

CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association
Dec. 5, 2016



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CALENDAR

(Always on-line [HERE](#))

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L.A.-High Desert Technical Committee meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m. to noon
Caltrans Southern Regional Lab, 13970 Victoria St.,

Greetings!

This weekly bulletin contains the latest news and information of interest to the asphalt pavement industry in California. Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to others who may be interested in asphalt pavements.

→ Caltrans issues decision document on 'post-plant gradation'

For many years the asphalt pavement industry in California has advocated at Caltrans for a transition from a prescriptive ("method") specification to specifications based on end-result testing.

In recent years industry and Caltrans have discussed the possibility of changing the acceptance testing for aggregate gradation from a combination of cold feed materials to a sieve analysis of an ignition oven sample from a plant produced mix, otherwise known as "post-plant gradation."

TECH REPORT

Prior to the regular Caltrans Section 39 meeting on Nov. 16 held in San Diego, Caltrans provided the official, signed document that states the Caltrans decision to move forward with a change in Section 39 (Hot Mix Asphalt) of the Caltrans specifications that reference this subject. The change includes the determination of asphalt mix gradation using post-plant production samples and the elimination of references to the maximum aggregate temperature during production. Click [HERE](#) to view the official decision document.

The joint Caltrans-industry Rock Products Committee has tasked a subcommittee known as the Asphalt Task Group (ATG) to develop a scoping document and timeline for completion of this transition called for in the decision document.

Caltrans' move to post-plant gradation is based on a concern expressed by the department that aggregate breakdown during production may significantly affect the performance of the finished mix. As a result of this change, Caltrans does not see a need to require a maximum aggregate temperature standards during production.

Last year, Industry notified Caltrans through the ATG co-chairs, Jack Van Kirk with George Reed / Basic Resources, and Pat Imhoff with CalPortland, that the Industry could not reach consensus on how to proceed with this issue. The industry informed Caltrans that if the state decided to change to post plant gradation acceptance, they would work with them to develop specification language. The Industry has voiced its concerns regarding sampling and testing variability related to using ignition-oven sample gradation for acceptance and material breakdown due to the ignition oven.

In moving forward, there are many items that need to be addressed to successfully resolve this issue. During the specification language

Fontana

Contact: Brandon Milar (916)
995-0086

Click [HERE](#) for details.

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REGISTER NOW!

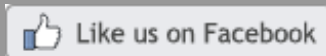
CalAPA Annual Dinner
Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017
5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Jonathan Club
545 S. Figueroa St.
Los Angeles, CA

Contact Sophie You at (916)
791-5044 for sponsorship
information.
Details [HERE](#).

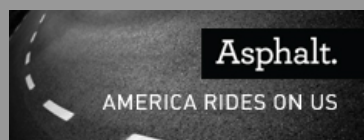
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CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 94 percent of paved roads in America. Why? Because it's smooth, quiet, safe, durable and 100 percent recyclable. Visit the [Asphalt Pavement Alliance](#) website learn more about why asphalt is the right choice now more than ever.



development process, the task group will need to consider testing variability, appropriate specification limits, training for reliable and consistent results, and acceptance criteria that may be eliminated due to redundancy.

CalAPA will continue to engage with the Caltrans-industry Rock Products Committee and will provide further updates as events warrant. For additional information, contact CalAPA Director of Technical Services, Brandon Milar, at (916) 995-0086.

→ Join CalAPA today and work smarter tomorrow

Eighty-seven companies have joined CalAPA since 2012. Don't you think it's time you were among them? There has never been a better time to be a member of the California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA). The association is dedicated to representing the asphalt pavement industry in California, as well as delivering products and services to enhance the knowledge and skills vital to remaining competitive and deliver a high-quality product in today's fast-moving environment. What you don't know can cost you!

A special publication that features a few association highlights from 2016 can be found [HERE](#). A promotional brochure about CalAPA and its many services, including our exclusive member-only "Member Alerts" and other member benefits, is [HERE](#). A list of current CalAPA members is [HERE](#). If you would like to do business with companies that are leaders in the industry, click [HERE](#) to view our Buyers' Guide.

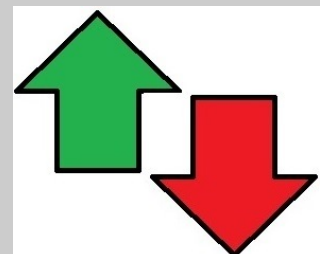


All CalAPA members agree to abide by the association's Code of Ethics. You can read it [HERE](#). To have information about membership sent to you, contact CalAPA's Member Services Manager Sophie You at (916) 791-5044. CalAPA is the acknowledged voice of the industry in California. Isn't it time you learned what CalAPA members already know?

→ It's not too late to take our annual 'better-worse' survey

Just a friendly reminder: It's not too late to take our brief "Better-Worse" survey. Click [HERE](#) to tell us what you think.

The 1-minute survey, in its seventh year, asks a simple question: Do you think 2017 will be better or worse than 2016 for your company or organization? This year we're adding an optional bonus question: What is the No. 1 challenge you face at work? You may add written comments if you wish.



The results from the non-scientific survey will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Asphalt Insider*, as well as in the annual forecast issue of the official CalAPA magazine, California Asphalt.

For a story about the results from last year's survey, click [HERE](#).

GET TECHNICAL

Are you an engineer, designer or technical professional who makes decisions on pavement type selection? The DriveAsphalt website has technical reports and other resources may be just what you're looking for. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



CalAPA

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BACK ISSUES

Did you miss an issue of the *California Asphalt Insider*? No problem! Past editions of the newsletter are available at the CalAPA newsletter [archive page](#)

MAGAZINE

→ Second in a 5-part video series on asphalt: How does an asphalt plant work?

Our colleagues at the Plantmix Asphalt Industry Association of Kentucky (PAIKY) are producing an excellent series of on-line videos that provide brief explanations of various aspects of asphalt production and placement. The second in the series covers the basics of what happens at an asphalt plant. You can view the 3-minute video [HERE](#).

Other videos in the series cover topics that frequently generate questions to the industry, such where asphalt comes from and the basics of a road-building operation. As the videos are posted, we are adding direct links to them on our video resource page. You can view our video page [HERE](#).



We will spotlight other informative video releases in upcoming issues of *Asphalt Insider*. In the meantime, a tip of the hardhat to our colleagues in Kentucky for producing such an outstanding and accessible educational tool.

→ Sign-up now for CalAPA Annual Dinner Jan. 19 in Los Angeles

Registration is now open for the CalAPA Annual Dinner, to take place Thursday, Jan. 19 at the elegant Jonathan Club in Los Angeles. Click [HERE](#) for details and to register on-line.

Assemblyman Jim Frazier, chairman of the Assembly Transportation Committee, will be the keynote speaker. He is backing a comprehensive transportation funding plan that would result in \$7 billion more per year above current funding levels.

The Jonathan Club is located at 545 S. Figueroa St. in downtown Los Angeles. There are a limited number of rooms available at the historic venue.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, contact Sophie You at (916) 791-5044.

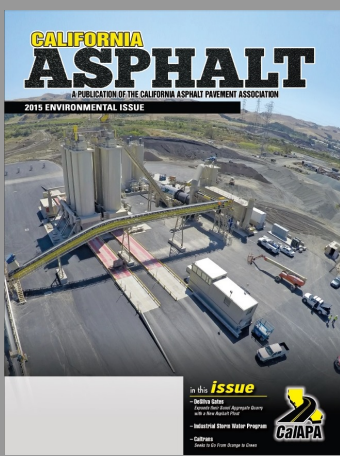


Assemblyman Jim Frazier

→ Registration open for Asphalt Institute Mix Design Technology Certification class Feb. 7-10 in Sacramento

Registration is now open for the Asphalt Institute's popular "Mix Design Technology Certification" course to be held Feb. 7-10 in Sacramento. Click [HERE](#) for details or to sign up.

The Mix Design Technology Certification course provides advanced technicians, designers, and engineers with a thorough understanding of the properties of the materials that compose asphalt mixtures, as well as the physical and mathematical processes involved in producing a



CalAPA produces a highly regarded magazine, *California Asphalt*, and an annual membership directory. To view current and past issues of the magazine, click [HERE](#).

For advertising sales information, click [HERE](#) or call Kerry Hoover with Construction Marketing Services at (909) 772-3121.

STAY INFORMED



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www.calapa.net

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Click [HERE](#) to visit our video page.

DESIGN!

successful asphalt mixture design.

The class will be taught by Asphalt Institute engineers Bob Humer and Danny Gierhart. The course fee includes a workbook along with supplemental materials, the new 7th edition of the Asphalt Institute consolidated mix design manual (*MS-2 Asphalt Mix Design Methods*), an optional certification test, refreshments, and lunches.



The class will take place at Granite Construction, 4001 Bradshaw Road in Sacramento. The registration fee is \$1,195 per student. Separate arrangements must be made for lodging.

For more information, click [HERE](#) or contact the Asphalt Institute at (859) 288-4960, or via e-mail at: seminars@asphaltinstitute.org.

→ Tech Term of the Week

Each week we highlight a word, acronym or other reference commonly used in the asphalt pavement industry in California.

CRACK SEALING: A maintenance procedure that involves placement of specialized materials into working cracks to prevent infiltration of water into the underlying pavement layers. Crack sealing is the introduction of materials that adhere to the crack walls, are flexible and elastomeric in nature. This allows significant strain to be absorbed by the material without fracture. Much of this strain will be recoverable. Thus the crack may open and close with thermal stresses or traffic loading and remain sealed.

→ Quote of the Week

"Vitality shows in not only the ability to persist but the ability to start over."

F. Scott Fitzgerald

We hope you enjoy CalAPA's *Asphalt Insider*. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information on technical issues, regulation, news and events in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Snyder, CAE

Executive Director

California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)

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The *California Asphalt Insider* is an official publication of the California Asphalt Pavement Association. For more information or to inquire about membership, call (916) 791-5044, or click [HERE](#) to send us an e-mail.

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