Acquisition of Asphalt Pavement Analyzer

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Research of asphalt pavement mixes entails a volumetric development stage followed by a performance verification stage. One of the most widely accepted methods of pavement mixture verification involves the use of a device known as the Asphalt Pavement Analyzer (APA). The APA is used to proof-test pavements for rutting and fatigue cracking characteristics and for moisture-sensitivity (stripping) tendencies. Mixtures can be both of the hot mix and cold mix varieties. One use of the APA would be to explore the possibility of bringing Superpave technology to mixes used for low-volume roads and parking lots.

The Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering at the University of Missouri-Rolla has acquired and implemented an APA. Since its acquisition the APA has been included in research proposals and is slated for incorporation into lab portions of courses offered.