

Tracy Lang – Manager Asphalt



### Original Product

- FORTA-AR
  - Patented August, 1982
    - Used on a number of projects through today, both Domestic & International
  - Key benefit
    - Reinforcing fibers designed to add life to asphalt, but difficult to quantify
  - Testing
    - University of Texas at Austin, 1986



#### Transition

- FORTA-FI
  - Launched in March, 2009
  - Key benefits
    - Cost savings, immediate or long term or both!
      - Reduce asphalt thickness by 35%
      - Extend life of asphalt by more than 50%
  - New testing
    - Arizona State University, 2008 & 2009
      - Incredible results



### Selling Proposition

- FORTA-FI FIBER INFUSED
  - Immediate cost savings, (35% reduction in asphalt thickness)
  - Extended cost savings, (>50% longer asphalt life)
  - Mixes well in both Batch and Drum plants
  - One bag/dosage per ton of asphalt
  - Plastic bag is integral part of new blends
  - Complete product range with (3) unique blends for specific applications
  - Mixes thoroughly in seconds and distributes uniformly and completely



### Selling Proposition

- FORTA-FI FIBER INFUSED
  - Provides 3D (isotropic) reinforcement
  - No modifications needed to current asphalt mix
  - No modifications needed to asphalt plants
  - No modifications needed to standard placement or compaction practices
  - 27 year history of successful applications
  - Tested to today's tough new industry standards
  - From the industry leader in structurally reinforced concrete



- FORTA-FI FIBER INFUSED
  - (3) proprietary blends containing aramid and polyolefin fibers and other materials packaged in polyethylene bags









- FORTA-FI FIBER INFUSED
  - Developed for (3) specific asphalt types...
    - HMA Blend, (for Hot Mix Asphalt)
      - Designed for working temperatures of 250°F 375°F (121°C - 190°C)
      - Mix in batch or drum plants at any production speed
      - Distributes uniformly and completely
      - Available in 3/4" (19mm) and 1-1/2" (38mm) fiber lengths for smaller/larger typical aggregate sizes





- FORTA-FI FIBER INFUSED
  - WMA Blend, (for Warm Mix Asphalt)
    - Designed for working temperatures of 212°F (100°C) and higher
    - Mix in drum plants at any production speed
    - Distributes uniformly and completely
    - Available in 3/4" (19mm) and 1-1/2" (38mm) fiber lengths for smaller/larger typical aggregate sizes
    - Formulated for all foaming methods





- FORTA-FI FIBER INFUSED
  - PAT Blend, (for Hot/Cold Patch Asphalt)
    - Designed for any working temperature
    - Formulated for high percentages of solubles
    - May be added in plant, or directly in rejuvenated material on site
    - Available in 3/4" (19mm) fiber lengths



### Asphalt Failure Modes

- Rutting
  - Typically when ruts become 1/2" deep
- Cracking
  - Typically width, length, and number of cracks



# Science Objective

- Use advanced laboratory tests from ASU
  - Assess field performance
  - Evaluate impact on pavement design thickness
  - Use laboratory and field results as input to:
    - ANY existing pavement design methodology
    - Mechanistic Empirical Pavement Design Guide (MEPDG)



### Case Study Rutting

- 10 runs were performed for each of the control and fiber reinforced asphalt mixtures as follows:
  - 2 Traffic Levels, 1500 and 7000 AADT (intermediate & high traffic)
  - 5 Different (AC) layer thicknesses (2"-6")
- Project location: Phoenix
- Design life: 10 years
- Distress evaluated: Rutting

AC Surface 2-6"

AC Base 8" (29,000psi)

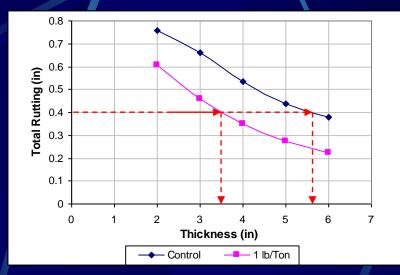
Sub-grade (15,000psi)



#### Science Details

**Rutting Evaluation** 

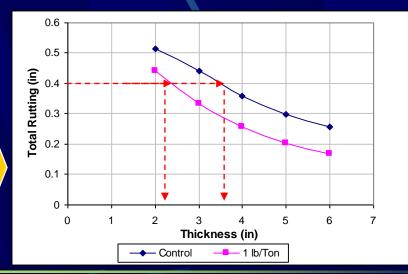
AADT=7000~50,000,000 ESAL's



Similarly for an intermediate traffic analysis, the saving would be 1.5" of AC layer thickness, or (35%)

To reach no more than 0.4" of rutting during a design period of 10 years, a control AC pavement thickness would require 5.5"; whereas the fiber reinforced AC layer thickness needed would be only 3.5", a saving of 2" (35%)

AADT=1500~10,000,000 ESAL's





# Science Details Reduced Thickness Findings

- FORTA fiber-reinforced asphalt mixture
  - Better than the control mixture
  - Using the rutting distress criteria:
    - Reduced wearing course thickness 1-1/2" to 2"
  - FORTA-FI provides 35% material savings!



### Science Details Extended Life Findings

- FORTA fiber-reinforced asphalt mixture
  - Better than the control mixture
  - Using the rutting distress criteria:
    - Same wearing course thickness showed extended design life from 10 years to 15+ years
  - FORTA-FI provides >50% longer asphalt life!



# Science Cracking Evaluation

- Cracking
  - Fatigue- repetitive traffic loading
  - Reflective- joint, crack or defect in under layers
  - Thermal- expansion/contraction due to temperature
- FORTA-FI significantly reduces crack propagation!





- FORTA-FI was used in a 1 1/2" porous friction course. This airport has several unique attributes that demanded a specific asphalt mixture:
  - It is located in Grand Teton National Park
  - 35,000 flights annually, >300,000 emplanements









- 6,450' (1,966 m) runway elevation causes planes to land at higher speeds
- 6,300' (1,920 m) runway length is relatively short for higher speeds and larger aircraft
- Accommodates both smaller planes and larger planes like 757's and A320's









- 300" (7.62 m) of snow annually
- Snow plowing causes pavement to ravel
- Temperatures can swing from –40F (-40C) to 41F (5C) in the winter months, and annually from –40F (-40C) winter to 104F (40C) summer









- Fiber-Reinforced Porous Friction Course, JMF:
  - Aggregate
    - 50% 3/4" rock
    - 30% ½" rock
    - 20% crusher fines
  - Asphalt
    - PG 64-34
    - Specific gravity 1.028
    - Mixed at 325F, placed at 284F 302F
    - 5.7% of total mix



- Fiber-Reinforced Porous Friction Course, JMF:
  - Hydrated lime
    - Added at 0.75% of dry aggregate weight
  - Reinforcing-fibers
    - FORTA-FI HMA blend
      - (FIHMA191.0SM)
    - Added at 1 lb. per ton, 0.15% per ton dry aggregate
  - Density
    - 152.1 pounds per cubic foot, (PCF)



- Asphalt plant:
  - Rate averaged 230 tons per hour, (TPH)
  - Built in 1956, transported to site
  - Fiber added at discharge shoot, (not recommended)









- Observations:
  - Very good distribution
  - 1 small fiber clump found in 9,500 tons
  - Any fiber build-up should be removed when noted









# FORTA-FI Typical Project Benefits

- Cost
  - Increased crack spacing
  - Reduced sections
  - Faster scheduling
  - Schedule
    - Fewer trucks
    - Reduction of materials
    - Fewer cracks
    - Overlay versus replacement

- Performance
  - Determinate
    - 3D (isotropic) reinforcement
  - Indeterminate
    - Improved energy issues
    - Toughness
    - Post crack load capability
    - Crack control
    - Impact resistance
    - Fatigue & durability life
    - Inert



### Thank you for your time!



- FORTA Corporation
  - Tracy Lang

