



Snippets from the ASCP Forum pm on Monday 8 September 2008.

- 1 ASPC had arranged an excellent array of presentations covering feedback from the ISCP Conference in San Francisco, 3 x presentations on paving equipment, diamond grooving, milling and grinding, 4 x concrete batch plants and continuous mixers and mixing plant instrumentation + a lot of panel discussion. Presenters came also from Germany, Singapore and Thailand.
- 2 There was an attendance of about 80. Abundant nibbles and refreshments afterwards. Excellent networking. All contractors were well represented. Leighton even had people from HHNA. RTA and ex RTA had a strong representation. We managed 3 non-operational people – Paul Wallbridge, Graham Harris and myself. We seem to have the syndrome that we are so smart that we do not need to keep up with the latest. Anyhow, the following were of interest to me;
- 3 GOMACO have developed a self propelled GSI (Gomaco Smoothness Indicator) that can follow the paver and measure smoothness of the wet concrete or next day on the set concrete. Up to 4 lanes at once. Gives identical readings to the California profilograph.
- 4 COMACO have also a canal slope slipform paver with adjustable slope height and angle on the run.
- 5 Twin shaft continuous mixers are the way in Europe if outputs over 250 m³/h are required.
- 6 Truck or trailer mounted volumetric batch mixer. Suitable for, say, slab replacement in the "bush".
- 7 Bobcat attachment for small quantities concrete mixer.
- 8 Wirtgen – Offset pavers, eg for drains clear from the edge of the pavement.
- 9 Wirtgen pavers operate with 10 – 15 mm slump. Hence they probably need the super smoothers to close up the surface. The SS does not work with high slump mixes. All oscillating beams will leave micro ridges even in the best of circumstances.
- 10 PAHM 240 m³/h twin shaft batch mixers can be erected in 2 days
- 11 Transverse tyning (texturing) now regarded as noisiest end product. Longitudinal tyning a lot quieter. New grinders vacuum clean the pavement simultaneously.
- 12 Diamond grinding is the best noise wise. Some Clients ask for diamond grinding of the new pavement as well.
- 13 For concrete spreading in front of the paver, Germans prefer the "plough" as it is easier to shift material from left to right, provides an even height of uncompacted material in front of the paver, easy to adjust for widening or narrowing. More expensive than auger. Auger has more wear and tear and need time for adjustment. Augers generally US system.
- 14 Some German batch plants also incorporate temperature control for the concrete mix.
- 15 RTA have no objections to continuous mixers.
- 16 Global have a new "Rapid Set" cement. 20 MPa in 4 hours?