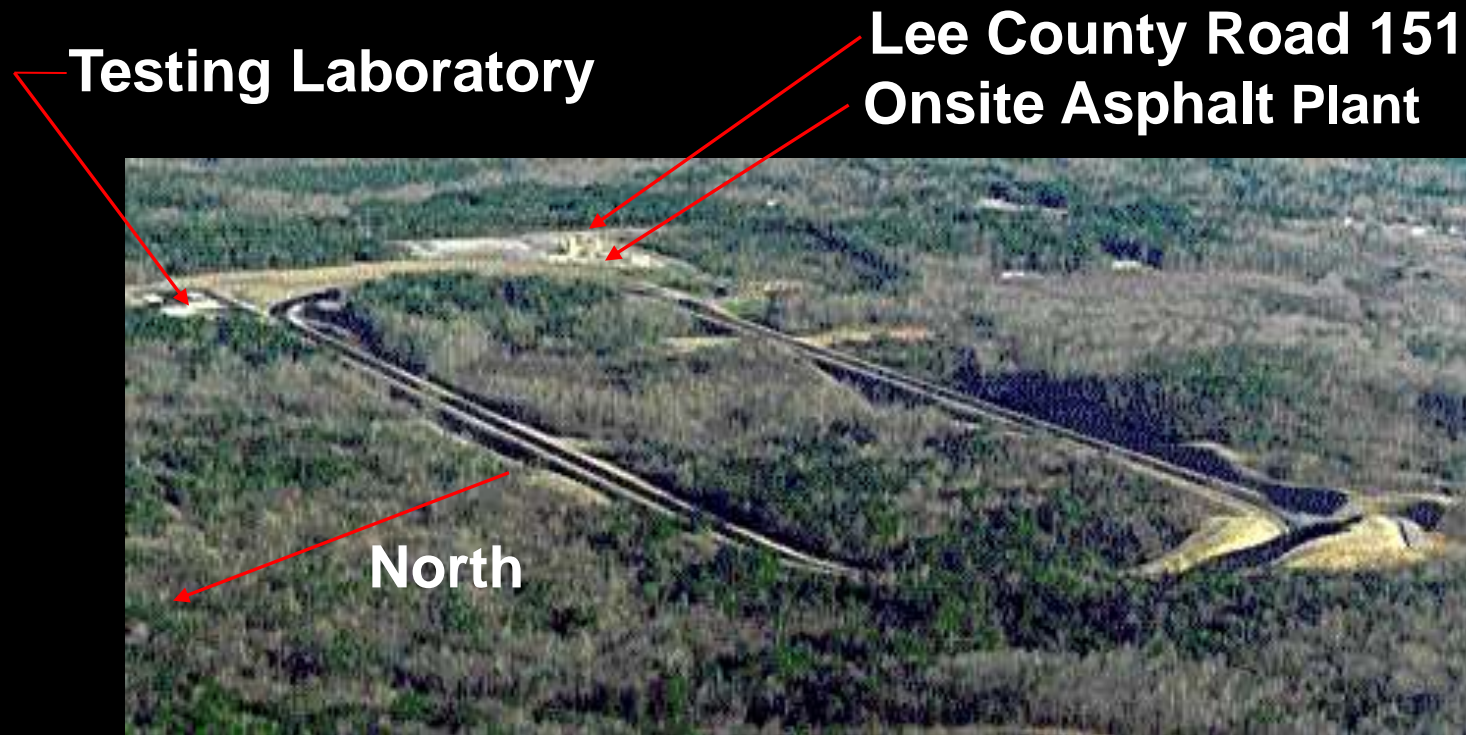


**National Center for Asphalt Technology**  
**1600 Lee Road 151**  
**Opelika, AL 36804**  
**(334) 844-6228**

# Nation Center for Asphalt Technology

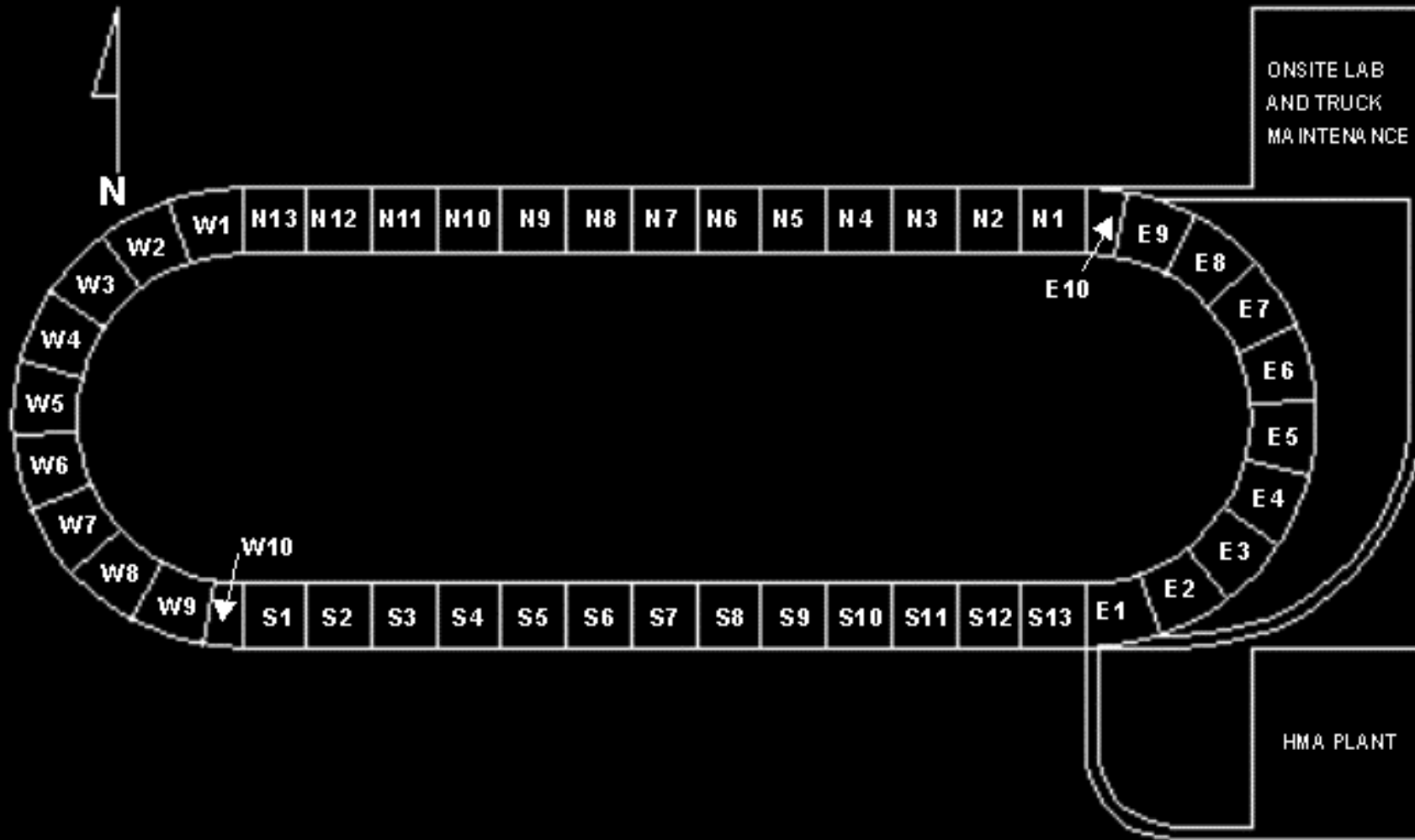
- Established by 1986 NAPA-AU Joint Agreement
- Financial Endowment “Seed” from Contractors, Suppliers, & Equipment Manufacturers via NAPA-REF
- Facilities and Faculty from Auburn University
- “Improve the Performance of HMA Pavements via Practical Research, Education, and Information Services”
- Broke Ground at Test Track in September of 1998...

# PROJECT OVERVIEW

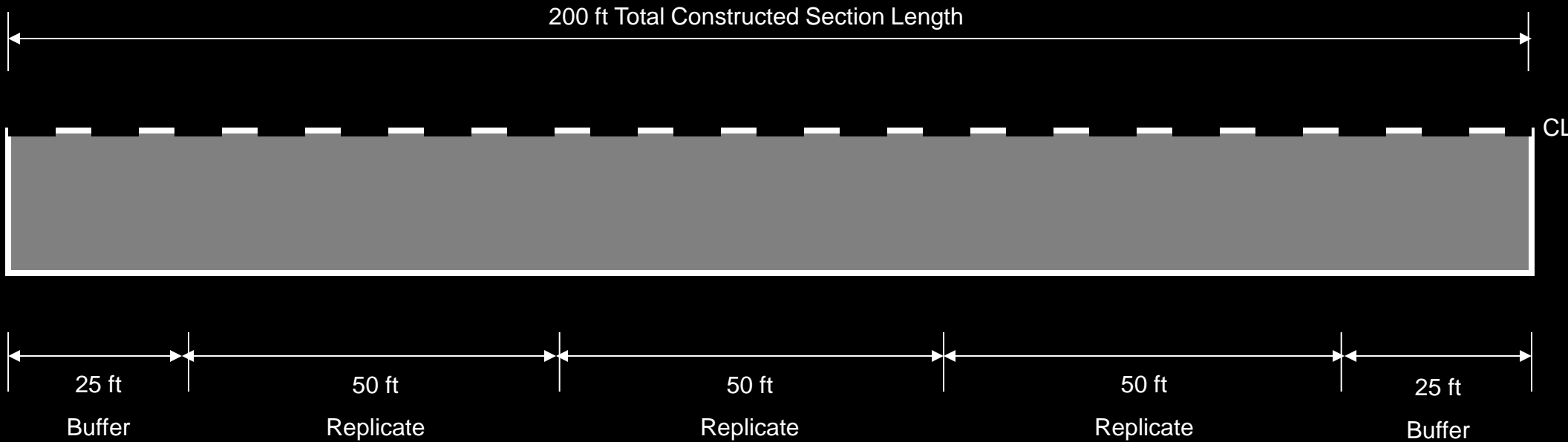


- Materials and Methods (Not Thickness) are Study Variables
- Determine Which Mixes Perform Better Under Actual Traffic
- Identify Laboratory Tests That Best Indicate Field Performance

# SECTION LAYOUT



# RESEARCH TEMPLATE





# CONSTRUCTION (April – July, 2000)



# QUALITY CONTROL SAMPLING





# PAVING EXPERIMENTAL MIXES - April 2000





# DENSITY TESTING



# TRUCKING OPERATIONS

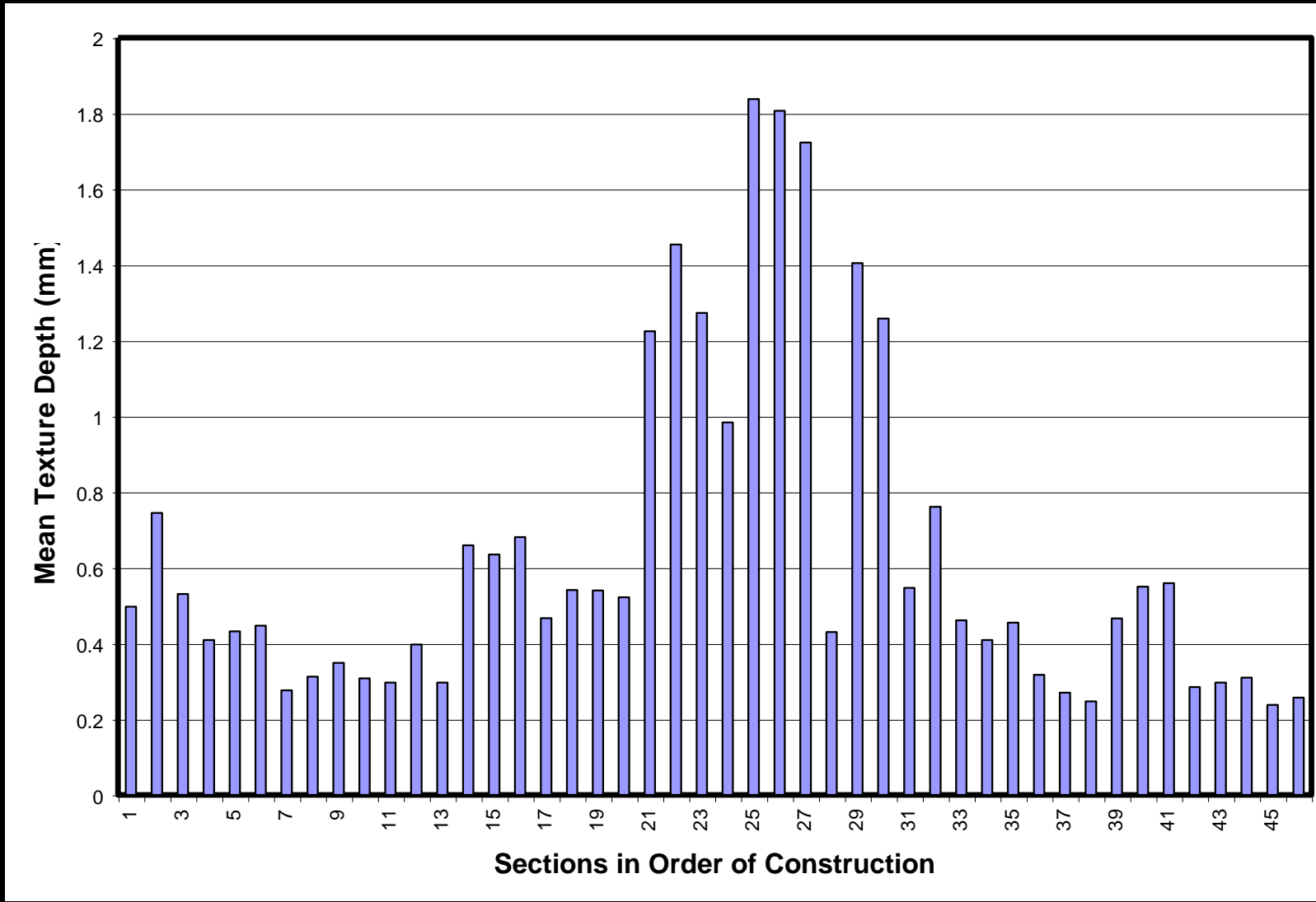


- 4 Trucks Currently Run 17 Hours a Day (2800 Miles, 1600 Laps)
- Truck ESAL's Logged Continuously via VIS, Mileage Log, & Tubes
- No Trucking on Monday for Data Collection & Vehicle Maintenance
- On Schedule to Apply 10 Million ESAL's (1.6 million Miles) by Nov 2002

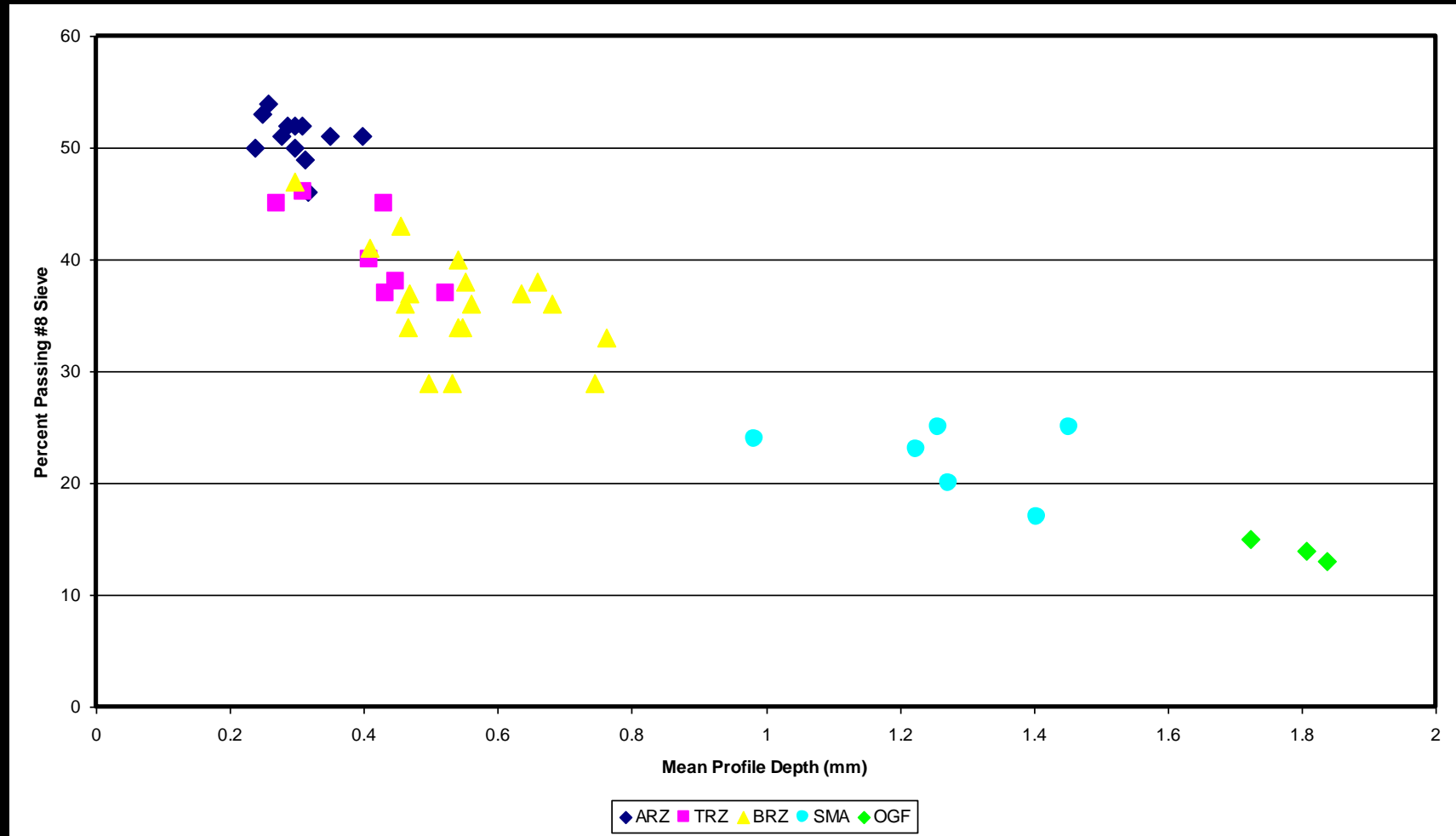
# FIELD PERFORMANCE



# TEXTURE DISTRIBUTION



# SURFACE TEXTURE







- **Coarse Superpave Mix**

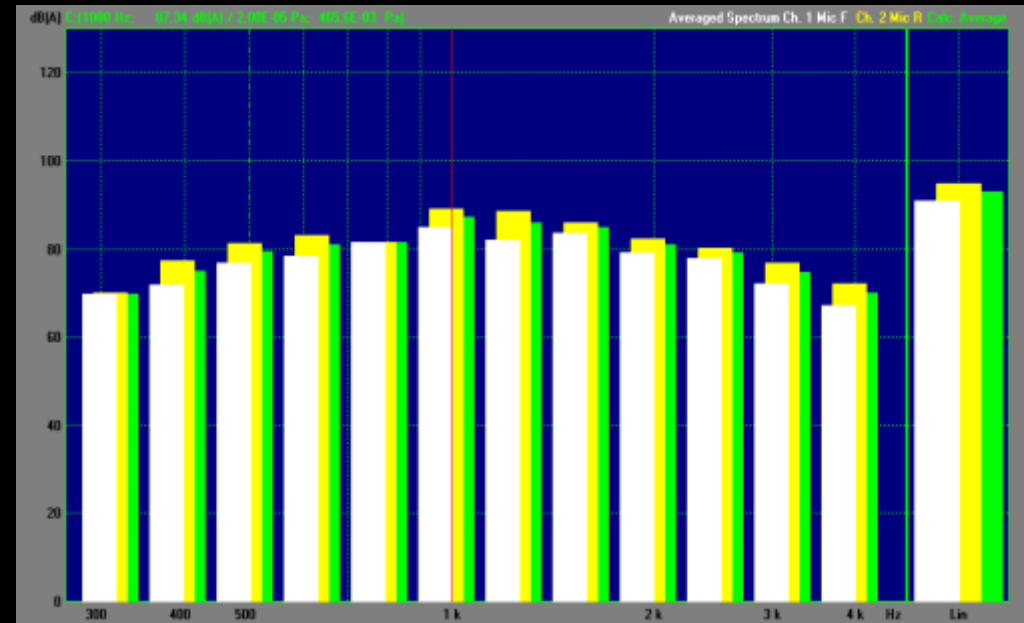


- **Stone Matrix Asphalt Mix**

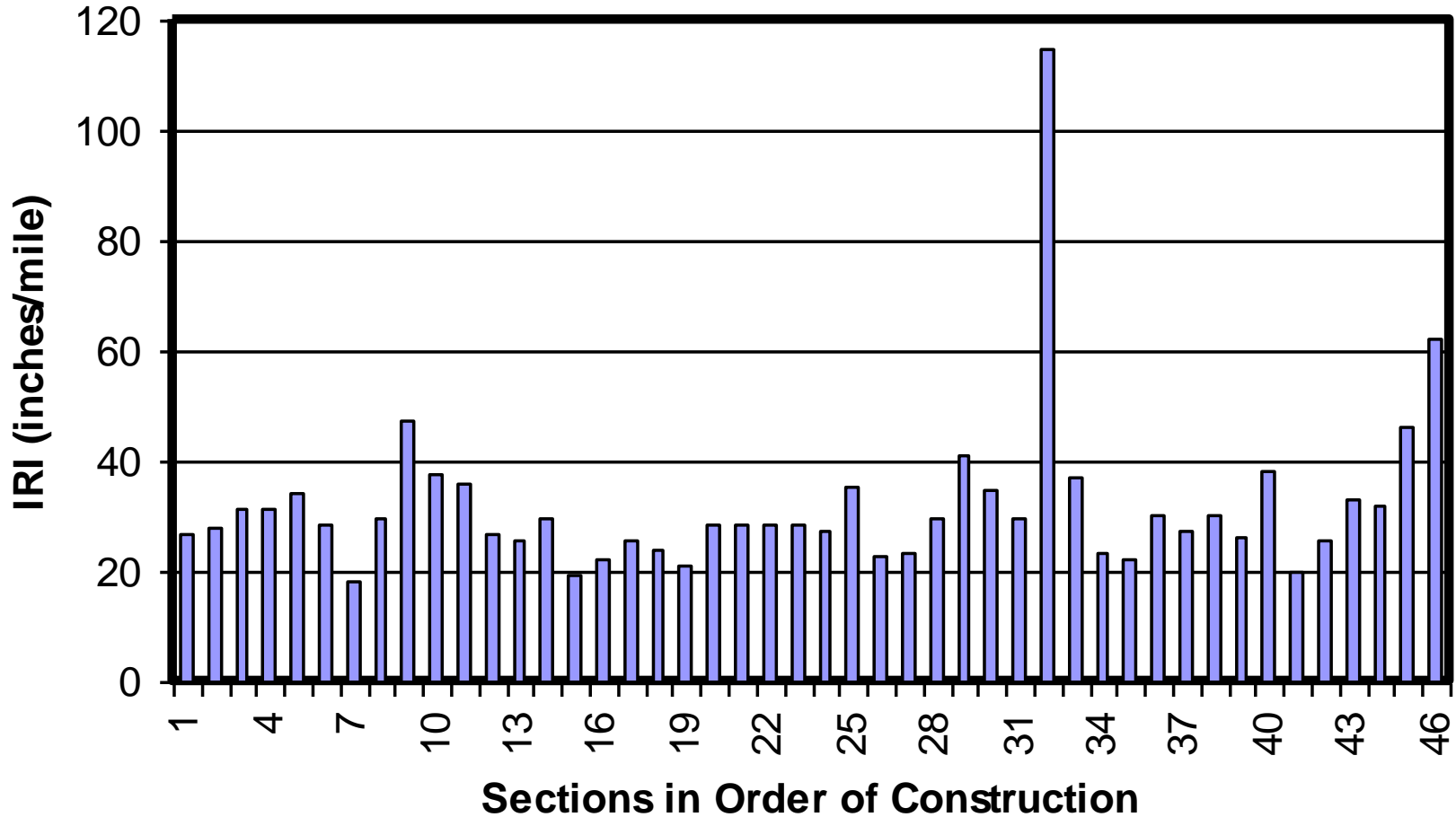


- **Open Graded Friction Course**

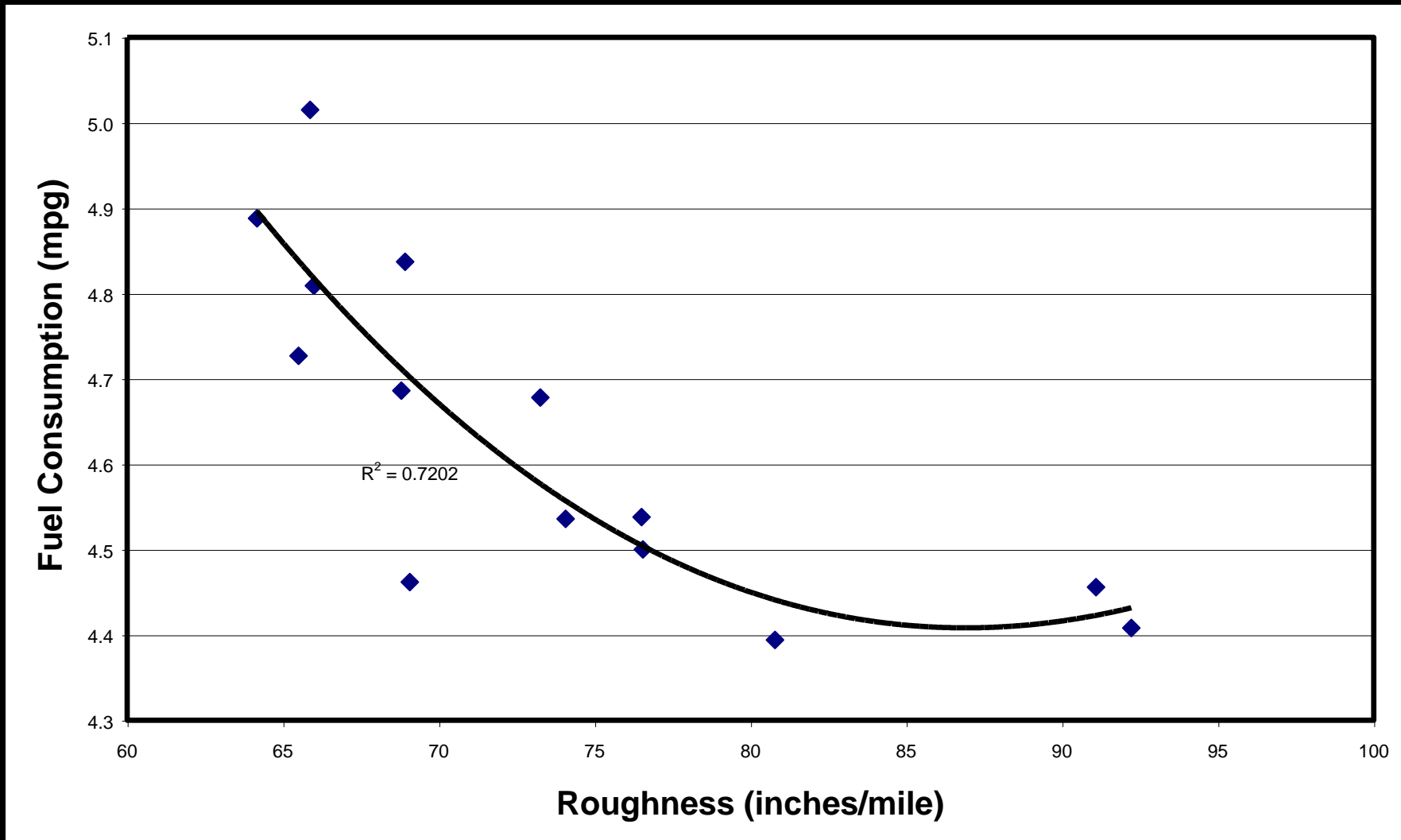
# TIRE NOISE



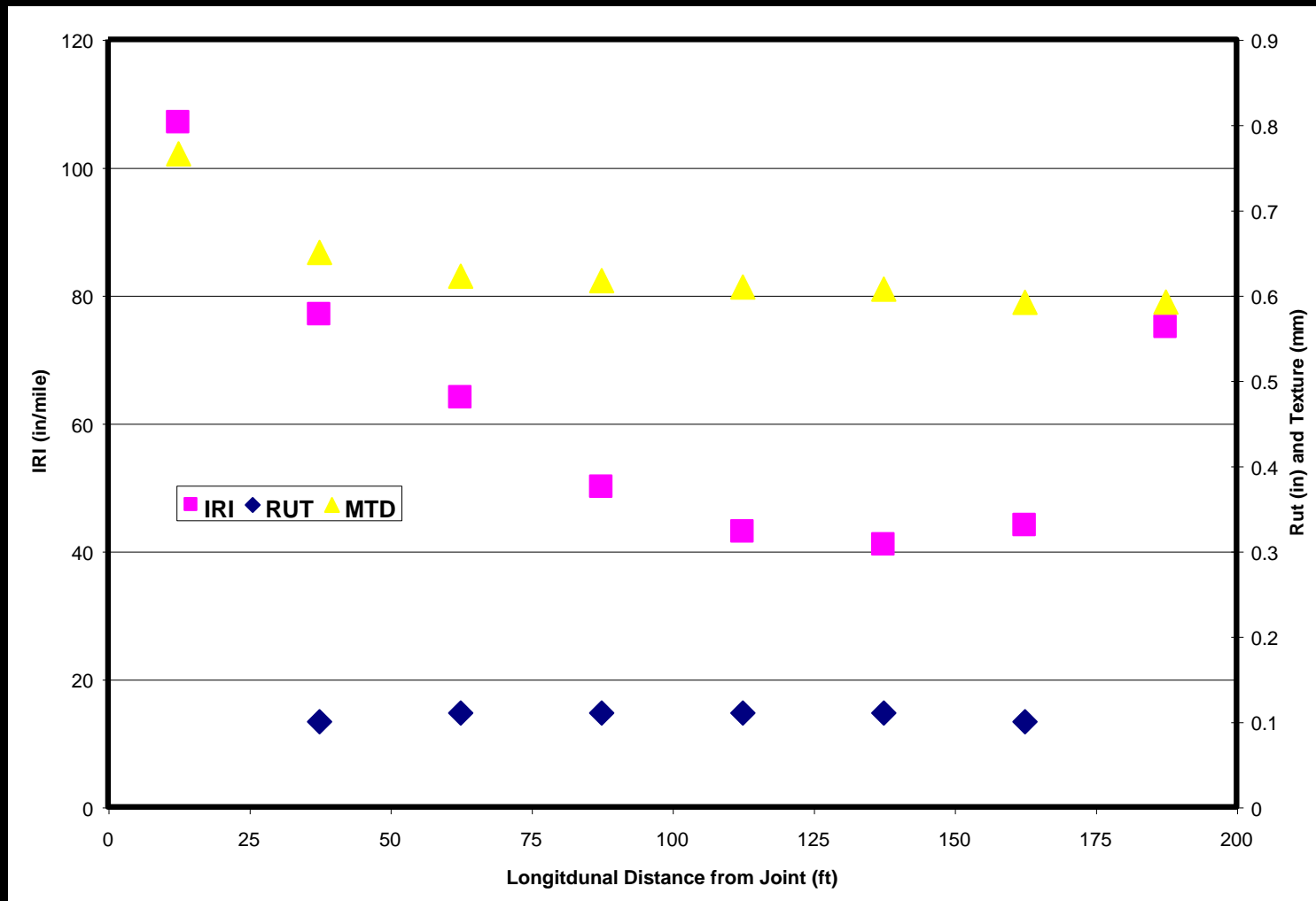
# ROUGHNESS DISTRIBUTION



# EFFECT OF ROUGHNESS ON FUEL ECONOMY



# ARAN GENERATED DATA

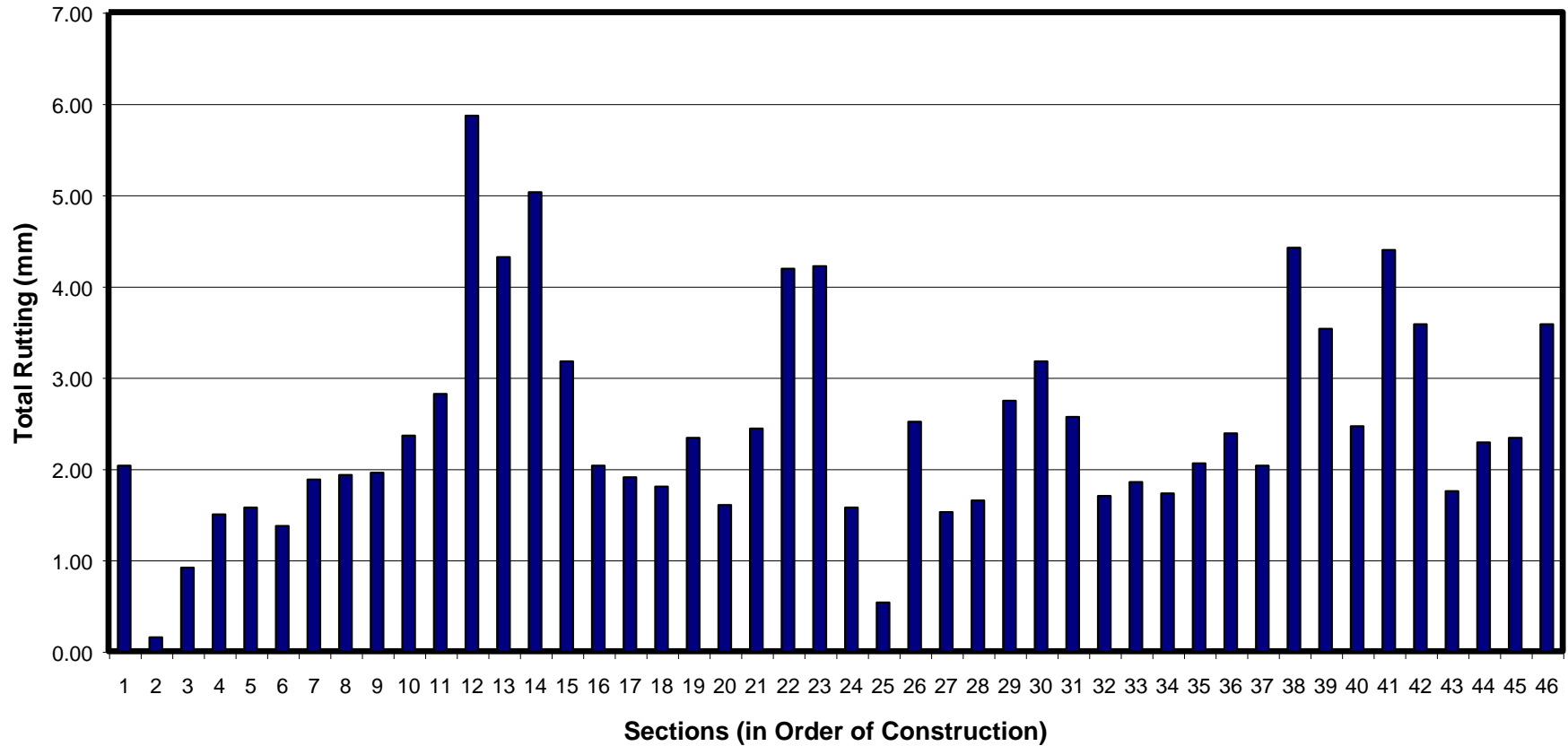




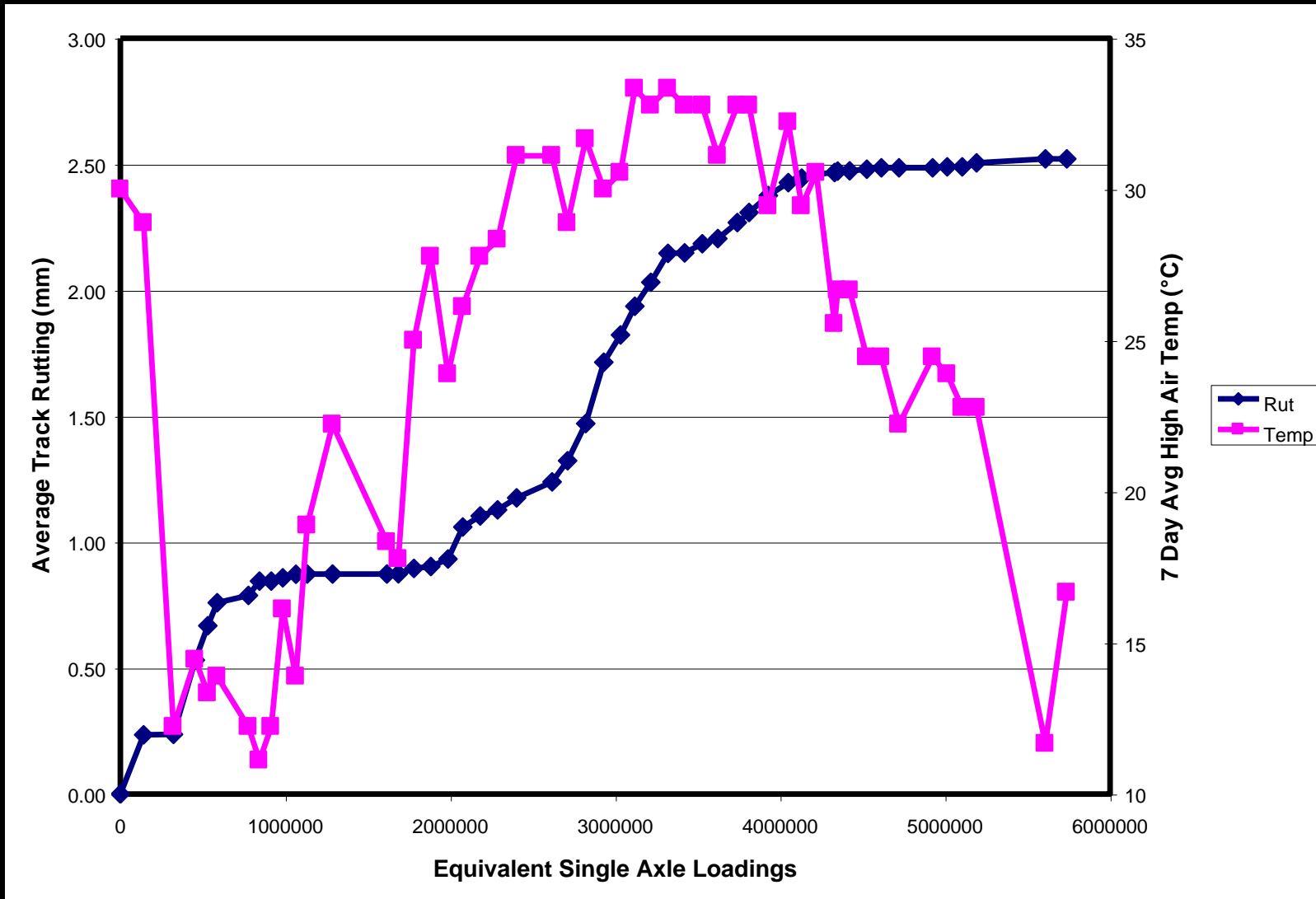
# RUTTING DISTRIBUTION

## Total Rutting in Each Section

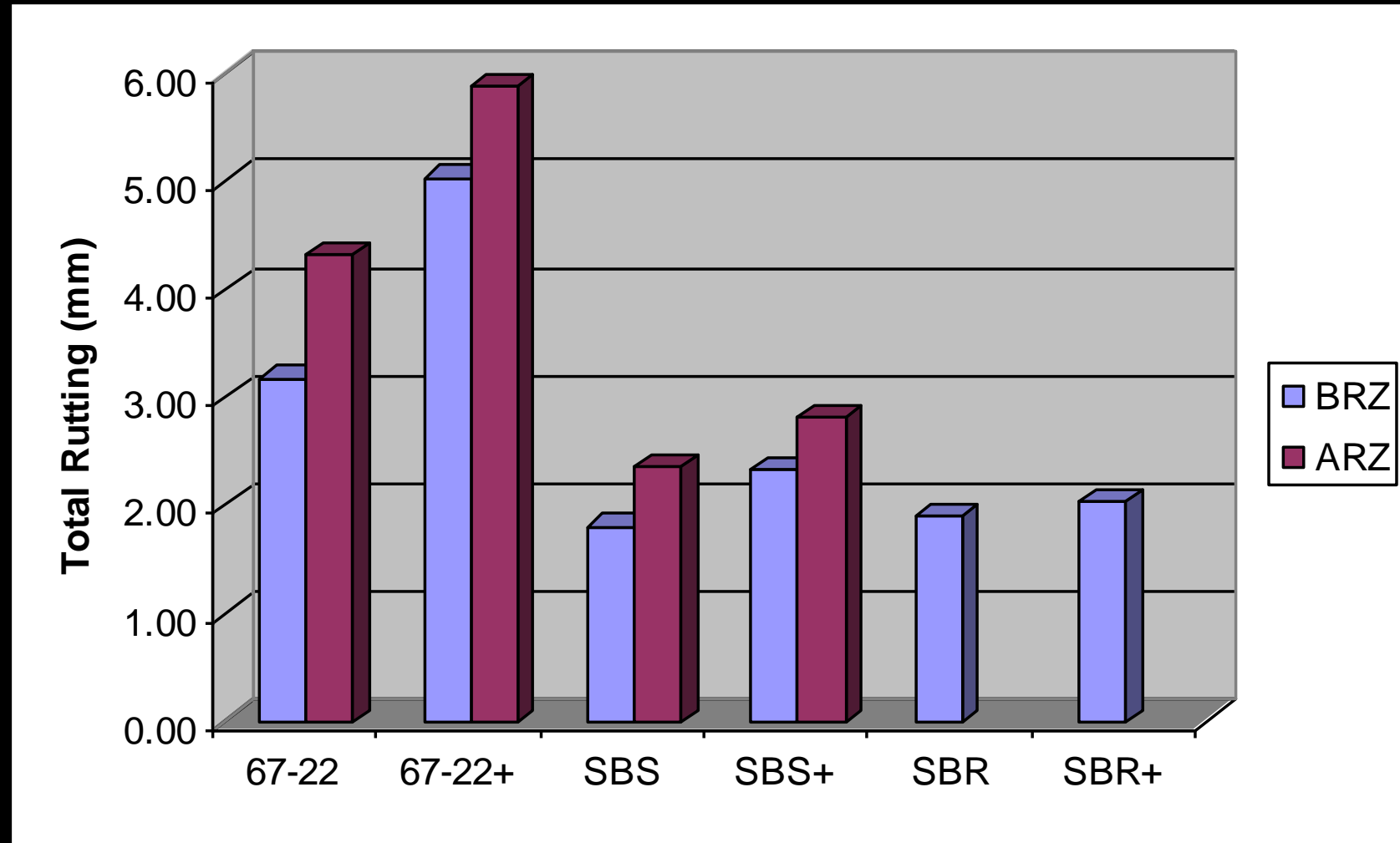
(Numbered Counterclockwise where 1=E2, 10=N1, 23=W1, 33=S1, 46=E1)



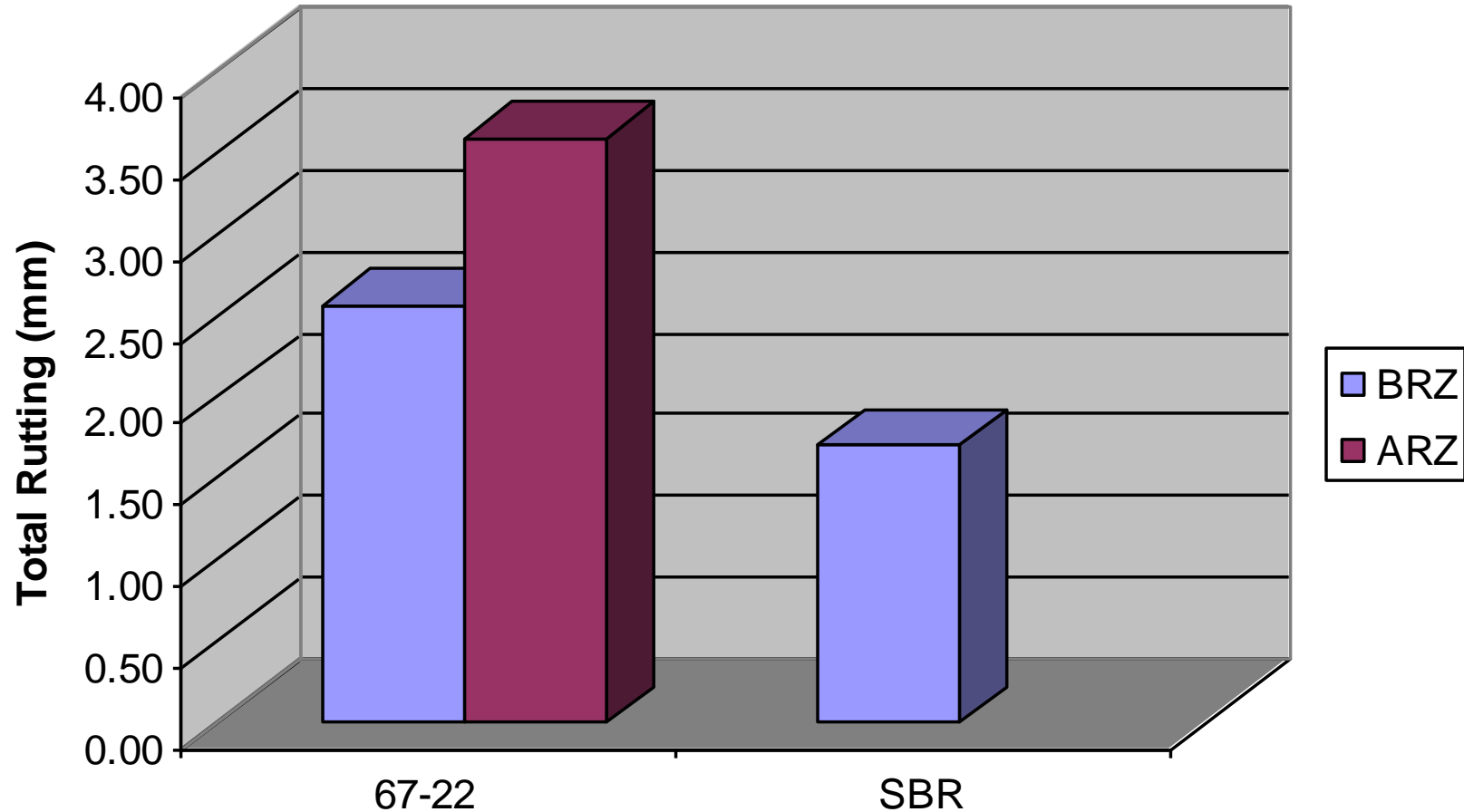
# AVG RUTTING OVER TIME



# NORTH TANGENT SLAG/LMS

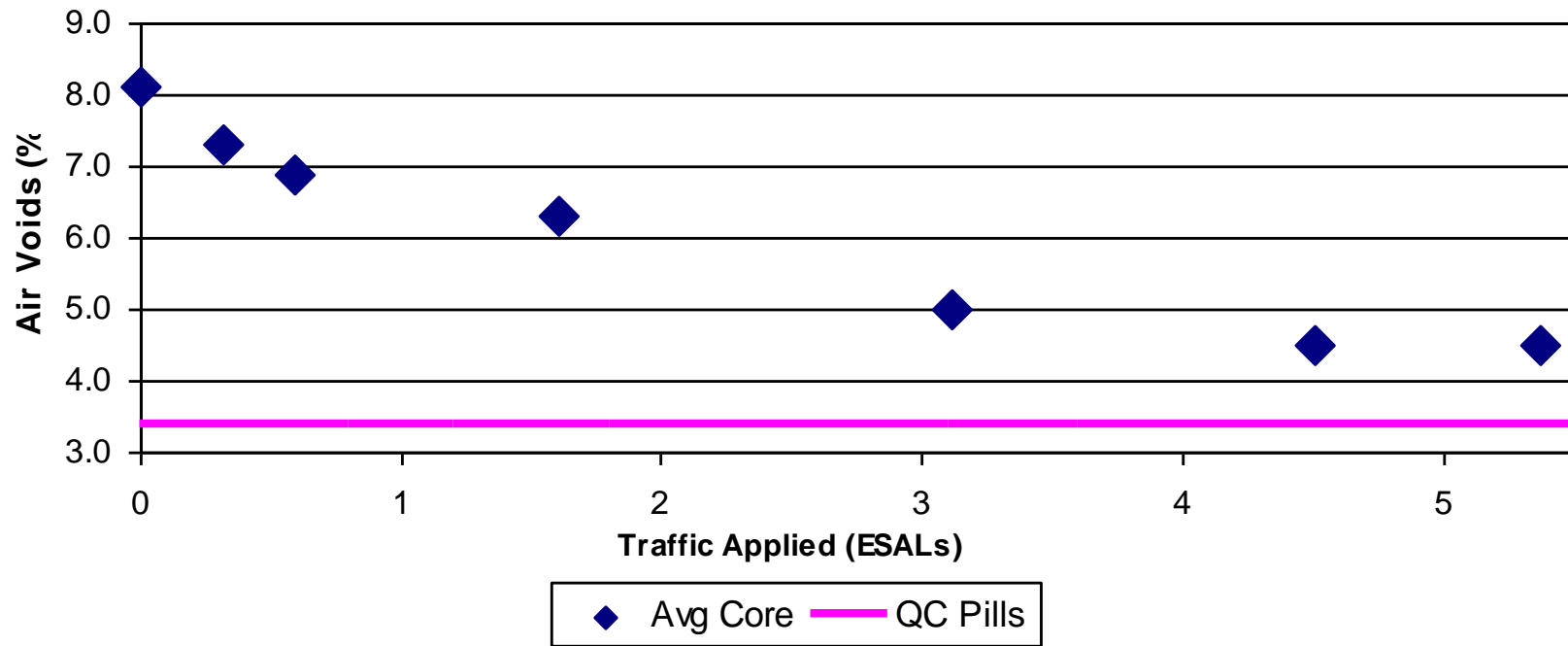


# CURVE GRAVEL STUDY



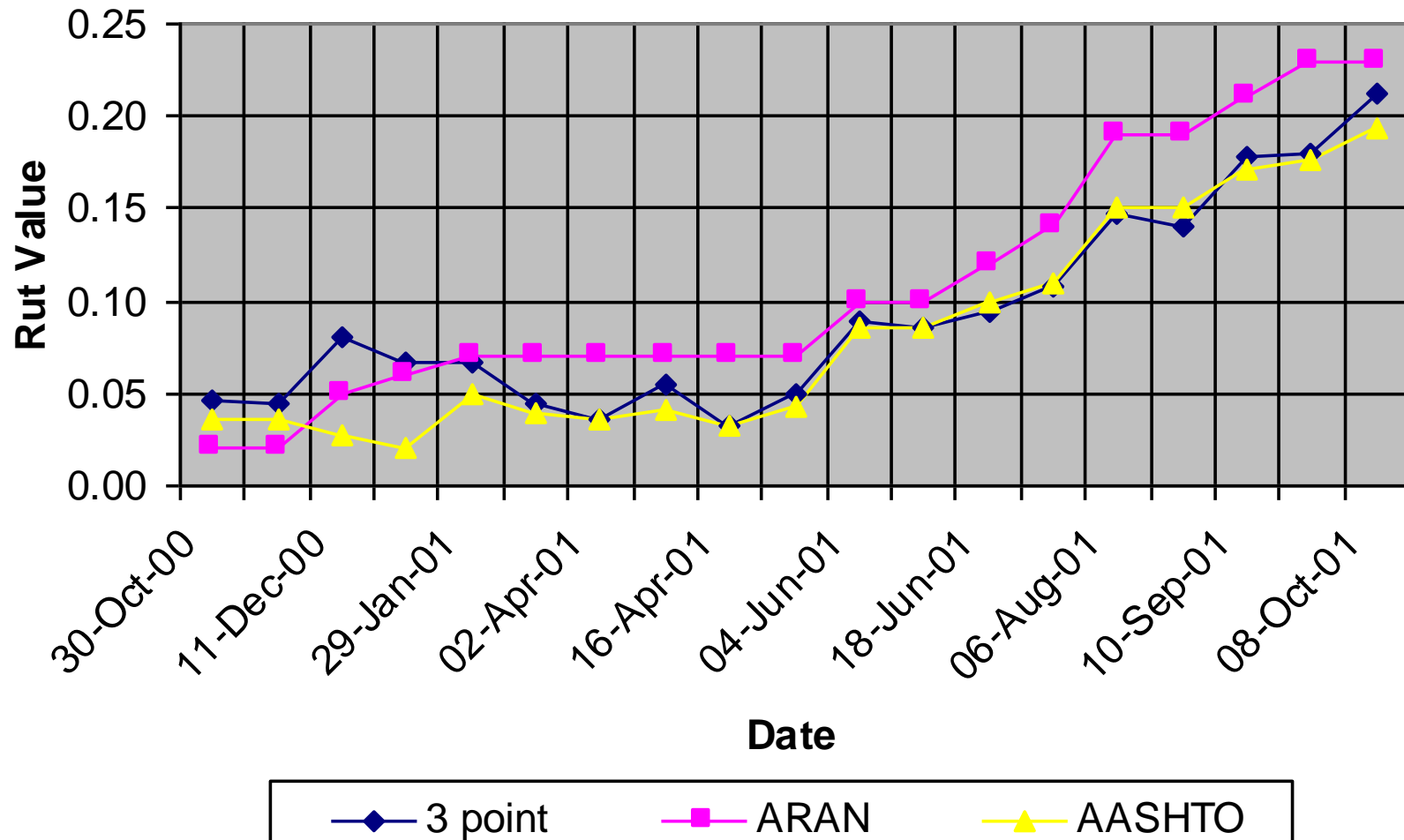
# MAT DENSIFICATION

## CORES FROM LAST 25 FT EACH SECTION

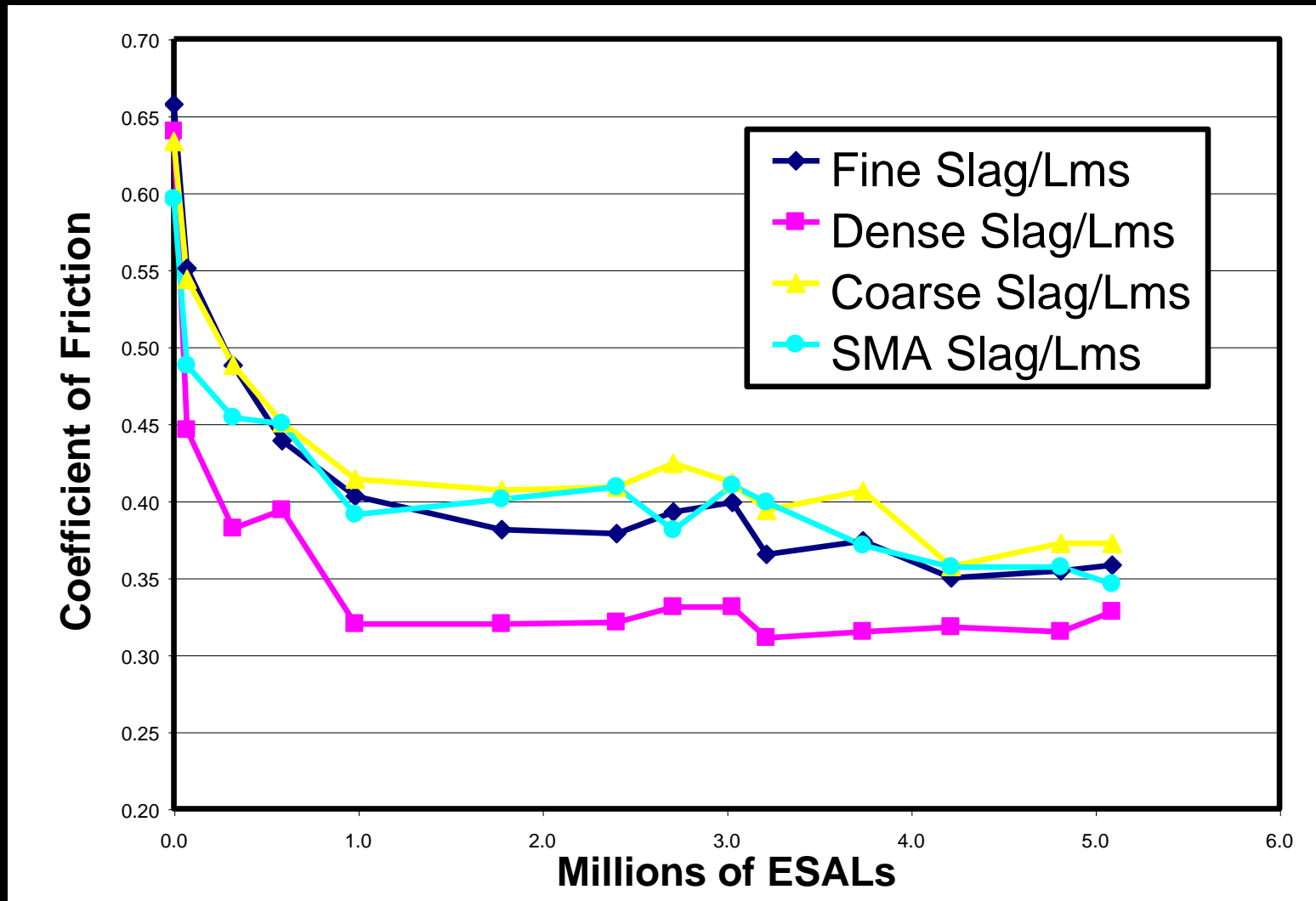




# AASHTO RUTDEPTH IMPLEMENTATION



# SURFACE FRICTION vs MIX TYPE



# SUPPLEMENTAL RESEARCH



# PRELIMINARY FIELD RESULTS

- Temperatures in Summer 2001 were Very Mild, but...
- “Coarse” Superpave Mixes have Rutted About 20% Less than “Fine” Superpave Mixes
- Modified Binders have Rutted About 40% Less than Unmodified Binders
- Average Field Voids (Originally 6.4%) Will Equal Average Lab Voids (3.4% @  $N_{des}$ ) in the Second Half of the Service Life of Experimental Mixes

# LAB PERFORMANCE

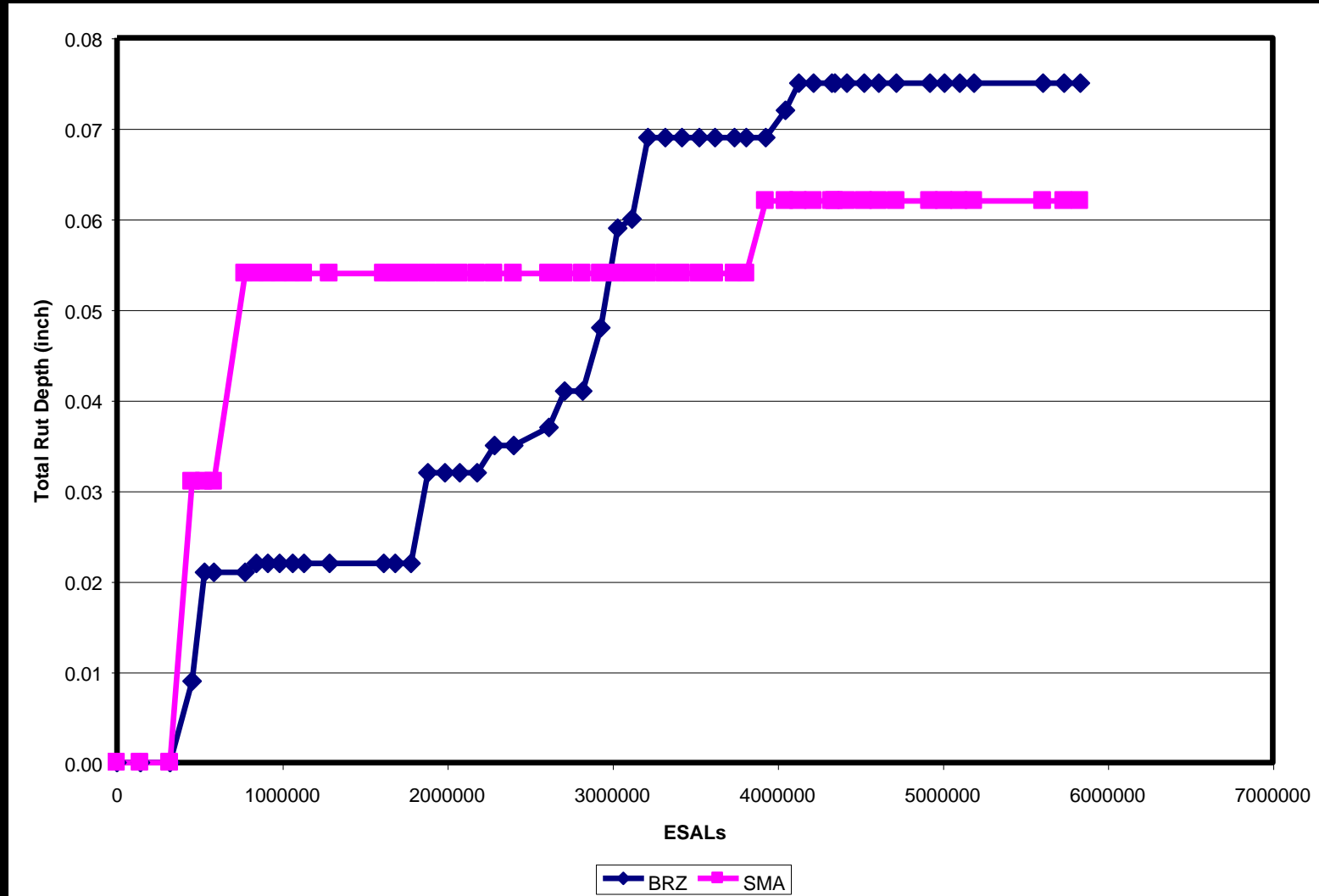
- Utilizes Specimens Made During Construction
- Target QC Air Voids Without Cutting or Coring
- What Test Can Predict Rutting Using QC-Type Pills ?



# LAB vs PRELIMINARY FIELD

| TEST METHOD      | Super Slg/Lms  | SMA Slg/Lms    |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Surface Friction | 0.38           | 0.34           |
| Field Roughness  | 23 inches/mile | 24 inches/mile |
| Field Rutting    | 1.91 mm        | 1.57 mm        |
| APA              | 1.51 mm        | 2.43 mm        |
| Hamburg          | 2.50 mm        | 4.85 mm        |
| Rotary           | 1.43 mm        | 1.68 mm        |
| SGC Shear        | 0.71 GSR       | 0.57 GSR       |
| COE Shear        | 0.97 GSI       | 1.03 GSI       |

# SUPERPAVE vs SMA





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**Driving Conditions as of**  
 7:06 AM CDT  
 Fair  
 64°F  
 SE 3 MPH  
[www.weatherforyou.com](http://www.weatherforyou.com)

**4,448,301** ESALs as of 2400 hours on October 10h, 2001 (44% of the 10,000,000 ESAL goal).

**RUTTING** now ranges from 0.15 mm to 5.87 mm, with an overall average of 2.47 mm.

  
**GOD BLESS AMERICA !**



Track Live Feed Fri Oct12 07:00 2001

**Recent Aerial Photograph of the 309 Acre Site** [Track Cam \(Click to Stream!\)](#)

**WELCOME** to the home page for the [NCAT](#) Pavement Test Track. The primary objective of this site is to successfully communicate our experiences to the world as we strive to assist governmental agencies nationwide in streamlining the practical application of research designed to extend the life of flexible pavements. We appreciate your feedback.

**SPONSOR MEETING INFORMATION** - This cooperatively funded research project provides for 2 onsite meetings each year as a benefit of sponsorship. The purpose of these meetings is to insure that research efforts are meeting sponsors' expectations. During the last onsite meeting (on June 11th and 12th), sponsor representatives decided to next meet some time in November or December. This timeframe is intended to

# WEB PRESENTATION

## CONSTRUCTION

| Laboratory Data                                  |               | Construction Data                            |                           |
|--|---------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>General Description of Mix and Materials</u>  |               | <u>Relevant Conditions for Construction</u>  |                           |
| Design Method:                                   | Superpave     | Completion Date:                             | Wednesday, April 26, 2000 |
| Compactive Effort:                               | 100 gyrations | 24 Hour High Temperature (F):                | 85                        |
| Binder Performance Grade:                        | 67-22         | 24 Hour Low Temperature (F):                 | 35                        |
| Modifier Type:                                   | NA            | 24 Hour Rainfall (in):                       | 0.00                      |
| Aggregate Type:                                  | Low/Slag      | LR Type:                                     | Asst                      |
| Gradation Type:                                  | AR2           | Design Thickness of Test Mix (in):           | 4.0                       |
| <u>Avg. Lab Properties of Plant Produced Mix</u> |               | <u>Plant Gradation and Placement Details</u> |                           |
| Sieve Size:                                      | % Passing     | Gravimetric:                                 | % Retain                  |
| 1"   | 100           | Liquid Binder Setting:                       | 7.6%                      |
| 3/4"   | 100           | Slag:  | 33.0%                     |
| 1/2"   | 99            | Slag:  | 89.0                      |
| 3/8"   | 91            | Aggregate:                                   | Manufactured Sand: 40.0%  |
| No. 4  | 88            |  |                           |
| No. 8  | 91            |  |                           |
| No. 15   | 33            |  |                           |
| No. 30   | 22            |  |                           |
| No. 60   | 15            |  |                           |
| No. 100  | 13            | Approximate Length (ft):                     | 200                       |
| No. 200  | 6.0           | Surveyed Thickness of Section (in):          | 4.2                       |
|  |               | Std Dev of Section Thickness (in):           | 0.1                       |
| Asphalt Binder Content:                          | 7.6%          | Type of Top Coat Utilized:                   | COB-1b                    |
| Compacted Pile Bulk Density:                     | 2.284         | Target Tank Application Rate:                | 0.03 (gal / sq)           |
| Theoretical Maximum Density:                     | 2.388         | Avg Mat Temperature Before Pave (F):         | 288                       |
| Computed Air Voids:                              | 3.2%          | Average Section Compaction:                  | 94.1%                     |

**General Notes:**

- 1) Mass air void chromography in place of completion date (i.e., construction began with E2 and ended with 0.5).
- 2) Sections are referenced by quadrant and sequence number, where "T2" refers to section 2 of the east quadrant.
- 3) Note: All test indicates that the lower and upper lifts were constructed with the same experimental mix.
- 4) The total thickness of all experimental sections is 8 inches by design, with the exception of 98, 99, 910, 311.
- 5) AR2, TH2, and BSU refer to gradations intended to pave above, through, and below the embedded stone.
- 6) SMA and OSG refer to stone matrix asphalt and open-graded friction course, respectively.

## INFORMATION

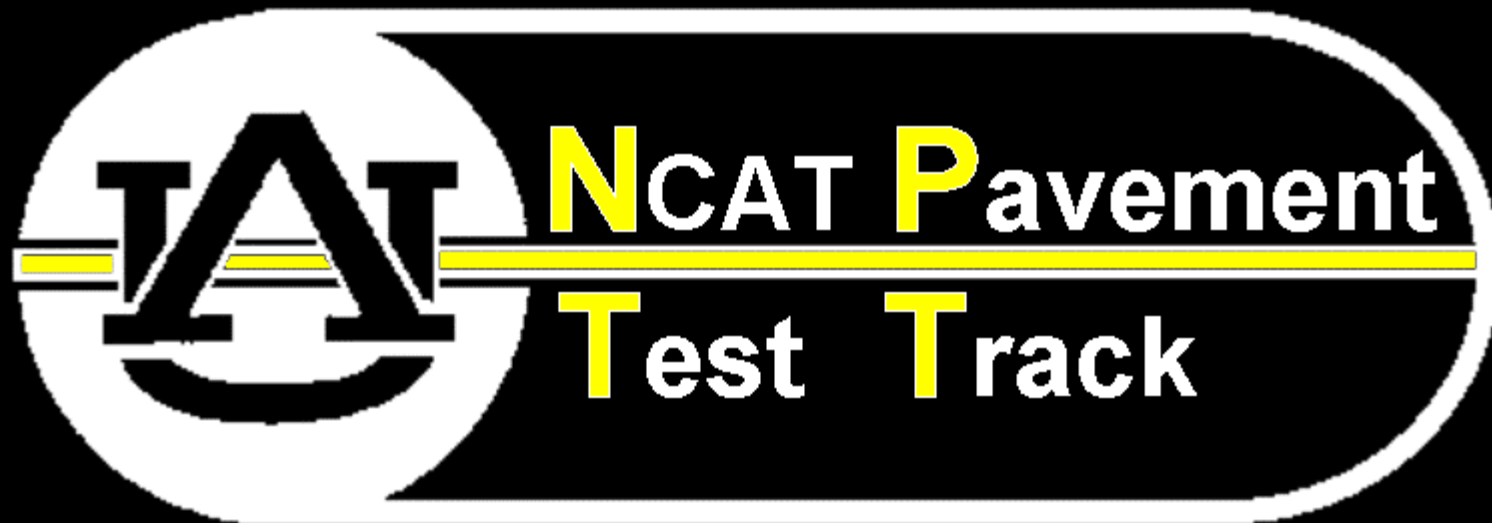


## PERFORMANCE

| SECTION N3                                       |               |
|--|---------------|
| <u>Laboratory Performance</u>                    |               |
| <u>General Description of Mix and Materials</u>  |               |
| Design Method:                                   | Superpave     |
| Compactive Effort:                               | 100 gyrations |
| Binder Performance Grade:                        | 67-22         |
| Modifier Type:                                   | NA            |
| Laboratory Determined Asphalt Content:           | 7.6%          |
| General Aggregate Type:                          | Lms/Slag      |
| Approximate Gradation Type:                      | AR2           |
| <u>Avg. Lab Properties of Plant Produced Mix</u> |               |
| SST Repeated Load Perm. Strain (microns):        | NA            |
| Unconfined Creep Perm. Strain:                   | NA            |
| Confined Creep Perm. Strain:                     | NA            |
| Unconfined Dynamic Perm. Strain:                 | NA            |
| Confined Dynamic Perm. Strain:                   | NA            |
| Dynamic Modulus:                                 | NA            |
| COE Gyrotory Shear Index:                        | NA            |
| SGC Shear Ratio:                                 | NA            |
| Asphalt Pavement Analyzer (mm):                  | 3.27          |
| Hamburg Loaded Wheel Tester (mm):                | NA            |
| Rotary Loaded Wheel Tester (mm):                 | NA            |
| Purwheel Loaded Wheel Tester (mm):               | NA            |
| <u>Roadway Performance (10/10/01)</u>            |               |
| <u>Relevant Field Conditions</u>                 |               |
| Total Traffic Applied (ESAL's):                  | 4,448,301     |
| Compactive Effort:                               | 80            |
| Avg 7 Day High Air Temp (F):                     | NA            |
| Avg Surface Temp in Past Week:                   | NA            |
| Avg Surface Temp in 2001:                        | NA            |
| Highest Surface Temp in 2001:                    | NA            |
| <u>Roadway Performance Properties</u>            |               |
| Rutting via ARAN 3 Point Approx. (in):           | 0.231         |
| Rutting via Transverse Profile (in):             | NA            |
| Approximate Frn:                                 | 0.343         |
| Average IRI:                                     | 25.84         |
| MTD in inches:                                   | 0.010         |

**General Notes:**

- 1) Test specimens were compacted to 7 +/- 1% air voids for tensile strength ratio (TSR) testing.
- 2) Test specimens were compacted to avg OC +/- 1% air voids for SST, creep, APA, and assorted LWT testing.
- 3) The vast majority of piles used as research test specimens were compacted during construction.
- 4) When an insufficient quantity of construction compacted piles met target air voids, reworked mix was used.
- 5) All suitable piles were randomly assigned to test protocols in a manner to achieve equal avg and std dev in VTM.
- 6) All test protocols utilized sample sets consisting of 3 replicates per test (e.g., APA result is avg of 3 piles).
- 7) Loaded wheel testing consisted of 6000 cycles in the dry state with samples conditioned at 147.2 F long enough to insure a uniform temperature throughout the specimen but in no case longer than 24 hours.
- 8) APA testing utilized 1 inch OD hose, 120 psi pressure, 120 lb load, cylindrical specimens, manual depths.
- 9) Gyrotory shear testing was conducted at mat compaction temperatures based upon construction measurements.



**2003**

- **Traffic Only (Rutting & Top Down Cracking)**
- **Mill and Inlay (Another Rutting Comparison)**
- **Structural (2002 Design Guide Validation)**