

# CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association  
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## CALENDAR

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

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### SIGN UP NOW!

CalAPA "Day at the Races" at  
Del Mar Race Track  
Saturday, July 22  
Register [HERE](#)  
Contact: Sophie You (916)  
791-5044

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## 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 Method Specification Working Group holds its first meeting

The Caltrans Method Specification Working Group held its first meeting at the CalAPA offices on June 19. The group was formed by the Caltrans Rock Products Committee Section 39 Sub-Task Group (Sec39STG).

Caltrans, in partnership with industry, significantly revised the Section 39 Standard Specification several times over the past 10 years. However, the language for the method compaction requirements have changed very little during this time. During the Sec39STG meetings, the group identified a need to update this portion of the specification as a result of improved compaction equipment, improved knowledge on how asphalt mixes compact in the field, and the anticipation of the use of Intelligent Compaction on thin-lift method compaction projects.

The group identified several items that needed resolution, which include: types of mixes for revision, how to measure pavement temperatures, how many coverages are needed for proper compaction, and what are the temperature ranges for the breakdown, intermediate and finish-rolling requirements. The group has decided to focus on HMA-A and RHMA-G mixes at this time.

## **TECH REPORT**

It is important to note that the temperatures in the Section 39 Standard Specifications were originally developed using a temperature measurement at mid-depth. During the 2010 Standard Specification revisions, the specification was changed to measure the pavement temperature at the surface. The specified temperatures were not evaluated or revised with this change. The group decided that efforts to evaluate appropriate temperatures will be conducted using temperatures at the pavement surface.

While the group has various thoughts on the appropriate number of passes and temperatures to achieve compaction on thin lifts, the group decided to base their decision on field data. Over the next two paving seasons, the group will work with Caltrans Districts and contractors to identify projects to gather additional data. A pilot project protocol was presented to the group by Caltrans and the group agreed with some minor adjustments. Essentially, the first projects will measure density using cores and gauges to understand the types of compaction achieved with the current specification requirements. After this data collection, the group will analyze the data and determine if any changes to the temperatures or coverages are necessary. If changes need to be made, additional pilot projects will evaluate these changes.

### SAVE THE DATE!

#### CalAPA Annual Golf Tournament

Thursday, Sept. 21

Pacific Palms Resort, Industry  
Hills

Details soon!

Contact: Sophie You (916)  
791-5044

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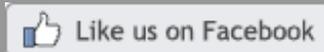
### SAVE THE DATE!

#### CalAPA Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo Wednesday & Thursday, Oct. 25 & 26

Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point  
West Way, Sacramento  
Details soon!

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

## SOCIALIZE



## CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 93 percent of paved roads in California and across the U.S.

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.

If you are interested in participating in this group, please contact the CalAPA office at 916-791-5044.

## → TRIP set to release rural roads report; expected to show CA roads need attention

An influential transportation research group is set to release a nationwide rural-roads assessment later this month, which is expected to show California roadways in dire need of attention, *California Asphalt Insider* has learned.

The report by TRIP, a national transportation research group, follows previous reports that showed deferred maintenance has led to a deterioration of freeways, bridges and other transportation infrastructure nationwide and in California, costing the average motorists upwards of \$1,000 per year in fuel, car maintenance and other costs.



The Governor and the Legislature earlier this year took action to address the problem, approving a historic transportation funding plan known as SB1 that adjusted fuel taxes and other fees to generate about \$5 billion per year for road repairs and other transportation-related improvements. A previous *Asphalt Insider* article on the topic is [HERE](#).

However, another important source of road funding is the federal government, which for many years has failed to address shortfalls in the Highway Trust Fund that has been depleted by inflation and the rising cost of transportation improvements. The TRIP report should add fuel to the debate in Washington about how to address the nation's transportation infrastructure crisis. Click [HERE](#) to view the National Asphalt Pavement Association federal advocacy page to see what CalAPA members and others are doing to press industry's case in Washington, D.C.

The TRIP report will underscore the importance rural routes play in the movement of people, goods and services, as well as the quality of life of those who live in rural areas. California is expected to be near the top of the list among the states in percentage of rural pavements in poor condition, and near the top of the list in fatal crashes per 100 million miles traveled.

*California Asphalt Insider* will follow-up with a more detailed story after the report is officially released to the public. Learn more about TRIP research [HERE](#).

## → Joint Training & Certification program reaches key milestone

The Caltrans-industry Joint Training & Certification Program has reached an important milestone with the approval of Phase 2 of the inter-agency agreement with California State University, Long Beach to begin scheduling classes, it was announced.

Tim Greutert, Caltrans Chief of Roadway Materials Testing, announced the significant step June 19 in an e-mail to stakeholders. Phase 1 of the plan involved developing Hot Mix Asphalt and Soils/Aggregate curriculum. Phase 2 is the deployment of classes aimed at agency and



## 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.



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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

industry materials technicians.

"This starts in motion a series of steps critical to ensuring the JTCP is successfully implemented," Greutert said in his note. CalAPA and other representatives are participating in an Advisory Council for the program to ensure the program meets its stated goal of ensuring that "technicians are highly skilled, knowledgeable and provide uniformity and consistency in material sampling and testing." The JTCP will provide training and certification in soil, aggregates, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA I & HMA II), and Portland cement concrete.



***A kickoff meeting was held Jan. 25-27 at Cal State Sacramento to unveil the Joint Training & Certification curriculum to experts drawn from industry, agencies and academia.***

The latter will be done in partnership with the established local chapters of the American Concrete Institute.

Caltrans is currently advertising for a full-time program manager for the program and plans to have that position filled by Aug. 1, Greutert said. Several important activities are underway, including publicizing the program, revising curriculum based on stakeholder input, developing instructor criteria and identifying physical training location and equipment required. Currently the plan is for classes to be held on campus at Cal State Long Beach in Southern California and San Jose State University in Northern California. Caltrans is also finalizing a statewide on-line database of certified technicians.

To read a previous *Asphalt Insider* article about the program, click [HERE](#). CalAPA members who have questions about the Joint Training & Certification Program should contact CalAPA's Director of Technical Services, Brandon Milar, P.E., at (916) 791-5044.

## → Don't miss out: Tickets on sale for CalAPA's annual 'Day at the Races' event July 22 at Del Mar

CalAPA is back with one its most popular member-only events of the year: our annual "Day at the Races" at beautiful Del Mar Race Track in Del Mar. Click [HERE](#) learn more and to reserve your spot.

The Southern California Contractors' Committee is once again hosting this gala event on opening weekend for thoroughbred racing. The association has reserved a luxury suite at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club on Saturday, July 22, at the seaside track, which is celebrating its 80th anniversary. The "Star Fiddle Skyroom" boasts panoramic views from a private balcony close to the finish line, with its own betting windows, VIP access to grounds, a fabulous lunch buffet, snacks and a no-host bar. Tickets for this family-friendly event are \$109 for adults and must be purchased



***Catch the racing action at Del Mar***



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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## WATCH



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

## DESIGN!

in advance via the CalAPA website. Click [HERE](#) to order.

at CalAPA's annual "Day at the Races."

Del Mar is not only one of the most scenic race tracks in the world, it's also rich with history, with new and exciting chapters being written each year. In 2014, the CalAPA-sponsored 1st Race was won by Lord Nelson, a 2-year-old thoroughbred trained by Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert, who joined CalAPA representatives Holly Mendell and John Michalik from California Commercial Asphalt in the Winner's Circle. Baffert is the trainer of last year's Triple Crown winner, American Pharoah. The 2016 Kentucky Derby winner, Nyquist, twice won at Del Mar the year before. And who can forget California Chrome, who raced at Del Mar before going on to win the Kentucky Derby and Preakness in 2014. To view pictures from last year's "Day at the Races," click [HERE](#) to visit our Facebook page.

Bring your family, favorite customers or best friends to our "Day at the Races" and perhaps you'll see the next superstar thoroughbred in action. For more information, contact Sophie You of CalAPA at (916) 791-5044.

## → Asphalt turns up in some unlikely places

One of our more bookish readers pointed out that our national partner, the National Asphalt Pavement Association, apparently was referenced in a fictional mystery novel by Margaret Truman, "Murder at the National Cathedral." The best-selling thriller of a few years ago included a reference to a character giving a speech to the "National Association of Asphalt Contractors." See Page 25-26 if you don't believe us. Spoiler alert: asphalt or NAPA are in no way connected to the fictional murder.

## → Tech Term of the Week

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

**LONG-LIFE ASPHALT PAVEMENT:** An asphalt pavement design strategy that results in pavements that have a service life of 40 or more years and only requiring periodic rehabilitation of a sacrificial surface course while the rich-bottom layers provide enduring structural integrity. Also known as PERPETUAL PAVEMENT.

## → Quote of the Week

"I say luck is when an opportunity comes along and you're prepared for it."

Denzel Washington

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, analysis and events in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

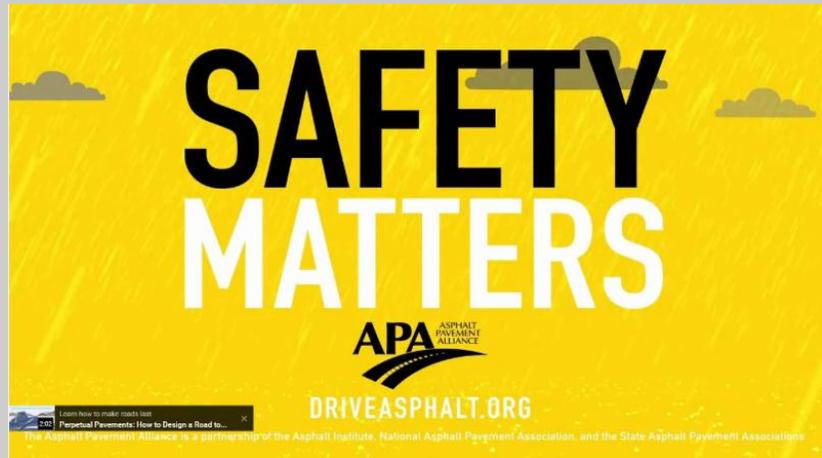
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**Russell W. Snyder, CAE**  
Executive Director  
California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)

## LEARN!

We can bring CalAPA's popular training classes to your facility at a date and time convenient to you! Click HERE to view our "hosted" training class flier, or contact CalAPA at (916) 791-5044 for details. This service is available to public agencies and CalAPA members only.



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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