– Accepting The Risks –
A Contractor’s Perspective on Performance Specs

PWL Specifications

Southeastern States Pavement Conference
Embassy Suites– Charleston, WV
October 25, 2018

Chadley Miller
Quality Control Manager
J. F. Allen Company
Developed in 2 Phases:

- **Phase 1** – Joint Density Spec.
  - Gauge correlation to cores
  - Joint Densities from Gauges

- **Phase 2** – New PWL Special Provision
  - New specification
  - 8 New Material Procedures
PWLS Specs

88 Pages of “NEW” Stuff
PWL Specs

WVDOH

Contractors
PWL Specs

CHANGE IS BAD!!!
Implementation & Follow Through:

- 2012 – 2 Projects – “Shadow Spec”
- 2013 – 9 Projects
- 2014 – 4 Projects
- 2015 – 11 Projects
- 2016 – 13 Projects
- 2017 – 12 Projects
- 2018 – 16 Projects

- 9 – Multilane Projects
- 7 – 2 Lane Projects
Contractor’s Response:

- 65 PWL Projects Awarded
- 7 Different WV Contractors
- 2 Out-Of-State Contractors
- Varying degrees of success
Common Perspective:

- “Make it black and don’t look back.”
- “When it rains, pray it drains.”
Common Perspective:

- “Make it black and don’t look back.”
- “When it rains, pray it drains.”
Contractor’s Perspective:

- Want to get PAID – Focus on the pay factors

  - Field Density + % Asphalt + % –#200
  - Joint Density
  - Thickness
  - Bond Strength
Contractor’s Perspective:

Practice “Best Practices” in the Field

- More attention to milling process
- Proper tack application (Bond Strength)
- Delivery truck management
- Proper paving speed
- More attention to rolling patterns
- Focus on joints – laying enough material
Contractor’s Perspective:

Practice “Best Practices” at the Plant

- More attention to stockpiling
- Proper calibrations & frequent checks
- Monitoring stockpile gradations
- Monitoring RAP
- Balancing plant production rate
- Continuous communication w/ Field
Contractor’s Perspective:

Going above and beyond

- Laying extra width on first pass to be trimmed off before paving second pass
- Targeting higher Asphalt Contents at the plant to aid in field compaction
- Laying 1/8”– 1/4” extra thickness
- Experimenting with different tack materials / application rates
Contractor’s Perspective:

- Consistency
- Consistency
- Consistency
PWL Specs

Performance Management

NO EXCUSES!

GIMME SOME GREAT PERFORMANCE!

WVDOT
Accepting The Risks:

- End Results dictate pay on placed Asphalt

Primary Pay Factor

(50%) Field Density + (25%) % AC + (25%) % -#200
PWLS Specs

Pay Factor v/s Field Density/ %AC/ % -#200 PWL

95< PWL = 2% Bonus

PWL = 90 - 95
100% Pay

PWL = 55 to 89
65% - 99.5% Pay

PWL < 55
"Special Review"
Max Pay 50%
Accepting The Risks:

- End Results dictate pay on placed Asphalt
- Secondary Price Adjustments
- Joint Density
PWL Specs

Incentive - Disincentive v/s Joint Density PWL

80 < PWL = Up to $0.40/Linear Ft. Bonus

PWL < 60
Up to $1.25/Linear Ft Penalty

PWL = 60 to 80
100% Pay
Accepting The Risks:

- End Results dictate pay on placed Asphalt

Secondary Price Adjustments

- Joint Density
- Thickness
Thickness Penalty = Offset Ratio of Actual to Planned Thickness applied to Unit Bid Price
1" deficit = 96% Penalty

No Opportunity for Bonus
Accepting The Risks:

- End Results dictate pay on placed Asphalt
- Secondary Price Adjustments
  - Joint Density
  - Thickness
  - Bond Strength
PWLS Specs

Incentive - Disincentive v/s Bond Strength PWL

PWL < 70
Up to $40,000 Penalty

PWL = 70 to 90
100% Pay

90 < PWL = Up to $2,000 Bonus
Contractor’s Perspective:

Things to Come:

- 2018 – First year for PWL on 2 Lane Roads
- 2019 – Bond Strength Penalty enforced
- ??? – PavelR – Temp segregation Spec
Summary – Contractor’s Perspective:

Good Things:

- Attention to Detail / Consistency
- Practices carry over to other jobs
- Forces more Company-Wide Communication
➢ **Summary – Contractor’s Perspective:**

➢ **Not–So–Good Things:**

➢ **Our Risk v/s Reward needs balanced**

➢ **Field variables hard to compensate for**
  ➢ Existing Subsurface Conditions
  ➢ Composite Pavements
  ➢ 2 Lane Roads
Summary – Contractor’s Perspective:

Best Things:

- From the original development, the Agency has worked with Contractors and have at least listened to our concerns / ideas.
- When situations arise in the field, we can generally discuss the issue immediately.
Questions ???

50 SHADES
OF GREY

Disclaimer: Photos used within this presentation are for illustrative purposes only, any references to individuals or specific products are unintentional and coincidental. (CDM)