

Pavement demo draws a crowd

The Transportation Information Center held an Asphalt Pavement Maintenance Demonstration Day on July 7th at Chula Vista Resort in the Town of Dell Prairie. More than 100 people attended, representing towns, villages, cities and counties throughout Wisconsin. Representatives from WisDOT, contractors and material suppliers also attended.

Demonstrations of crack routing and sealing, infrared surface patching, spray injection patching, and chip seal and slurry seal surface treatments showed maintenance procedures that can help increase the service life of asphalt pavements when used around Wisconsin.

Routing removes debris and deteriorated material from an asphalt crack, creating a clean, uniform reservoir for the crack seal material. Crack sealing can increase the life of a road by keeping water out of the pavement and base.

Spray injection patching uses a multi-function machine where a single operator can blow a pothole clean with air jets, apply tack coat, and place and compact the asphalt mixture. The result is a durable patch for potholes and low areas on the pavement surface.

Infrared surface patching heats the existing asphalt surface layer so that the material can be reworked and additional material can be added. With careful attention to hand leveling and compaction you can produce an excellent-riding patch that is as durable as the surrounding pavement.

Chip seal and slurry seal treatments seal the road surface, provide a new wearing surface, and extend pavement life. The Town of Dell Prairie chip seal demonstration used a chip that was pre-coated with asphalt at the plant. Pre-coating chips can limit dust, improve chip retention, and give a black surface appearance. Slurry seal is a mixture of aggregate and asphalt emulsion applied in a thin layer. Often used on local streets in cities or villages, it makes the surface look like the original asphalt and produces very little loose aggregate.

Participants watched crews demonstrate these maintenance techniques live on the street and heard about how to apply the processes from the people who actually do the work. "One person told me that actually seeing the work being done on the road was so much

better than any video we could show in a classroom. They really appreciated the opportunity to see the work live," says Ben Jordan, T.I.C. program coordinator. "All the pieces fall in place when you see them and get your hands on the materials." Offering many different processes also introduces people to things they don't use every day. They get a chance to become comfortable with different materials and technologies, Jordan says.

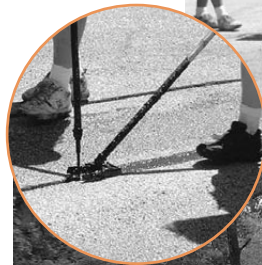
Thanks to contributors

The **Town of Dell Prairie** for providing roads. The **Adams County Highway Department** for traffic control for the demonstrations. The **FHWA Wisconsin Office** for supplying hardhats and safety vests. The **Wisconsin Asphalt Pavement Association** for coordinating contractor participation in the demonstrations.

Special thanks to those who provided materials, equipment and labor for the demonstrations:

City of Beloit Spray injection patching
Bergman Companies, Inc. EAU CLAIRE Infrared surface patching
Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, Inc. PLOVER Slurry seal and crack routing and sealing
Scott Construction, Inc. LAKE DELTON Chip seal

Routing helps provide a clean reservoir for long lasting crack sealing. ▶



▶ Slurry seal gives good surface protection and appearance of new road surface.



▶ Infrared patching and rolling provide excellent appearance, a smooth ride, and long lasting patches.



▶ Chip seals provide cost effective preservative treatment. Calibrated equipment and trained crews are required. Pre-coated chips limit dust and give a new asphalt surface appearance.