



**Asphalt Institute Regional Engineer
Activity Report
Fourth Quarter 2020**

**Submitted by H. Wayne Jones, P.E.
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Greetings,

With 2020 winding down, I hope everyone remains healthy and happy, ready to kick off a new year.

Meetings & Activities

EDC: Targeted Overlay Pavement Solutions (TOPS) Update

As I related in my last report, I represent AI on a task force to develop an FHWA *Every Day Counts (EDC) Initiative*. This year represents the sixth EDC cycle, and our team was given the assignment to develop a synthesis explaining the TOPS concept and its importance. The team found out in mid-December that the TOPS initiative was accepted by the FHWA's Resource Center as an official EDC-6 Initiative. TOPS will be rolled-out in early 2021 with a series of presentations to DOT decision makers asking their help promoting the effort in their states with conferences and demo projects. The TOPS taskforce will remain active over a two-year period, 2021 and 2022.

Committee on Asphalt Research Evaluation (CARE)

In the late summer, Florida State University released a research report titled; *Characterization of Asphalt Binder and Photoproducts Reveals Abundant Water-Soluble Hydrocarbons*. The HSE Committee formed a taskforce to review the research and conclusions described in the paper. While the committee was still in the organizing stages and still trying to decide how to approach FSU, Yale University released a report entitled; *Asphalt-Related Emissions: A Major Missing Nontraditional Source of Secondary Organic Aerosol Precursors*. In order to respond to both documents in a timely and united fashion, the taskforce was immediately renamed CARE and became a multi-national team with the addition of representatives of not only AI, but also NAPA and Eurobitume. Dr Sohi asked me to serve as the Regional Engineer representative on the committee. Both documents can be found on AI's home page under HSE Alerts.

Ongoing activities:

- I finished an article for the Winter Edition of our *Asphalt* magazine on Fuel Resistant (FR) asphalt mixtures which will be published early next year. So, as we roll into the new year, I will be looking around for another topic to write about. If you have any suggestions or ideas for future articles, or better yet, a desire to co-author an article, please contact me!!!

- Participating with the Alpha testing team of our online *Pavement Inspector Certification* Course (PIC) that we hope to debut in early 2021
- Developing an additional module for the online PIC course directed toward the Department of Defense (DoD) Unified Specifications used on military airfields. We are now calling the course *Airfield Asphalt- Pavement Inspector Certification* (AA-PIC), and hope to release it in mid-year 2021
- EDC: Targeted Overlay Pavement Solutions (TOPS)
- Committee on Asphalt Research Evaluation (CARE)

Scheduled activities:

- Presenting a webinar for the New Jersey APA on *Asphalt Pavement Preparation and Paving: Best Practices for Quality and Smoothness*, January 7th
- Moderator for the afternoon session of the *Ohio Asphalt Paving Conference*, February 5th & 6th
- My first face-to-face instruction in 11.5 months will be seven hours for the WVDOH *Asphalt Field and Compaction Technician Certification* (WVAFCT) course scheduled for February 17th Ripley, WV
- The National Pavement Expo and Conference in Nashville, TN, January 20th-22nd is now *NPE-LIVE*, a virtual meeting February 23rd-24th. I will be presenting an *Introduction to Thickness Design and Pavement Distress* on the second day at 10am EST <https://nationalpavementlive.com/>
- Again, I will be a co-instructor for Ontario Road Builders Association's *Paving Inspector Certification Course* with Amma Wakefield. It has been switched to a virtual format, February 23th-24th <https://orba.org/academy/>
- I am scheduled to record a one-hour presentation on *Best Practices to Improve Longitudinal Joints* for broadcast March 10th during virtual World Of Asphalt <https://www.worldofasphalt.com/visit/education/people-plants-and-paving-digital-conference>
- An update on the recent *FAA P-401 Asphalt Spec changes, including Fuel Resistant Asphalt Mixtures* during the virtual Illinois Asphalt Pavement Association's Annual Meeting, March 15th & 16th
- I will be doing a live presentation at the Plantmix Asphalt Industry of KY's Winter meeting in Louisville, KY, March 12th on *Maximizing Pavement Life*

As always, if you need more information on any of these items, or if I can be of service in any way to you or your organization, please do not hesitate to contact me. Be healthy and safe!!

Sincerely,

Wayne Jones

Senior Regional Engineer