

Concrete Roads Technology Roller Compacted Concrete RCC Catalin Grigore Update June 2018



# Roller Compacted Concrete Affordable and Sustainable Road Solution

- ✓ What is RCC
- ✓ Common Uses
- ✓ Key Elements
- ✓ Mix Design



- ✓ Structural Design
- ✓ Maintenance Cost



 "Roller-Compacted Concrete (RCC) is a no-slump concrete that is compacted by high density pavers and vibratory rollers."

Negative Slump No reinforcing steel No finishing Consolidated with vibratory rollers

 Concrete pavement placed in a different way!





- ✓ Consistency is stiff enough to remain stable under vibratory rollers
- ✓ Wet enough to permit adequate mixing and distribution of paste
- Typically placed with asphalttype paver equipped with standard or high-density screed
- ✓ Final compaction obtained by a combination of passes with roller compactors







- Final compaction is generally achieved within one hour of mixing.
- RCC pavements are constructed without forms, dowels, or reinforcing steel.
- Joint sawing is not always required, but when sawing is specified, transverse joints are spaced farther apart than with conventional concrete pavements.







#### Surface of RCC

- More of an open surface texture after rolling similar an asphalt pavement surface.
- Quiet pavement due to "negative texture."
- ✓ Can lose fine aggregate from their surface within to four years service
- ✓ Surface is treated by diamond grinding or an overlay when speed exceed 45 mph







#### Benefits of RCC

- Primary benefit of RCC is that it can be constructed quickly and costeffectively.
- ✓ Savings associated with RCC primarily due to:
  - ✓ Reduced Cement Content
  - ✓ Standard finisher placement
  - ✓ Reduced Construction Time



- Can be designed to have high flexural, compressive, and shear strengths, which allow it to support heavy, repetitive loads
- $\checkmark$  RCC needs no forms or finishing.
- ✓ No dowels, tie rods, or steel reinforcement

Demonstrated service life of 40+ years in harsh environments.



#### Benefits of RCC (cont.)

- ✓ Less concrete shrinkage and thus less cracking
- ✓ Low permeability
- Provides excellent durability and resistance to chemical attack, even under freeze-thaw conditions.
- Eliminates rutting and subsequent repairs.





#### Potential Limitation of RCC

- ✓ Pavement edges are more difficult to compact
- Due to relatively low water content, hot-weather RCC paving requires extra vigilance to minimize water loss to evaporation.
- Due to the dryness of the RCC mixture, admixture dosage requirements can be higher for RCC than for conventional concrete.



## Common Uses of RCC Pavements

- ✓ Ports/Heavy Industry
- ✓ Haul Roads
- ✓ National Roads
- ✓ Airports
- ✓ Local Streets
- ✓ Urban Streets
- ✓ Rural Roads
- ✓ Base for Overlay
- ✓ Highways





# **RCC** Properties

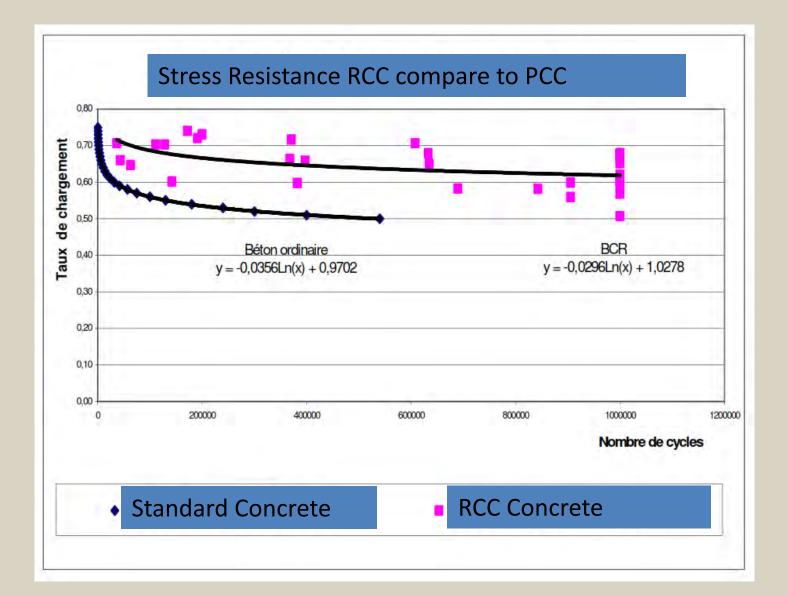
- ✓ Compressive strength
- ✓ Flexural strength
- ✓ Modulus of elasticity
- ✓ Bond strength
- ✓ Freeze-thaw durability
- ✓ Shrinkage
- ✓ Permeability
- ✓ Fatigue cycles to Failure
  - Similar to PCC







# RCC Properties Versus PCC





# **RCC** Engineering Properties

- ✓ Compressive Strength (f'c) = 25 to 45 MPa
- ✓ Flexural Strength (MR) = 3.5 to 8.45 MPa

MR =  $C\sqrt{f'c}$ where C ranges from 8 to 12

✓ Modulus of Elasticity (E) = 29 000 to 35 000 MPa

 $E = CE\sqrt{f'c}$ where CE ranges from 57,000 to 67,000



# Mix Design Conventional PCC versus RCC

#### ✓ Conventional PCC



#### ✓ Roller Compacted Concrete





# Typical Mix Design

Several Methods of mix design can be used but the key criteria are specific for RCC :

- Maximum Compactness obtained at zero slump under high mechanical energy (vibration and pressure)
- ✓ Low amount of cementitious paste (less than 280 liters)
- ✓ High flexural strenghts (min 5.5 MPa for standard RCC)
  - ✓ 60 to 320 kg/m3 Cementitious Material.
  - ✓ 700 to 1000 kg/m3 Sand
  - ✓ 680 to 1200 kg/m3 Coarse Aggregates
  - ✓ 80 to 125 liters/m3 Effective Water.
  - ✓ W/C Ratio usually between 0.3 0.45.
  - ✓ Water amount dictated by Moisture/ Density/Compaction Relationship.



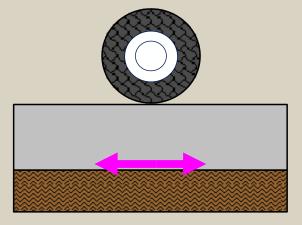
# Pavement Design Methods

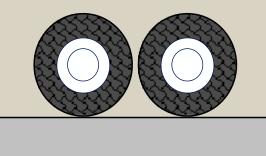
#### Design : Minimise Slab Tensile Stress

#### Stress is affected by:

- Load
- Tire pressure and spacing
- Slab thickness
- Subbase support
- Concrete stiffness

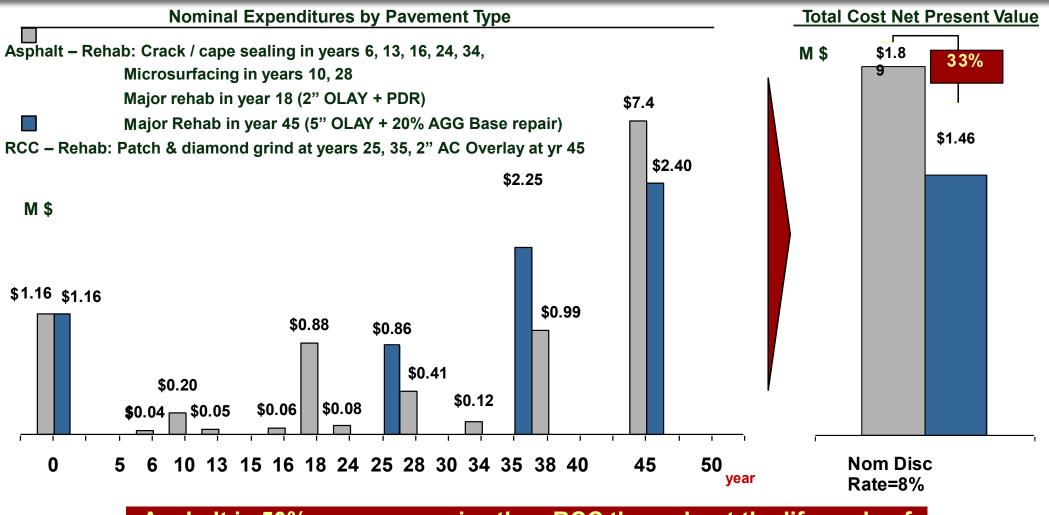
Slab thickness is increased and/or RCC strength is increased to ensure appropriate stress ratio.







# Maintenance Cost (USA)



## Asphalt is 50% more expensive than RCC throughout the life cycle of the road

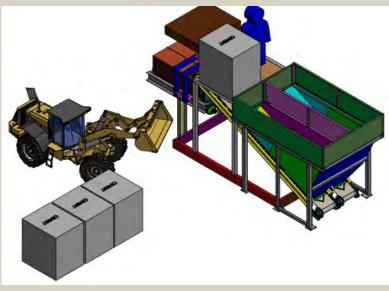
Rehabilitation – Activities based on Proper Maintenance Cycles for asphalt pavements. Current year costs are inflated at 4%, Rehab costs also include other Incidental Costs (striping, mob, etc) - 40% of material costs, Traffic Control - 5% of material cost, and Engineering & Inspection - 5% of material cost



# Continuous Mix Pug Mill

- High-volume applications
- Excellent mixing efficiency for dry materials
- 80 to 200+ tons/hr
- Mobile, erected on site
- Mobilization costs





# Transporting & Placement







# Placing Equipment

#### High performance pavers

- ✓ Vibrating screed
- ✓ Dual tamping bars and or pressure bars
- ✓ High initial density, 90-95%
- ✓ Reduces subsequent
- $\checkmark$  compaction
- ✓ High-volume placement (200 to 400 m3 per shift)
- ✓ Designed for harsh mixes
- ✓ Smoothest RCC surface



## Compacted Edges through the use of Edging Shoes







# **Compaction-Final Density**

- ✓ Final density is critical for strength and durability
- ✓ Compacted to 98%Modified Proctor
- ✓ Dual Steel Drum Roller
- ✓ Combination Roller
- Rubber coated steel drum roller







# **Concrete Curing Compound**

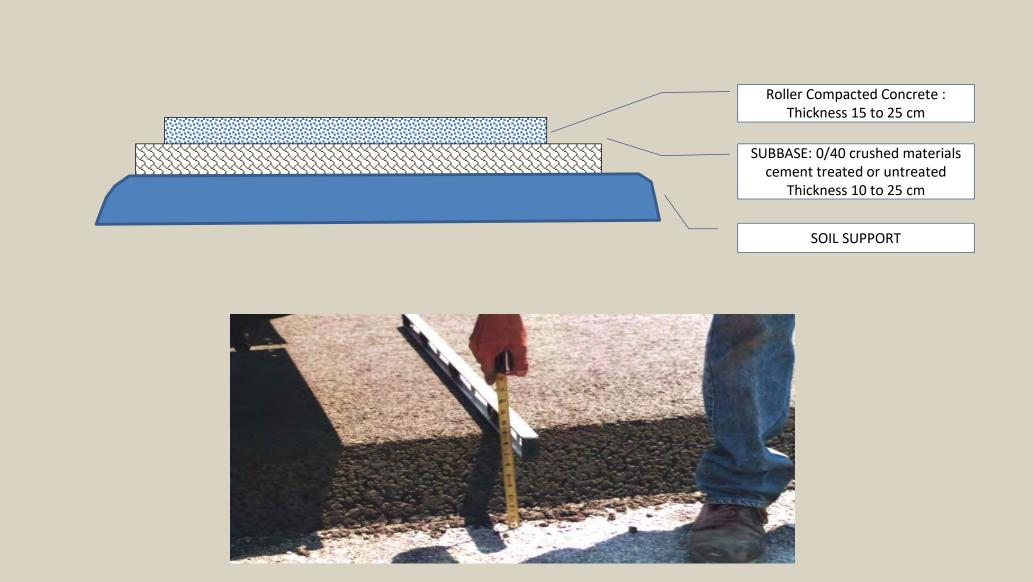
- ✓ White-pigmented concrete curing compounds
- Apply 1 to 1.5 times the normal application rate





## Typical RCC Composite Pavement Cross-Section







## Madagascar Implementation 2015

• Project started March 2015





## Madagascar Implementation 2015

• Trials April and May 2015







#### Madagascar Implementation 2015

• Official Inauguration May 2015





- First Public Road RCC approved and financed by European
  Union
- ✓ 250 to 350 m half road per day
- ✓ 120 heavy trucks per day
- Trucks have been allowed to circulate on RCC pavement after 7 days
- ✓ Road Specfications
  - ✓ Size : RCC 7.5 m large
  - ✓ Shoulder : RCC 0.8 m large, left and right side
  - ✓ Water Colector : RCC extruded profile



- Cost of construction 10% cheaper than equivalent asphalt road
- ✓ Fast building process
- ✓ No major quality problems
- Capital expenditure low level and equipment easy to implement
- ✓ 95 % local work force













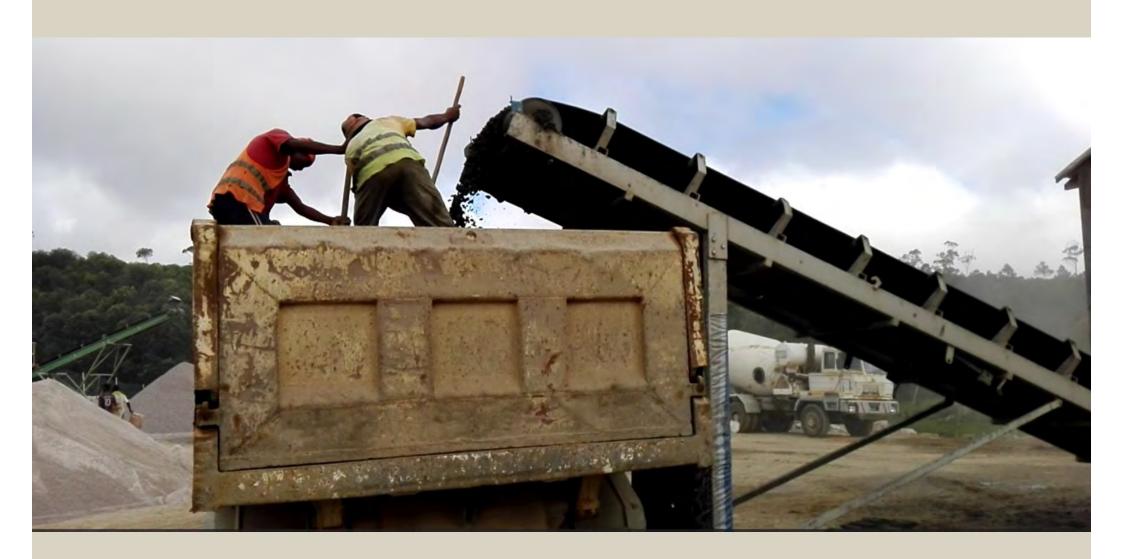
















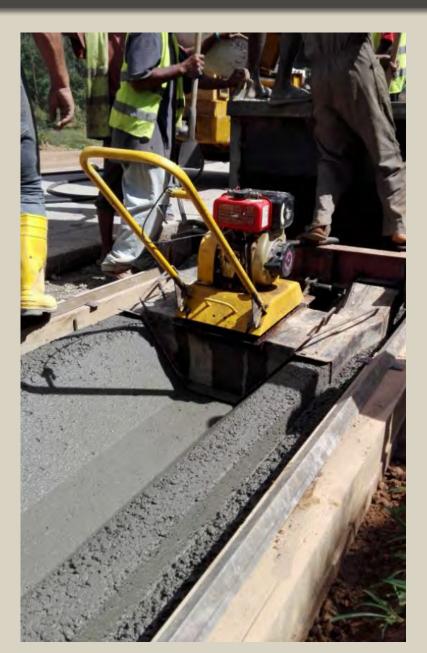
































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