



Targeted Overlay Pavement Solutions

Highly (Polymer) Modified Asphalt Binder SMA Pilot Projects in Pennsylvania



Alan Leonori, PE

Senior Engineer, Pennoni

Highly (Polymer) Modified Asphalt (HiMA)

What is Highly Modified Asphalt (HiMA)?

- Material Properties
 - Highly Modified Asphalts polymer content (~7.5%)
 - Normal polymer content (~3.5%)
 - MSCR Performance grade PG76E-28HP (~PG82-28)
 - Normal Polymer Modified PG 64E-22 (PG76-22)
 - Elastic Recovery Minimum = 90%
 - Elastic Recovery Minimum,
 Normal Polymer Modified As low as 40%

Highly (Polymer) Modified Asphalt (HiMA)

Benefits of Highly Polymerized asphalt?

- Less Rutting
- Less Cracking
- Less Maintenance
- Longer Life



Highly (Polymer) Modified Asphalt (HiMA)

Research has shown: Virginia DOT

- Does not delay reflective cracking significantly. (Working cracks)
- Virginia 5-year study indicates a 34% projected increase in pavement life.
- Benefit / Cost was not determined because there is not enough distress data from either the control or experimental sections.
 - Additional cost for HPA is ~\$15.00 per ton, ~\$1.25 per SY
 - Assuming PG64E-22 Normally ~\$10 per SY → Say 10% to 15% increase in cost.

FHWA - Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration Program

- Projects submitted for demonstration funding: (\$700,000 total request)
 - Distri 2-USN 3-A18
 - Dis Ct. 0 SR 70 21
 - District 10 SR 2 118
 - Dis ict 11-0 2 A62
 - District 12-0 SF 0-E10

- District 2-0 SR 80-B42 (ECMS 88579)
- District 5-0 SR 78-22M (ECMS 72807)
- District 9-0 SR 219-047 (ECMS 23478)
- District 11-0 SR 376-A79 (ECMS 74454)

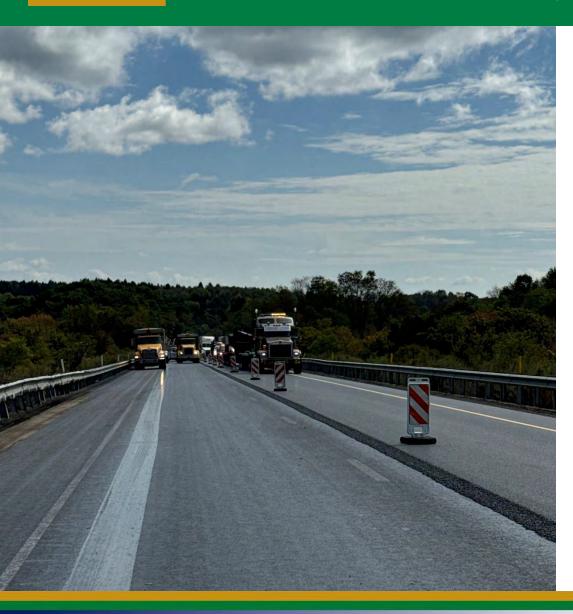
- Grant application submitted September 28, 2021.
- Original Grant approval originally scheduled for March 31, 2022.
- Actual Grant approval August 31, 2024.

Bid Prices

	ECMS	Project	SMA Unit Price	HiMA Unit Price	Difference in Unit Price	% Increase	HiMA Qty	AID Funding Used
D2	88579	I-80/B42	\$11.50	\$12.50	\$1.00	8.7 %	49,280	\$49,280.00
D5	72807	I-78/22M	\$15.50	\$17.50	\$2.00	12.9 %	83,963	\$167,926.00
D 9	23478	SR 219/047	\$11.37	\$13.95	\$2.58	22.7 %	92,204	\$237,886.32
D11	74454	SR 376/A79	\$20.00	\$25.00	\$5.00	25.0 %	28,687	\$143,435.00
						Ave. 17.3 %		\$598,527.32

• These are all SMA wearing course projects that will incorporate HiMA.

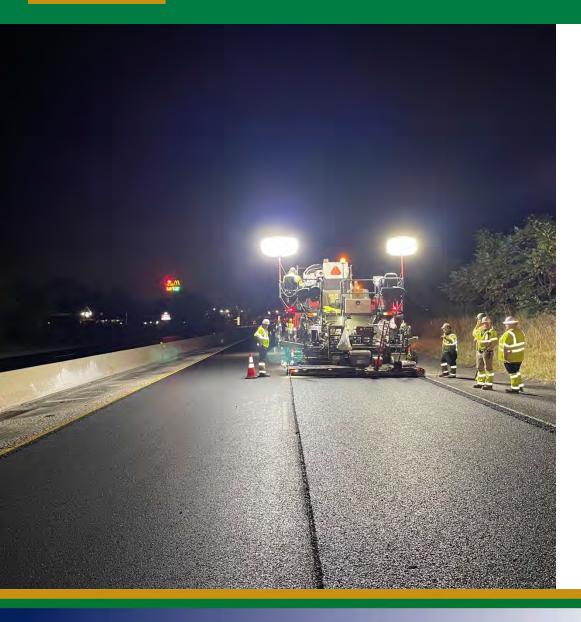
District 2-0 Interstate 80 (SR 80-B42)



49,280 SY HIMA SMA

- HRI, Inc.
- Placed in August/September 2024.
- HiMA placed in WB lanes (both travel and passing).
- Control placed in adjacent section of WB lanes.
- "No noticeable changes to the material or construction" compared to standard mix.

District 5-0 Interstate 78 (SR 78-22M)



83,963 SY HIMA SMA

- J.D. Eckman, Inc.
- Placed in September/October 2025.
- Approximately 3.5 miles of HiMA placed in EB and WB lanes (both travel and passing).
- Approximately 3.0 miles of standard SMA (control) placed in adjacent section of EB and WB lanes.
- 10 of 78 lots did not meet ride quality (IRI > 70).
- Difficulty conveying material through MTV to paver.

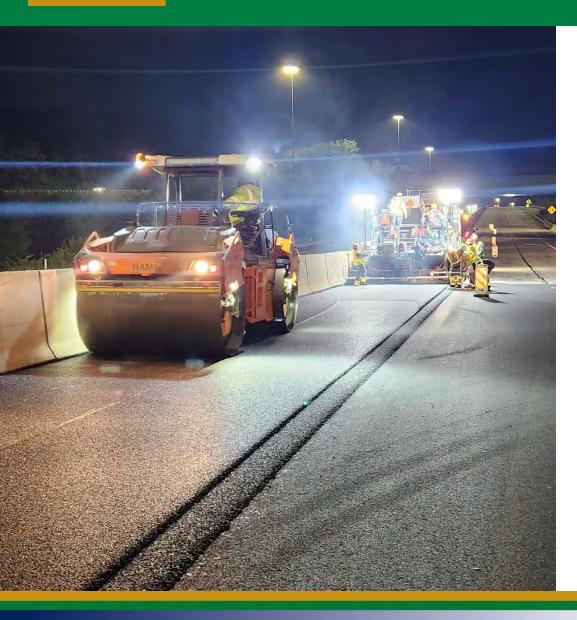
District 9-0 Route 219 (SR 219-047)



92,204 SY HIMA SMA

- New Enterprise Stone & Lime
- Placed in July September 2025.
- Approximately 2.75 miles of HiMA placed in NB and SB lanes (both travel and passing).
- Approximately 3.0 miles of standard SMA (control) placed or will be placed in adjacent section of NB and SB lanes.
- Field crews noted no major differences or issues compared to standard mix.

District 11-0 Interstate 376 (SR 376-A79)



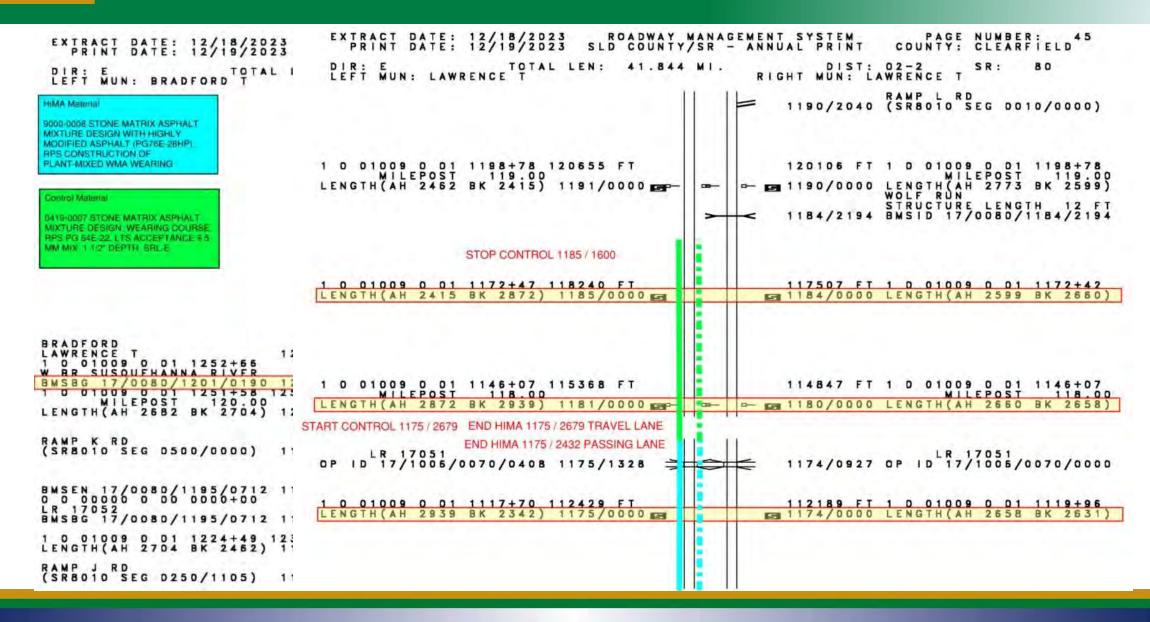
28,687 SY HIMA SMA

- Eurovia Atlantic Coast LLC
- Placed in August/September 2025.
- Approximately 1.75 miles of HiMA placed in EB passing lane and median shoulder and 1.75 miles in WB passing lane and median shoulder.
- Standard SMA (control) placed in parallel EB and WB travel lanes for the same lengths.
- Field crews noted no major differences or issues compared to standard mix.

Project Work Plan

- Originally prepared prior to grant application
 - Neal Fannin (June 2020)
 - Modified to reflect current projects
 - Jay Sengoz
 - Kevin Gnegy
 - Tim Ramirez
 - Living document updated regularly to reflect:
 - Actual locations of material (HiMA and control) placed
 - SLD with HiMA and control sections highlighted
 - Pavement history tables

Project Work Plan – RMS Straight Line Diagrams



Project Work Plan – Pavement History

në G	BEGIN OFFSET	END DIFFSET	TOTAL	PAVED DEPTH	LAYER. DESCRIPTION	LAYER	LAYER DEPTH	LAYER		sec	BEGIN	END OFFSET	TOTAL	PAVED	LAYER DESCRIPTION	LAYER YEAR	LAYER	
1175	1000	base	36.0	28.5	SPAV MIA BADR 76-22 W MM	abrid:	2.6	24		1174	0000	9625	21.1	12.0	SPAY HAA GNDR, 16-35 TO MM	2906	25	+
176	9000	mater	20.5	28.6	SPAV HAM WIRGLVI, 70-22: R.S.L.	2010	n.h.	24		137A	0000	9625	21.5	17.5	SPAV MMA WRIGHVIL TRUES, SALL	2001	0.0	+
176	0000	Onto.	36.5	28.0	CONC PVMT RESTORATION (CPR)	2010	0	- 24		1174	0000	9629	25.5	37.9	CONC PUNT RESTORATION (CPR)	2006	0	+
176	0000	0950	36.5	38.6	CPR WITH DUMOND GRINDING	1998	0	24		11740	0000	0629	26.5	173	OPR (WITH DIAMOND CRINDING)	1001		+
175	0000	0986	36.5	25.0	POOP 20 INT SP DOWELSKEW	1988	10	24		1174	0000	1625	25.5	17.5	PCCP 20" JNT 6P /DOWEL/SKEW	1000	33	+
175	9000	0909	36.5	79.5	BITUMINOUS WEARING CREE ID-2	1987	1.5	24		1174	0000	0625	25.5	17.5	DGS SUBNASE	TUAN	4	+
175	9000	0968	363)	2016	E-7 (INDEX COURSE	TRIET	7	24		1776	0000	1625	His	17.5	SA SUBITARIS	TOM	4	+
175	7900	0980	26.5	20.6	PCCP 61 C PAT SPACING DOWEL	1607	10	- 24		1178	0000	505	75.5	17.5	OUT OF SERVICE-RECONSTRUCTED	1988	. V	1
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	- 1000	10000	- 4	- 00	DOTAL SERVICE-SEASONS TRUCKES	-				1778.	0625	2660	30	20	CPR (WITH DIAMOND GRINDING)	1000		+
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FHWA Grant Project Reporting

- Semi-annual reports submitted to FHWA every January and July
 - Paving progress to date
 - JMFs and delivery summaries
 - Testing results
 - Noted issues
 - Updates or changes to original work plan
- Final Report to be submitted to FHWA within six months of completion of all projects.

Done on BOTH HiMA and Control

- Rutting Potential
 - Hamburg Wheel-Track Testing (AASHTO T 324)
- Cracking Potential
 - CT-Index Testing (ASTM D8225)
- Asphalt Binder Property Evaluation
 - ΔT_c (Standard Practice for Characterizing the Relaxation Behavior of Asphalt Binders – AASHTO PP 113-21)

Hamburg Wheel-Track Testing

Standard Method of Test for Hamburg Wheel-Track Testing of Compacted Asphalt Mixtures

AASHTO Designation: T 324-17

그렇게 되어 가게 되는 이번 그런 어느 때문에 그릇이

Technical Section: 2c, Asphalt-Aggregate Mixtures

Release: Group 3 (August 2017)

Project Name: PennDOT HWT & IDEAL-CT 2024

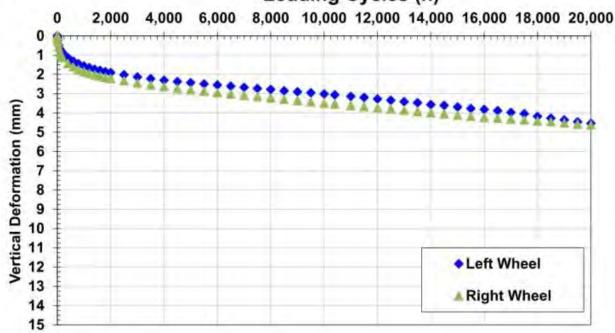
Project ID: Plant ID: Date Tested: 8/14/2024 Test Temperature: 50C

Asphalt Producer: HRI Test Method: AASHTO T-324

Loading Cycles (n)

AASHID

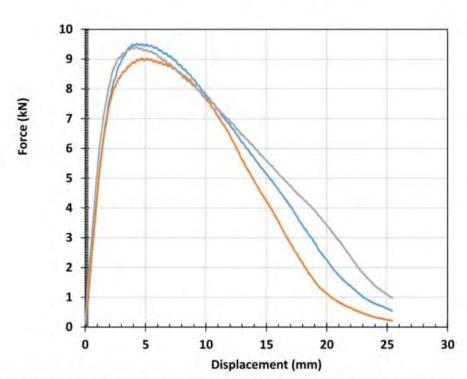
Mix ID: WS9543VE1



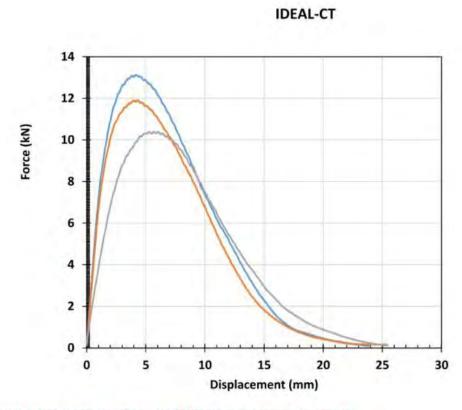
Cracking Potential Ideal TC Index

IDEAL-CT





9000-0008 STONE MATRIX ASPHALT MIXTURE DESIGN WITH HIGHLY MODIFIED ASPHALT (PG76E-28HP), RPS CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT-MIXED WMA WEARING (HIMA MATERIAL)



0419-0007 STONE MATRIX ASPHALT MIXTURE DESIGN. WEARING COURSE, RPS PG 64E-22, LTS ACCEPTANCE 9.5 MM MIX, 1 1/2" DEPTH, SRL-E (CONTROL MATERIAL)

Asphalt Binder Property Evaluation - ΔT_c

R 28, PAV @ 100 C Residue						
Dynamic Shear						
(G*sin δ , 10 rad/sec)	T315	6000 Max @ 28.0C	951	kPa		
Creep Stiffness, S Mpa						
@ 60 seconds	T313	300 Max @ -18C	213	Mpa		
Creep Stiffness, m-value				1200 S. S. C. P. C. P.		
@ 60 seconds	T313	0.300 Min @ -18C	0.325			
delta Tc - 40 hour PAV		-5.0 Min	-1.8	С		

Sample meets current AASHTO M332 Specifications for PG 76E-28 HP.





Alan J. Leonori, PE

Senior Engineer - Pennoni aleonori@pennoni.com (814) 826-3885

www.pennoni.com