University of Antwerp SuPAR | Sustainable Pavements and Asphalt Research

How data can help plan for lower carbon roads: Using IT to improve the quality of asphalt and to deliver input to Building Information Modelling (BIM)

> Sharing Best Practice Nov 2nd 2023 Prof. Dr. Ing. Wim Van den bergh





Linking sustainability, data-driven road management and research

Case in Flanders: ROAD_IT



Sustainability

- Challenge 21st century: from durability to sustainability
- FHWA (2014):A sustainable pavement is one that achieves its specific engineering goals, while, on a broader scale, (1) meets basic human needs, (2) uses resources effectively, and (3) preserves/restores surrounding ecosystems.
- Sustainability is context sensitive and thus the approach taken is not universal, but rather unique for each pavement application







Sustainability

Context sensitive:

- Materials, processes, use phase, re-use ...
 - Less new materials (recycling or other materials flow), optimization of transport, less energy and improve quality
- Guidelines and evaluation: to proof and compare
 - On paper: EAPA, PIARC, EU,...
 - Tools: Edgar, Dubocalc, LCA PAV
 - Cases: Impuls program, RejuveBIT, ...
- Multi/interdisciplinary and complex approach







Sustainability challenges



- Main barriers to be solved:
 - Which parameters have the highest impact on "sustainability"
 - initially, in time and circularity
 - variability
 - Time urgency: data today will be used in 10-50 years: vision on future use of bitumen?
 - Management of all data
- Preliminary needs:
 - Tools to optimize, manage, see trends,...
 - Acceleration in the implementation process and approach (to get the data ^(c))



Next step: digitization of pavement service life University of Antwerp

BIM-environment!

Digital data acquisition is feasible to support and/or take smart/intelligent decisions

- Machine learning
- Neural networks
- Possibilities:

...

- Actual adjustments in processes
- Detection of trends in data
- Optimization of materials, processes
- Predictions and modelling
- Health, environmental impact

Impact-likelihood matrix of new technologies



Source: Shaping the Future of Construction

Let's take a look at a current project



• ROAD-IT: first steps and implemention







ROAD_IT: case 1 (2)





Optimizing logistic process asphalt production and constructing process











Result: location and time relation between lorry and finisher Calculate efficiency, truck management, temperature Mixture verification: go/no-go on site Speed of finisher can be adopted to truck arrivals

Technical and transport data are gps-related and stored in a database of the road manager. Each paved quantity from one truck is located and described (material passport and laying parameters)

• Track and trace

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ROAD_IT: Case 2 (2)

Continuous monitoring homogeneity after the finisher



umec

IDLab embracing a better life



During asphalt laying and compaction process:

- direct impact on durability of the compacted asphalt: intervention for rollers is possible ٠ After asphalt construction:
- data-analyse: evaluation, tender specifications, area with good/bad compaction ٠



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For important – high risk roads: IR-line scanner and Smart compaction are mandatory

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BCM 05







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reports •

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	GPS - Coversheet						
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Asphalt Manager

9300

170

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Page 1

2





Model

Serial No.

Weight [kg]

Load [kg/cm]

Coversheet

Page Overview

Contents

Vibration system

Width of drum [cm]

BW 174 AP AM

101 870 92 1115

Asphalt Manager

9300

170

29

ROAD_IT: Case 3



Data reporting of a construction site

Project & mixture specifications

Construction site ID							
Layer type	Toplayer						
Mixture type	SMA-C						
Accepted temp. rang	120-180°C						

Totals today									
# Trucks	Mixture	Total mass	Avg. mass/truck						
3	SMA-C	79.2	26.4						

Transport specifications

Truck ID Mixture		e Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Mass	Temp.	т	ime	(Coupling	De	coupling	Accepted?
		(Tons)		Plant	Site	Time	GPS	Time	GPS												
1-KTL-629	SMA-C	26.4	N.A.	9h33	10h04	10h09	51.189969	10h22	51.189910	Accepted											
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imec

embracing a better life

For a whole or a part of a construction site: Quantities, period, number of trucks, ID of trucks, mixture verification Contractor, suppliers and road manager



09/25/2017

09/25/2017

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92

95

94

90

91

1958

1961

2058

2070

2072

6

6

6

10

14

14

Extension





MIT-SCAN-T3 Precise and nondestructive measurement of asphalt and concrete layer thickness in compliance with TP D-StB 12

Smart compaction systems Layer thickness measurements Density measurements

Strain measurements













ROAD_IT: implementation



- Now: Used by Port of Antwerp-Bruges, Flemish Road Agency and City of Antwerp as quality parameter (part of procurement)
- Near Future: correlation with
 - performance in time
 - other road performance tests
- Goal: Detection of
 - Adverse conditions
 - Bad/Excellent compositions/combinations
 - E.g. 75% of SMA 14 PmB RA used on secondary road/compacted at 135C and 8 passes fail/work. For same conditions only 10% AC10 fails/works...
 - Step by step resilient structures by measuring impact parameters



Materials

Energy

Safety

Efficiency





intern

extern

Future ROAD IT



BIM: Building information modelling





SAPPR: road design



Objectives and Research Needs

- Objectives: (1) evaluate data sources and accessibility and (2) discuss legal aspects for further research and valorization
- Research at UAntwerp: (1) model the behavior of the road infrastructure (visco-elastic plastic deformation model); (2) correlate actual performance/service life with predicted performance/ service life; (3) evaluate impacts of climate change on road structures; (4) assess sustainability and circularity (Green Public Procurement)



of a Smart Asphalt Pavement performance Response model Climate change, traffic, ageing, healing, Fatigue,... Historical and actual data

SSMARAGD: circular use



- Data-driven analytic modelling from nano to meta scale (SSMARAGD)
 - LCCA, LCA -social, economical, environmental impact (e.g. VOC)



Development of a Smart Selection Model for innovative Application of Reclaimed Asphalt Granulate in road Design SSMARAGD Historical and actual data



Conclusions

- Technology to generate store data is available
- Use of data as
 - Input/parameters in GPP tools, LCA/LCCA databases
 - Predictive models (PMS, insurance, warranty period)
 - Research and development
- Road structure: not only for asphalt, for all layers
- Properties of Bitumen (virgin, ageing process)
 - Crucial
 - Open database?
 - Future use of bitumen?
- Collaboration and coordination between disciplines











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Asphalt Innovation Symposium

December 13th 2023, Antwerp

