# Putting The Rubber "In" The Road

I-78 Crumb Rubber Modified Asphalt Project







# Project Awarded to Reading Materials, Inc.

- Reading Materials, Inc. (member of The H&K Group Family of Companies)
- Headquartered in Skippack, Pennsylvania

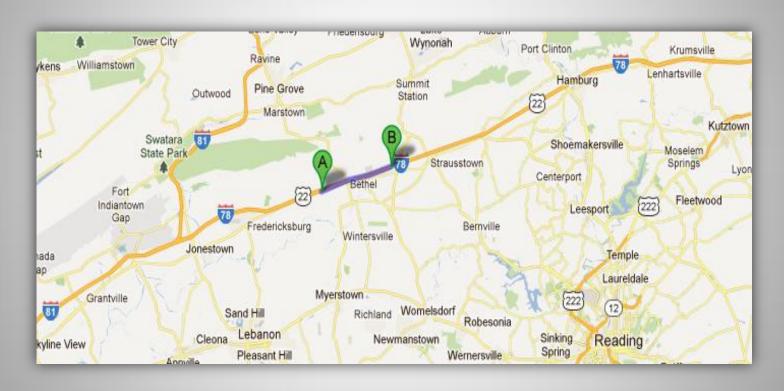


# PennDOT Approved Pilot Project

- First in PA to utilize Asphalt Rubber Gap Graded Friction Course
- ECMS #87631
- Actual Bid Date: 6/28/12
- Award Date: 7/10/12
- Notice to Proceed: 8/21/12
- Completion Date: 11/30/12



# PennDOT Approved Pilot Project ECMS #87631



Seven-mile Stretch of I-78; (Berks County; Section "20-M" between Frystown & Rehrersburg)

# **Project Requirements:**

- Milling
- Concrete Repair & Patching
- Asphalt Paving including both leveling and wearing courses of Crumb Rubber Modified Asphalt (CRM)

### **Specs & Quantities**

- Reading Materials' Windsor Service paving crews completed the overlay portion on October 12, 2012
- All paving was performed at night
- 240,000 SY of milling
- Diamond Grinding: 77,774 SY
- 16,000 tons of CRM leveling course (2 inches)
- 15,000 tons of CRM wearing course (1.5 inches)
- 12.5mm Asphalt Rubber Gap Graded Friction Course

## Section "20-M" Prior to Repave



## **Equipment Utilized**

- Roadtec Shuttlebuggy
- CAT Paver BT415
- Three Rollers: Hamm Roller, CAT DD90 and CAT DD118



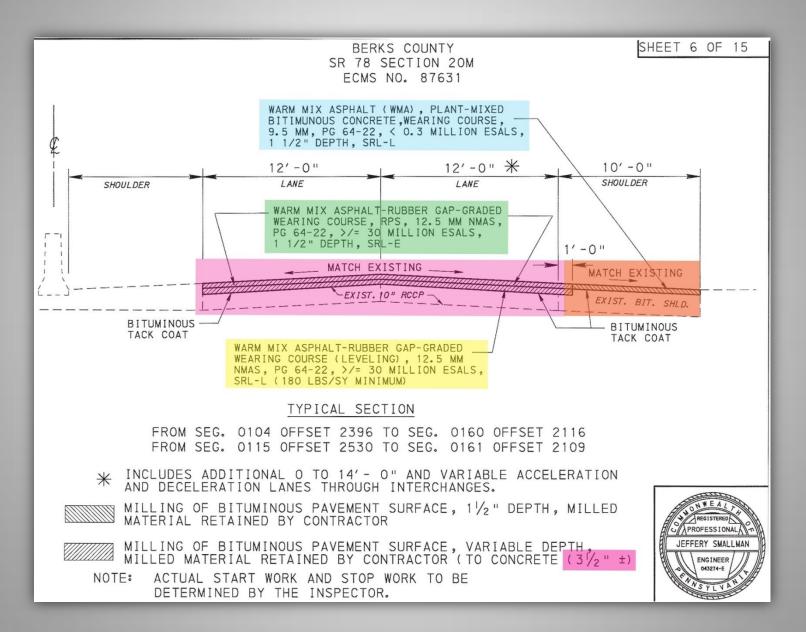
### Challenges of CRM

- Slightly Sticky Texture; material had a tendency to adhere to paving equipment
- Determined that Downy® Fabric Softener acted as lubricating agent (prevented sticking) when applied to rollers and spray bar system
- Compaction on leveling course
- Tight/condensed schedule
- High asphalt content contributed to reducedsized batches; reduced max load capacity in trucks

### **Project Successes**

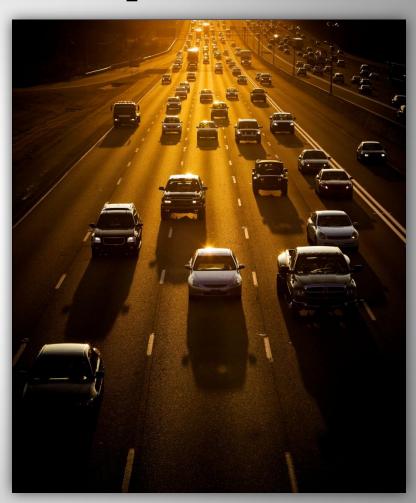
- IRI: 52.64
- Two Bonuses Received on Project:
  - Ride Quality Incentive
  - Joint Density
- No Raveling of Exposed Wedge Joint
- Completed by deadline despite a new material and tough spec
- Worked jointly with several PennDOT Districts to complete project

#### **SR-78 Cross Section Detail**



# Why Crumb Rubber Asphalt?

- High Performance
- Durable & Flexible
- Ideal for Highly-Traveled Interstates
- Similar mixes used in New Hampshire, Massachusetts & California have been proven successful



# What is Crumb Rubber Asphalt?

- Comprised of recycled tire rubber (Provided by Liberty Tire-Pittsburgh, PA)
- Rubber is finely ground at ambient temperature
- Blended with liquid asphalt to create the finished product known as "asphalt rubber" (Massachusetts-based)

All States Materials Group Assisted with Field Blending)





#### **Rubberized AC Products**





Asphalt-Rubber Binder

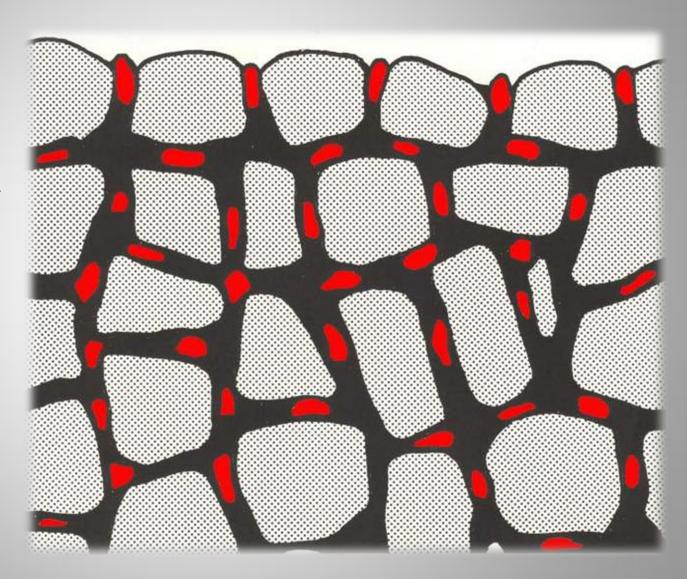
Terminal Blend Binder

#### The Science Behind CRM...

- Rubber blended into asphalt at >350°
- Rubber particles swell, absorb light ends of liquid asphalt binder
- The rubber contributes polymer, carbon black, and anti-oxidants to asphalt
- Creates a high-viscosity elastic binder which remains flexible at low temps and stiff at high temps when cured

### **How Asphalt Rubber Works**

22,937,600 rubber particles per ton of mix help fight cracking



#### The Benefits of CRM

- Final product is adhesive & cohesive
- High film thickness on aggregates
- Improves durability & flexibility
- Resistance to oxidative aging, rutting, raveling, delamination, shoving & thermal and reflective cracking
- Uses recycled material; reducing scrap inventories
- Reduced HMA lift thickness; preserves curb reveal and overpass clearances



# Asphalt Rubber Binder – Blending System

#### Equipment:

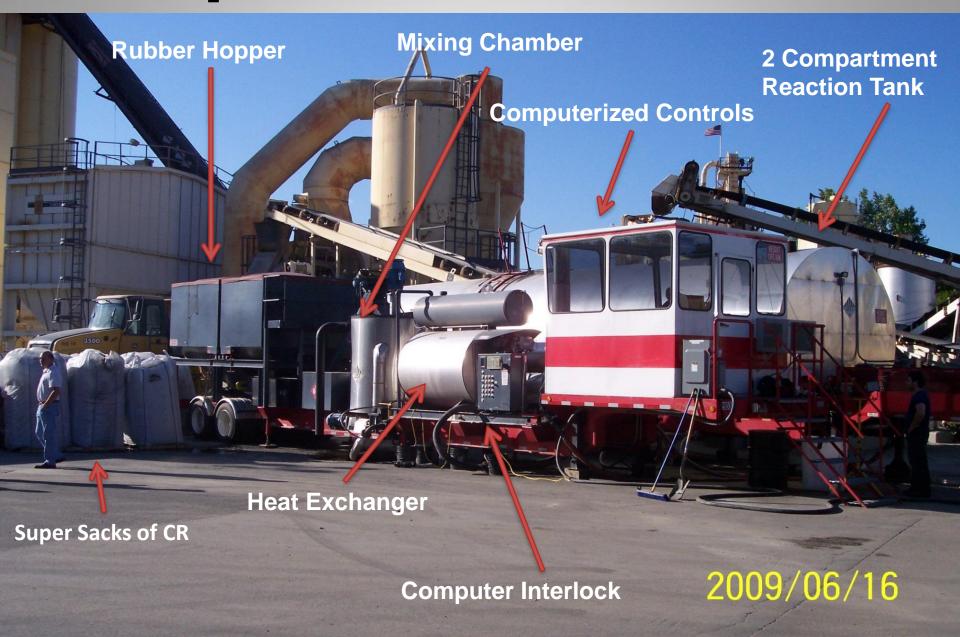
- Virgin oil storage
- Blender
  - Control Cab
  - Heat Exchanger
  - Hot Oil Heater
  - Mixing Tank
  - Hoppers
- Reaction Tank



# Asphalt Rubber – Processed Tire Rubber #30 Mesh



#### **Asphalt Rubber Binder –**



### The Mix Design

- PennDOT required minimum of 7.6% CRM asphalt (>15% recycled tire rubber)
- Final Mix Prepared by The H&K Group's Quality Control Team
- Produced at the Group's
   Lebanon Materials
   asphalt plant facility in
   Annville, PA (25 mins.
   away from project)



## The Mix Design cont.

- Aggregate supplied by Pennsy Supply & The H&K Group's PTR-Sanatoga facility
- PennDOT approved warm-mix asphalt technology
- Warm-mix additive pre-blended in virgin asphalt binder
- Final CRM asphalt mix produced at lower temperature than standard mixes
- Classified as a warm-mix product
- PG64-22, w/ 0.5% Evotherm, 3G (NuStar)



















# Acknowledgements











