



A Tack for the Battle



A strong bond coat can combat against deterioration

Preventing slippage

Many premature pavement failures can be attributed to the loss of bond between two layers of asphalt pavement.

The solution is a tack coat, more correctly called a bond coat. ASTM D8-13b—Standard Terminology Relating to Materials for Roads and Pavements—defines a tack coat as the application of a bituminous material to an existing, relatively non-absorptive pavement surface, to provide a thorough bond to hold a new surfacing.

“Tack coats are used to promote the bond between pavement layers,” said Gregory Harder, P.E., regional engineer, the Asphalt Institute, at the October 2015 Pavement Preservation & Recycling Alliance conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario. “They prevent slippage between pavement layers, are vital for the structural performance of the pavement, making all layers work together.”

What if no bond coat is used, or is applied poorly? Slippage, shoving or rutting can occur, and corrugations may be evident.

The problem may be more acute where traffic slows or stops, such as at streetlights or bus stops.

Poor pavement performance such as early fatigue cracking—either bottom-up or top-down—may result in costly pavement repairs.

“The most costly situation occurs when early fatigue cracking is seen, which may require the agency to remove and replace entire layers of pavement sooner than anticipated,” Harder said.

Research at the National Center for Asphalt Technology underscores the benefit that bond coats provide to layered asphalt pavements. In the past 10 years, forensic investigations of a few test sections on the NCAT Test Track revealed bond failures that led to rapid structural deterioration of the pavements.

An engineering analysis of a pavement with and without one of the layers bonded will substantially increase the tensile stresses beneath the load, NCAT said in the spring of 2015. Cracking will initiate when a layer is unable to withstand the strains applied. Although tack coats are a small item in the overall cost of building and rehabilitating pavements, bonding of asphalt layers is critical to good performance.

Excerpt: www.roadsbridges.com/tack-battle



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We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient. Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority

Why Projects Fail & How to Reverse the Course



Part 1 of 2 series on common reasons for your projects' failure

It can be difficult to put your finger on the one main cause for project failure, because, well, there are just so many factors that can lead to failure in the first place. Among the laundry list of reasons projects go awry include a lack of communication, direction, employee burnout and unrealistic expectations. In the first of this two-part series, we will tackle two of four (un)popular reasons that projects fail: unclear objectives and ignoring the need for change management.

Good Intentions; Unclear Objectives

A lack of direction and unclear goals are one of the top reasons why projects fail. While it may be impossible to predict every outcome, taking time early on to define and communicate objectives and goals can radically increase the chance your team successfully completes a project.

The following five tips can help project managers create a solid plan based on strategic objectives designed to meet project goals:

- Understand the difference between goals and objectives - According to a [Forbes article](#), a goal is a broad primary outcome, or the "destination." An objective, on the other hand, is a measurable step you take to achieve a strategy.
- Start with the right questions - Asking the right questions will help you identify those project goals and objectives:
 - Why is this project important to the organization?
 - What problems will the project solve? What deliverables do stakeholders expect from this project?
 - Who will be assigned to this project? And who has a stake in the outcome?
 - How do various stakeholders goals differ? How are we going to measure success? How are these business objectives aligned to organization's overall business strategy?
- Clearly define project requirements with all stakeholders - Remove assumptions about a project by communicating objectives early on. This means having those difficult discussions to address differences in goals among management and stakeholders. While including more team members in these discussions takes time, participation is more likely to create ownership of project tasks along the way.
- Map out a chain of communication - Create a communication system that team members can use to update stakeholders and management on where a project is heading and when changes are made. Avoid surprises by developing a system that creates accountability at every step of the project.
- Establish clear deadlines and roles - Set up at timetable for when specific objectives are due and display it in a place where everyone in the project can easily see it. Also, ensure that each member is aware of his or her deadlines, budget and scope of responsibility

To read more visit [Excerpt: www.constructionbusinessowner.com/technology/project-management/why-projects-fail-how-reverse-course](http://www.constructionbusinessowner.com/technology/project-management/why-projects-fail-how-reverse-course)

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