



## Unbonded Concrete Overlays of Concrete and Composite Pavements (UCOCP)



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PennDOT District 11/12 & ACPA Pennsylvania Chapter Concrete Pavement Field  
Bus Tour  
Concrete Pavement Issues Meeting  
8/6/15



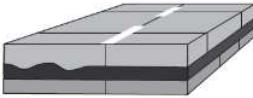
## Unbonded Concrete Overlays of Concrete and Composite Pavements (UCOCP)

**Existing concrete pavement**

- Thicker than bonded concrete overlays – typ. 4 to 11 in
- Restore structural capacity
  - Moderately to significantly deteriorated pavements

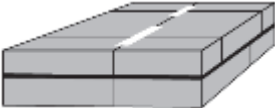
**Existing concrete pavement**

- Serves as a stable and uniform support layer
- Few, if any, pre-overlay repairs required
- Designed as a new concrete pavement on an existing base with no bond




Composite pavement

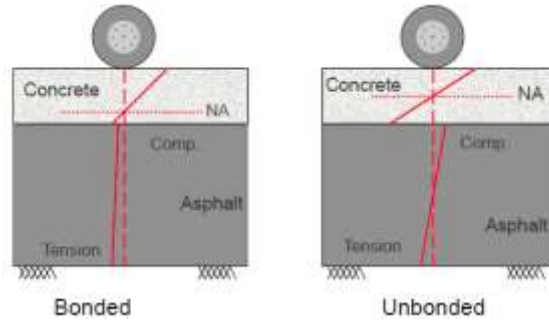
or



Existing concrete pavement



## Bonded vs Unbonded Overlays



CP Tech Center Concrete Overlay Guide

## Types of interlayers

- Asphalt interlayer
  - Open or dense graded
  - New or existing HMA
- Nonwoven geotextile interlayer
  - Fabric thickness dependent on existing distress & slab thickness
  - Drainage



## Role of interlayer

- Drainage (Fabric & open graded HMA)
- Slip plane
- Stress absorption

**Reflective Cracking**

**No Reflective Cracking**

Photos courtesy of John Donahue of MoDOT

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## Role of interlayer

Thermal Movements

**Reflective Cracking**

**No Reflective Cracking**

Differential Deflections

**Reflective Cracking**

**No Reflective Cracking**

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# Construction



# Construction



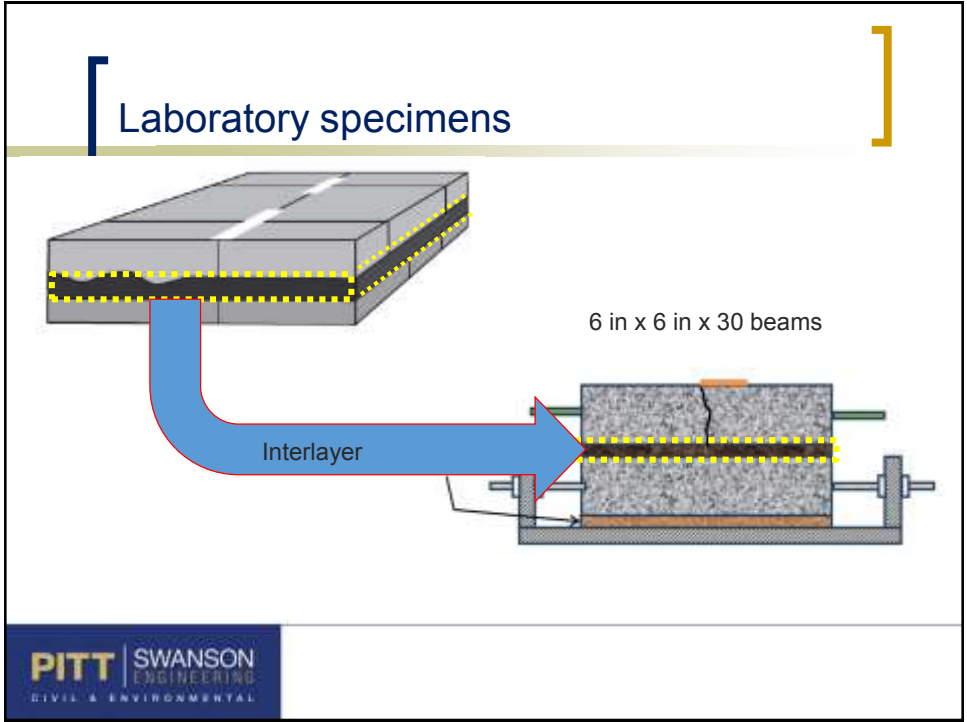
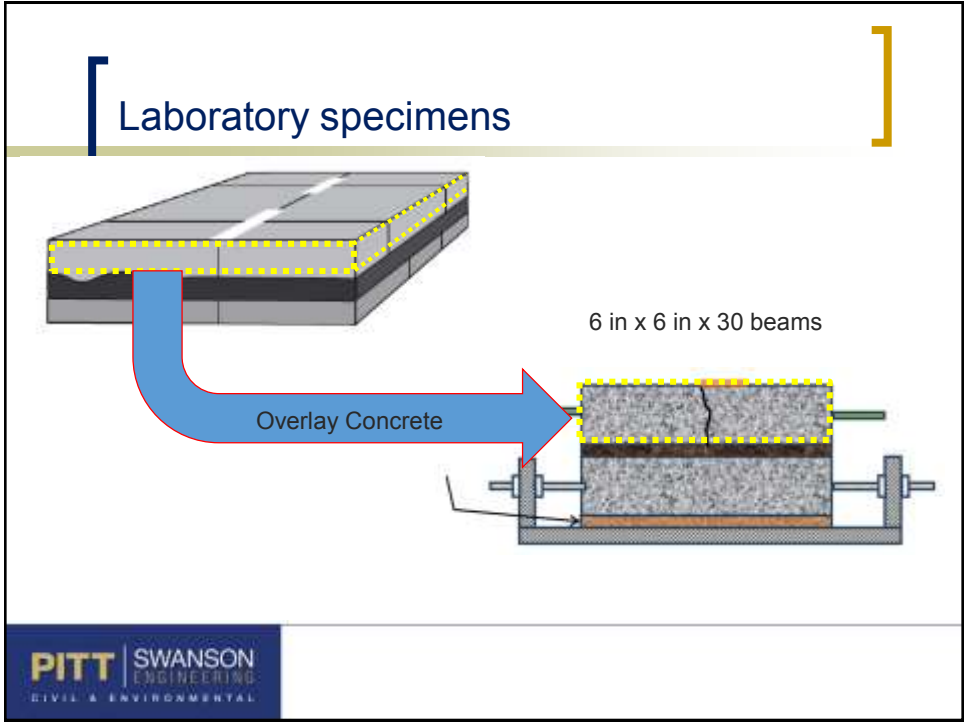
## Pavement ME Limitations

- Modeled as newly constructed JPCP
  - Existing slab is base layer
- Only considers HMA interlayers
- Limited calibration database

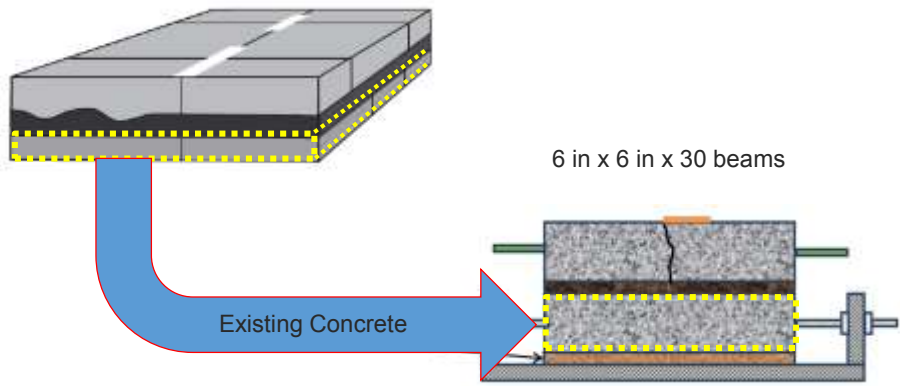
## Goals of laboratory experiment

Characterize ...

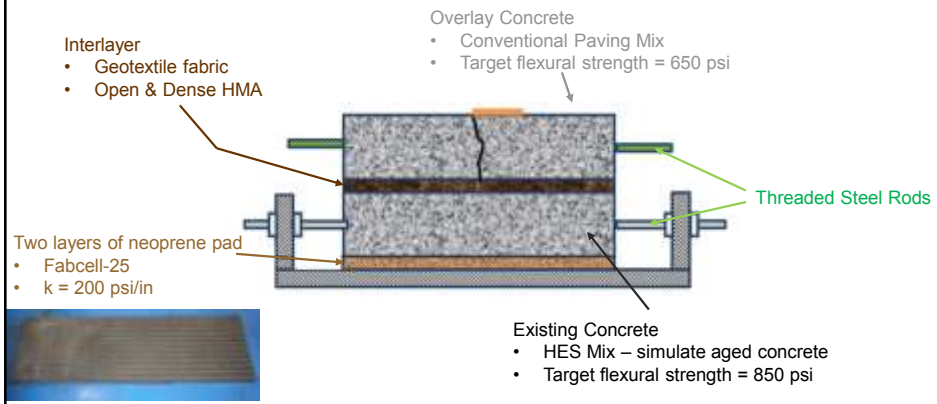
1. Stiffness of interlayer system
2. Friction along interlayer
3. Ability to prevent reflective cracking
4. Direct tensile strength



### Laboratory specimens



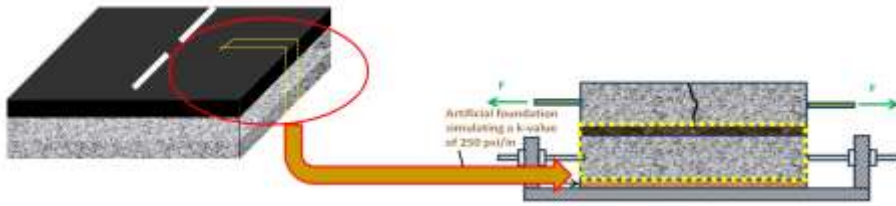
### Specimen setup





## Asphalt interlayers

Asphalt on PCC from in-service pavements



## Asphalt interlayers

Roadway	Asphalt Description	Ave. Asphalt Thickness
US-131, MI	Old, dense graded	1 in
Unknown, MI	Old, open-graded	2 in
I-94, MnROAD	Old, dense graded, milled	0.875 in
I-94, MnROAD	Old, dense graded, unmilled	2.75 in
US-169, MN	New, open graded (PASRC)	1.75 in
SR-50, PA	New, dense graded	1 in

# Samples from SR 50



Thanks to Jim Foringer, Elwood Balog & PennDOT D-11, and Golden Triangle Construction and PM Anthony Pastin



# Pennsylvania



**SR 50**  
~ 1 inch  
New dense graded HMA



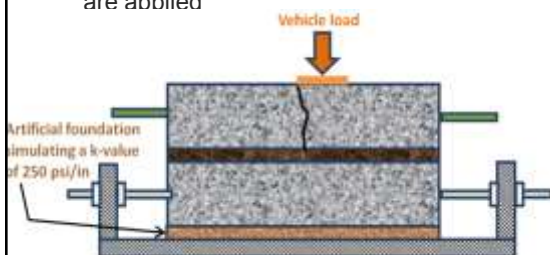
# 1. Characterize stiffness of interlayer system

## Reduced stiffness

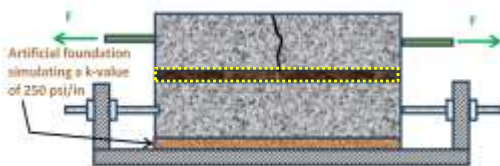
- differential movements absorbed by interlayer
- Large deflections when vehicle loads are applied

## Properties Monitored

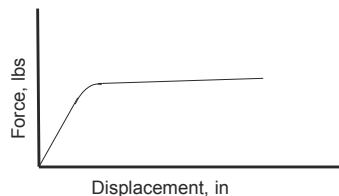
- Max deflections
- Differential deflections
- LTE



# 2. Characterize friction along interlayer (Friction interface)

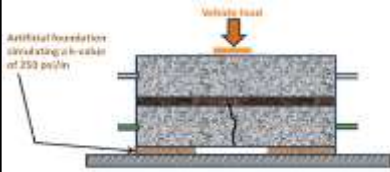


- Similar setup for first beam test
- Friction dictates shear transfer between layers
- Force (F) vs. horizontal displacement relationship



### 3. Characterize ability to prevent reflective cracking

- Load increased until reflective crack generated




Sufficient “cushion” to prevent reflective cracking?

### 4. Direct tension test

- Effect of curling warping stresses
- Measure vertical deformations within interlayer



**Thank You**

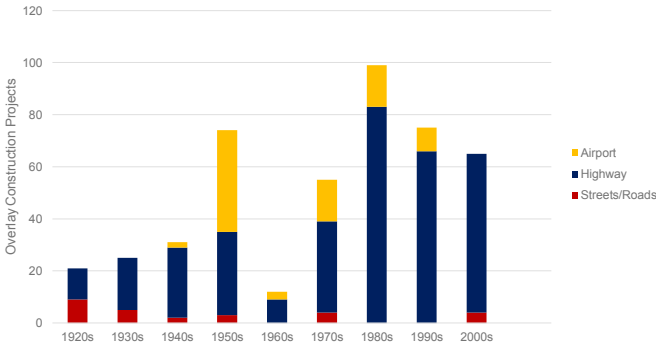


**Any Questions?**

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**Unbonded concrete overlays in the US**

Concrete Overlays on Concrete Pavements



Decade	Streets/Roads	Highway	Airport
1920s	10	10	0
1930s	5	18	0
1940s	0	28	0
1950s	5	30	35
1960s	0	10	0
1970s	5	35	15
1980s	0	80	15
1990s	0	65	10
2000s	5	58	0

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ACPA Overlay Explorer

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## Michigan



Dense graded samples cut from MI

**SR 131 Unbonded Overlay**

~ 1 inch  
aged dense graded HMA

**Unknown In-service Overlay**

~ 2 inch  
aged open graded high asphalt content



Thanks to Andrew Bennett, Ben Krom, and John Staton of the Michigan Department of Transportation <sup>27</sup>

## Minnesota



Open graded PASSRC from Minnesota

**HMA overlay from I-94 MnROAD**

~ 2.75 inch unmilled/~ 0.875 inch aged milled  
Aged dense graded HMA overlay from

**US-169**

~ 1.75 inch  
New open graded high AC HMA (PASSRC)



Thanks to Thomas Burnham, Robert Strommen and Jack Herndon at the MnROAD Research Facility, Derek Tompkins of the University of Minnesota <sup>28</sup>