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To:
Danial Coleman
Blacktop Tarmac Enhancer
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Blacktop Tarmac Enhancer - Performance Assessment

Outline

RMV Quality Assurance was asked by Danial Coleman to carry out a performance assessment on their "Blacktop Tarmac Enhancer" product. Produced at their Stewartstown premises, this bespoke product is intended to prevent the rusting of surfacing roller drums and create a high shine finish to freshly laid bituminous surfaces.

The brief given to RMV Quality Assurance was to assess a laboratory trial using this product on a range of samples to determine if it had any adverse effects on bituminous mixes.

Assessment

As this was a bespoke water-based product, there was no specific standard to test it against.

It was agreed with the client to carry out a “soaking test” similar to that used in the European Standard *BS EN 12697-41 bituminous mixtures. Test methods for hot mix asphalt. Resistance to de-icing fluids*. Whereby bituminous specimens are immersed in various fluids for 110 days and their performance assessed on a “before and after” basis.

On the 15th February 2017, a bituminous mixture AC 10 close surf 160/220 (standard bitmac) was produced by and compacted into three cylindrical moulds in accordance with *BS EN 12697-30 Specimen Preparation by impact compactor*.

The moulded specimens were then immersed in three separate fluids:

1. Tarmac Blacktop Enhancer (diluted with water 1:100 as intended for use)
2. Tarmac Blacktop Enhancer (100% undiluted)
3. Distilled Water

The specimens were maintained for 110 days at a constant temperature of 15°C.

On removal of the liquids, all three specimens remained intact and showed no signs of sensitivity to either fluid. The fluids showed no signs of discolouring and had no solid particles within.

The three specimens were then subjected to surface abrasion using a wire bristled brush for 30 seconds and again showed no sign of sensitivity or stripping.

Conclusion

From carrying out this product assessment and witnessing the specimens before and after immersion in not only the products intended state, but also its undiluted state, RMV Quality Assurance concludes that the Blacktop Tarmac Enhancer product has no detrimental effect on bituminous mixtures.



**For RMV Quality Assurance
Raymond McVerry MIAT**