

Overview of Alliance Working Group activities

Bitumen Sprayer Calibration

A draft QDMR policy for implementation of the national sprayer calibration system has been developed. This draft policy is being circulated for consultation with industry through the Alliance. Feedback will be given at the Reference Group meeting in May.

Revised SM14 Specification review

The first of the field trials has been laid within Metropolitan District by Boral at Birkdale Road, Redlands. Field data from the trial is currently being collated and reviewed by the task group with first impressions being positive.

Education : 10% training levy

Proposals are being developed on a “deeming” formula appropriate to seals and asphalt contracts. High materials costs in road surfacing projects makes the training hours very difficult to achieve.

HMA in SEQ

In mid March 2003 the industry and major clients met to review the performance of asphalt in the South East of Queensland. Supported by national AAPA technical and operational resources the meeting openly aired the concerns and issues facing the users of asphalt.

A combined working group of experts at the meeting reviewed the findings and provided direction to AAPA and Main Roads in the form of report on important actions and priorities.

Key is the need to decrease the field permeability of all Main Roads mixes and to ensure that the mix and pavement design prevent the ingress of moisture. Detailed investigations into the causes are being considered but the success achieved in NSW with the introduction of hydrated lime offers a short term solution.

It is expected that current and planned hot-mix asphalt projects will make provision for the greater densification and the addition of hydrated lime which should be confirmed through on-site trials.

Register of Approved Asphalt Suppliers

This project is progressing as planned. The improved system in the draft manual has commenced trialling on asphalt projects in four Main Roads Districts. Performance reports are being evaluated, including other feedback received from these trials. This will lead to further development of the draft manual.

RAP

Information on field experience being compiled.

Innovation

Project concept stage—will expand on the QDMR TILES approach promoting product development and risk sharing.

Register of seal design and construction

New project intended to give the alliance partners the benefits in seals that are arising from the register of asphalt suppliers.

Pavement Training Courses

DATE	COURSE
7-8/05/03	# Pavement Management Course
26-30/5/03	• Road Construction Workshop
27/05/03	* Asphalt Placement & Compaction
28/05/03	* Asphalt Specification
29/05/03	* Modern Asphalt Technology
12/06/03	◆ ISO 9000:2000—Gold Coast
21-24/7/03	◆ Quality—People & Process Workshop
26/07/03	* Working Safely with Bitumen
05/08/03	* Pavement Maintenance Practices
06/08/03	* Roadside Maintenance Practices
07/08/03	* Pavement Maintenance Rehabilitation & Asset Management
12/08/03	◆ ISO 9000:2000—Townsville
26-28/08/03	* Bituminous Surfacing Principles & Practice

Information on the courses can be found at:

- * AAPA at www.aapa.asn.au/docs/training-courses.html
 - # QDMR E Bryans at 3235 4951 • C Foster at 3834 2672
 - ◆ QDMR L Lappin at 3834 2211
- or look on [Main Roads Junction](#) => Personal Development, then Learning and Development Resource Centre, and click on Technical Training URL.

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Strategic Alliance
NEWSLETTER
Developing superior flexible pavements



Communications Plan

Issue 1 of 2003

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Entrenched within the Strategic Alliance between Main Roads and AAPA Queensland is the need for open and honest communication.

Our mission of better performing flexible pavements requires a delivery and maintenance system for pavements that gets the best out of all participants.

In this, communication plays a massive role in achieving that outcome. This is recognised in the Alliance through the approved Communication Plan.

It has seven legs which seek to increase awareness and promote the obvious advantages of an industry sector working together and positively co-operating.

These mechanisms or legs are:

Communiqués **Newsletters**
Events **Presentations**
Website **Display stand**
Technical releases

Progress on these has varied. This is the 3rd news letter, presentations have been made on the activities of the

Strategic Alliance at numerous Main Roads forums and the display stand has been present at many.

Events have included numbers of meetings such as the Reference Group at last years RS&E forum and large meetings on SMA and HMA issue in SEQld.

It was hoped that there would be a steady flow of communiqués supplemented by the newsletters but we are still smoothing out the delivery system on those.

There has been a significant release of technical information and a CD-ROM of reference material was distributed in late 2002. Another is planned for mid-2003.

Communication however is more than just these mechanisms of sharing. The Strategic Alliance, with its values and behaviours of open honest communications between all parties means that true communication begins with all of us.

Look to pages 2 & 3 to see how it can be done !
- Alliance Managers

Districts increased involvement

When asked if the alliance could improve on communications with the districts these were some of the replies:

- Lack of contact is felt with few opportunities to review and discuss common issues
- Recent concerns have highlighted the importance of being involved and well informed.
- The sharing of information seems to have dropped although those close to the projects are up-to-date.
- Should hold more meetings which allow contact and sharing of broader issues.
- Communication between senior alliance representatives and the field offices should be improved.
- Activities being undertaken successfully in the districts are being missed by the alliance.
- Alliance should be used to get the best out of AAPA members and Main Roads.
- Provide a forum to address policy level issues.

Articles in prior newsletters available on the web at

<http://www.aapa.asn.au/docs/queensland.html>

and on Main Roads Intranet at <http://pmsg>



Relationship building on asphalt contracts



“There is no doubt that a strong partnering relationship contributed to the overall success of a recent asphalt overlay project on the Warwick side of Cunningham’s gap” according to Peter Evans the Main Roads Superintendent for the project. “Right from the start, the project faced some serious challenges. The job is flanked on both sides by a World Heritage listed National Park. There were already concerns that the park was being seriously polluted, and National Parks people were concerned about the possibility of further oil and fuel leaks. Main Roads staff were particularly keen to maintain and enhance an excellent relationship with National Parks and Wildlife service. (NP&W)

There were serious concerns for safety, both for construction workers and motorists, with almost 4000 vehicles per day, with over 25% heavy vehicles daily traveling through the mountainous terrain of the Gap.

The risk was increased by being in a rural area and the job specific asphalt, manufactured in a mobile plant, did not allow Main Roads or the contractor to draw on previous experience.

“ We conducted a full facilitated partnering workshop, with the following people:

Boral - the contractor, MR Environmental staff, Roadtek - for traffic control, RS&E - for inspection services, NP&W, MR WH&S officer, Superintendent and his staff.

“ In this workshop, we established the communication links for the project, agreed on escalation times, and solved (in advance) many of the problems we were likely to encounter using a “rocks in the road” exercise. We were careful to distinguish between the roles of “observers” - the various advisors on the job, and those with delegated powers under the contract, so that these powers and responsibilities were clearly understood.

“ The contract proceeded extremely smoothly, with no reported accidents at all, and very favourable comment from National Parks staff. We were also very impressed with the professional approach taken by Boral throughout the contract. They achieved excellent compliance with our specifications.

“ Some failures were observed in the asphalt just before Christmas 2002. Boral milled and replaced the failed areas, and so far we have had no further failures. Early indications, from an RS&E investigation, are that the problem was due to stripping of the binder caused by excessive permeability. To address this problem in the future, we need to reduce the permeability, and use asphalt which is less sensitive to stripping.

“ As a district representative on the joint MR/ AAPA team set up to resolve these issues, I am extremely impressed with the commitment by industry and RS&E to fix these problems, and I am confident that we will succeed in this task.”

“Construction issues, in particular levels, paving widths, mix types, mix depths etc, were discussed, resolved and implemented prior to job start. There were situations during the job that were made easier to resolve due to the work and discussion held during the communication workshop prior to job start. The job was a success due to the process of good communication and working relationship with DMR Warwick.”
Boral Asphalt’s Les Millar—Area manager South Queensland

Reference Group meeting

Tuesday 6 May 2003

Meeting from 10:00am to 3:00pm

Invitations to attend will soon be distributed

MORNING SESSION

Welcome by senior QDMR representative

Overview with concentration on Alliance role in communications: Ron Gordon and Steve Wilson

District feedback on communications needs and expectations of the Alliance

Report on Management of Alliance - Reeves/Vos

Short presentations in overview of outcomes on all the Alliance projects

The above should allow questions and comments from the “audience”

Relationship building— Mike Swainston

AFTERNOON SESSION

Feedback invited from districts

- Relationships on contracts—Warwick
- Cairns projects—developments & SMA
- Townsville — SMA
- Selected district issues

Detailed feedback and interaction on key projects

- SMA / HMA issues in SEQ
- Register implementation
- Bitumen sprayer certification plans
- Communications initiatives and RSE Forum

Venue: QDMR 10th floor Auditorium
Boundary Road, Springhill

