

'TRACKLESS TACK' Demonstrated On ODOT Project

Every contractor and agency knows of a project where tracking of the tack coat material presented problems. New demands concerning construction practices – such as not delaying traffic, night-time paving, providing a uniform coating and the use of polymer modified tack – have exacerbated what formerly wasn't a problem. Many have wished for a solution that did not involve additional delay or inconvenience to motorists, while still providing the superior bond afforded by a uniform application and modified materials.

The use of a special tack coat material that sets fast and doesn't track or pick up on haul truck tires has been rumored for some time. Nationally, we have heard that the Florida DOT is requiring a "trackless" tack coat on all projects. We have seen reports of a quick-setting system of material and equipment, called the Fast Tack Process, developed by COLAS, Ltd. in Europe and tested on a New York Thruway project.

Recently, on an ODOT project in District 5, Trackless Tack, HTSS-1HM, as produced by Blacklidge Emulsions, Inc., of Gulfport, Miss., (www.blacklidgeemulsions.com) was demonstrated on two sections of state highway near Baltimore in Fairfield County.

Observations from project personnel included:

- "It's a big hit out in the field. It really works."
- "They spray it on at 170 degrees and it takes 5 to 15 minutes to break – they tried it at 145 degree and it would not break. After it breaks, vehicle traffic will not affect it."



- "It has a black glossy look when it breaks."
- "Very little asphalt on paver wheels . . . truck's tires did not have any buildup either."
- "I'm told it has a 40-percent better bond than our existing tack. I think it has a future if the cost can come down."

The material is being distributed in Ohio by Meredith Brothers, Inc. (www.meredithbrothersinc.com). For more information on the product, contact Technical Sales Manager Tom Letizia by mobile phone (440.668.1772), at the Cleveland office (440.543.7973), at the Columbus headquarters (800.878.4991) or by e-mail (tletizia@roadrunner.com).

OA

