than most people think. Don't confuse the number of years to the next resurfacing (10, 12, or 15 years or more) with how long the pavement is in place. Most asphalt pavements have been in place since the original construction.

Pavement Core, I-25 N. of Pueblo, original construction - 1962


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Rehabilitation

Possible Distresses	Solutions
› Top-Down Fatigue	› Mill & Fill
› Thermal Cracking	› Thin Overlay
› Raveling	

2 - 4"

Structure Remains Intact



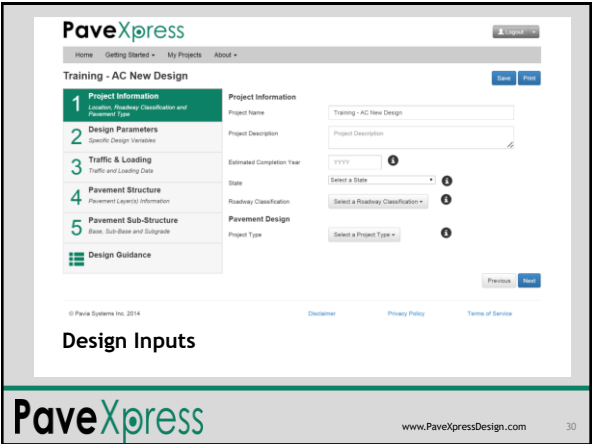
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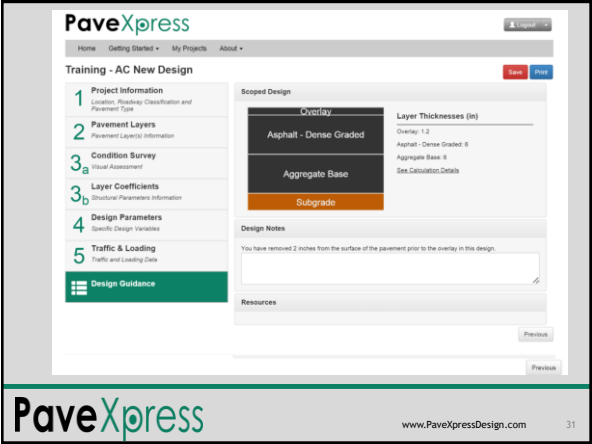
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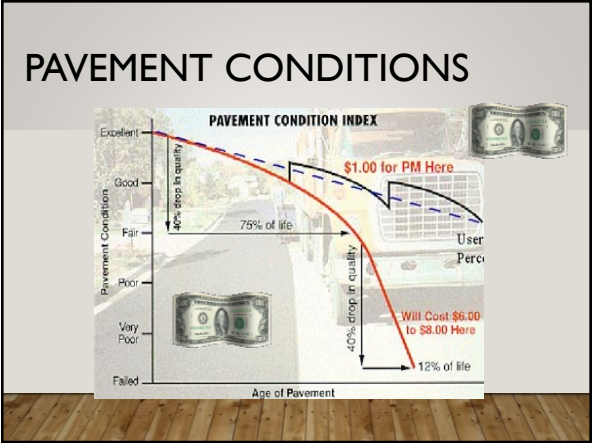
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Local Agency	Paved Lane Miles	Year	Annual Asphalt Program	PCI	Public Works CP
			Mil/Overlay + Preventive + Crack Seal	\$ / lane mile	
Adams County	1553	2023	\$10,000,000	\$6,439	69
Alamosa	118	2023	\$50,000	\$424	66
Alamosa County	890	2023	\$1,000,000	\$2,817	
Archuleta County	1216	2025	\$8,795,229	\$7,236	64
Aspen	1815	2025	\$18,000,000	\$6,601	64
Aspen	72	2019	\$820,000	\$11,389	
Aurora	4868	2025	\$23,000,000	\$4,725	73
Aurora	63	2023	\$4,357,000	\$69,109	89
Baños	43	2023	\$189,823	\$4,647	86
Boulder	1049	2025	\$1483,700	\$1,414	64
Boulder	628	2023	\$4,000,000	\$6,369	77
Broomfield	790	2022	\$4,800,000	\$6,183	75
Breckenridge	120	2017	\$750,000	\$6,250	78
Canon City	184	2025	\$550,000	\$3,815	81
Castle Pines	110	2024	\$1,710,000	\$15,909	81
Castle Rock	706	2025	\$11,200,000	\$16,623	82
Centennial	1059	2025	\$8,350,000	\$7,952	69
Cherry Hills Village	90	2025	\$1,750,000	\$19,448	78
Clear Creek County	150	2025	\$1,075,000	\$7,167	96
Colorado Springs	6417	2024	\$42,800,000	\$6,623	68
Commerce City	606	2024	\$3,650,000	\$5,693	72
Cortez	109	2020	\$825,000	\$7,569	
Cortez	65	2023	\$10,200,000	\$154,928	
Delta	137	2024			
Delta County	783	2020	\$735,000	\$941	73
Delta Airport		2019			
Denver	8897	2025	\$23,700,000	\$4,819	76
Douglas County	2954	2025	\$13,500,000	\$4,605	78
Durango	164	2020	\$1,350,000	\$8,232	63
Easton	63	2025	\$700,000	\$11,113	
Engle	77	2019	\$975,000	\$7,488	
Eagle County	288	2025	\$2,000,000	\$6,993	73
Eaton	63	2023	\$500,000	\$7,817	
El Paso County	2388	2024	\$22,000,000	\$9,291	68
Englewood	105	2024	\$7,000,000	\$20,689	65

Local Agencies are responsible for funding and maintaining 74% of the asphalt roads in Colorado.

Trends for 2025

- Approx. 66,650 lane miles managed by Local Agencies captured in this survey.
- Representing 99% of Local Agency asphalt paved roads statewide.
- Over \$434M budgeted for Annual Street Improvement Programs.
- Over \$437M budgeted for Capital Improvement Programs.
- Mill & Overlay program funding in flat vs. 2024.
- Funding \$ / lane mile decreased -4% from \$7,992 in 2024.

187 Agencies included in 2025 summary

Pavement Condition

75th Percentile = PCI 78
Weighted Average = PCI 70
25th Percentile = PCI 64

Funding

75th Percentile = \$10.879 lane mile
Weighted Average = \$8.756 lane mile
25th Percentile = \$3.896 lane mile

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SUSTAINABILITY

MATERIALS


- Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP)
- Warm Mix Asphalt
- Liquid Alternatives to Hydrated Lime

DESIGN

- Perpetual Pavements

CONSTRUCTION

- Efficiency in Project Delivery



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MATERIAL CONSERVATION – UTILIZE MORE RECYCLED ASPHALT PAVEMENT

Asphalt pavements are 100% recyclable and are the #1 product recycled in the U.S. each year.





Specify for innovation

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Recycled Asphalt Shingles - Issues

- availability
- cost
- performance
- gradation
- percent maximum
- amount of deleterious material

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Asphalt pavements are designed and engineered for quality and performance. Material components need to be evaluated with respect to the cost/benefit. We cannot consider our pavements as linear landfills.



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Pavement Maintenance & Mixture Selection

Tom Clayton, SET
Director of Training
Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association







What can go wrong?



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**CRACKS LEFT ALONE FORM
POTHOLES!**



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**THE PURPOSE OF CRACKSEALING
FLEXIBLE PAVEMENTS**

- Protects the base and/or sub-base from water erosion.
- Preserves the adjacent pavement around the cracks from the freeze-thaw cycles.
- Eliminates the damaging effects sand and stone.
- Extends pavement life.
- Is cost effective.

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THE ASPHALT INSTITUTE SAYS...
"CRACK SEALING IS THE MOST
IMPORTANT MAINTENANCE WORK
YOU CAN HAVE DONE TO EXTEND
THE LIFE OF YOUR PAVEMENT."

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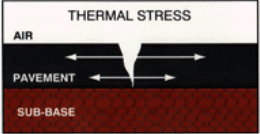
"EACH \$1.00 SPENT ON PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SAVES \$4.00 TO \$10.00 LATER."

CDOT BIG MAC (MATERIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE)

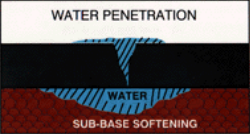
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CRACKS LEAD TO BIGGER PROBLEMS IF NOT SEALED IN TIME.


THERMAL STRESS




WATER PENETRATION



LOAD




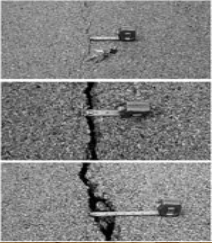
RAPID DETERIORATION BEGINS



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ANY QUESTIONS

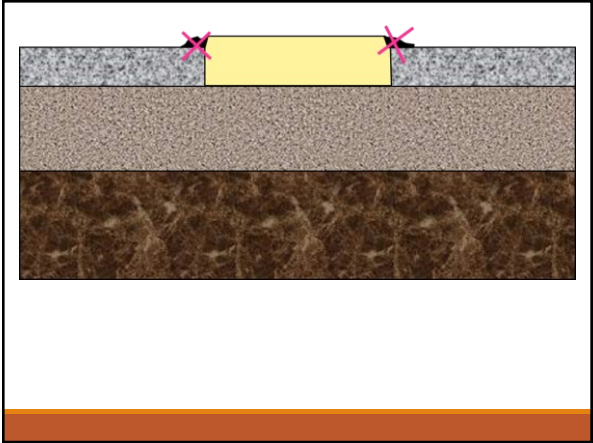
on why to crackseal?



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Asphalt Mixture Selection

Specifying the right asphalt mixture for the right application is a very important consideration as it relates to long term pavement performance.

Designing a mixture to be durable and able to withstand surface oxidation and weathering needs to be balanced with having stability to withstand rutting (ie. permanent deformation).

The question is, what is the correct mix for a particular roadway?



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HIGH-VOLUME INTERSTATES

- Stone Matrix Asphalt Surface and Binder Layers
- Polymer Modified Binders



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Low-Volume Local Roads and Streets

Scenic By-Ways and Parkways



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Asphalt Mixes for Parking Lots



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Asphalt Mixture Selection

The predominate distresses on lower volume roads are durability related and include surface raveling, oxidation, and low temperature thermal cracking.



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What is appropriate for the Design and Maintenance of Local Agency Roads?

The questions arise;

- How many local roads does CDOT build or maintain?
- How many highways do Local Agencies Build and Maintain?

Are all roads the same?

Is there a design that is “one size fits all”?

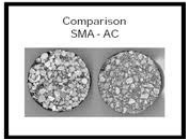
What grading (mixture) should be placed in a parking lot versus a Collector?

What is the appropriate Binder to use?

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Asphalt Mixture Selection

A common specialty mix that is used routinely by CDOT for high traffic urban interstate rehabilitation and by some local agencies for high traffic urban arterial roadways is stone matrix asphalt (SMA).



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1/2" Mix (SX)

1/2" SMA

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Asphalt Mixture Selection

◆ The most common mix in a number of locations in Colorado is:

PG 64-22, SX, 75 gyrations mix with 20% RAP

◆ In the high country it is more common to use a PG 58-28 asphalt binder

◆ PG 58-28 is a softer asphalt binder and is used in colder climates, in high RAP mixes, and/or where low temperature thermal cracking is a concern.

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HMA Grading Size and Location

CDOT HMA Grade	Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size (NMAS)	Application
SF	No. 4 sieve	Leveling Course, Rut Filling, Scratch Course, etc.
ST	3/8 inch	Thin Lifts and Patching
SX	½ inch	Top Layer (Preferred)
S	¾ inch	Top Layer, Layers Below the Surface Patching
SG	1 inch	Layers Below the Surface, Deep Patching

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PG Binders, Do you understand what the numbers mean?

SHRP Asphalt Binder Spec

- Grading System Based on Climate

PG 64 (147) -28 (-18)

Performance Grade

Average 7-day max pavement design temp

Min pavement design temp

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Asphalt Mixture Selection Guideline

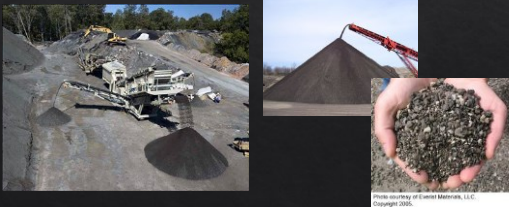
PG ASPHALT BINDER	SUGGESTED USE
PG 58-34*	Modified asphalt, very low temp. climates, low volume roadways
PG 58-28	Unmodified, low volume roadways
PG 64-22	Unmodified, most commonly used PG grade, for low, moderate and high volume roadways
PG 64-28*	Modified asphalt, Moderate to high volume roadways, colder climates
PG 70-28*, PG 76-28*	Modified asphalts, very high volume roadway

* - denotes modified asphalt binder, generally restricted to top mat paving

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Asphalt Mixture Selection

Some agencies are allowing more than 25% recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) and CDOT allows 23% Binder replacement from RAP in lower lift, it is more common for agencies to use a standard 25% RAP on all mixes on all lifts.



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Local Agency Trends

ASPHALT MIX DESIGN			
Design / Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/> Ndesign = 50 gyrations	<100,000 ESALs	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ndesign = 75 gyrations	>100,000 to <3 million ESALs	
Binder	<input type="checkbox"/> PG 58-28	<input type="checkbox"/> PG 64-22	<input type="checkbox"/> PG 76-28 (top lift only)
Grading	<input type="checkbox"/> ST (94%)	Minimum Lift (3s)	Maximum Lift (3s)
	<input type="checkbox"/> SX (1/2%)	1 1/2"	2 1/2"
	<input type="checkbox"/> S (1/2%)	2"	4 1/2"
	<input type="checkbox"/> SG (1%)	3"	5"
	<input type="checkbox"/> SMA (1/2%)	1 1/2"	2 1/2"
	<input type="checkbox"/> SMA (1/2%)	3"	4 1/2"
Anti - Strip <input type="checkbox"/> Liquid <input type="checkbox"/> Lime			
BEST PRACTICES to include in Mix Design			
RAP <input type="checkbox"/> 25% <input type="checkbox"/> 35% (Grading SG only)			
WMA <input type="checkbox"/> Additive <input type="checkbox"/> Foaming			
AGENCY EXCEPTIONS			
<input type="checkbox"/> No RAP in wearing course			
<input type="checkbox"/> No RAP allowed in mixture			
<input type="checkbox"/> No WMA allowed in mix			

Air Voids
4.0%
↓
3.5%

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64



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Colorado Asphalt
Pavement Association

We're a
Resource for
YOU,
A Phone Call or
E-Mail Away!

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