



**FiberMat® Update**  
July 2013

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## *FiberMat® Approved by North Carolina DOT*

FiberMat® has recently been approved for use by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. It is the culmination of a three year process started by our FiberMat® sub-licensee in North Carolina, Hammaker East, who placed two FiberMat® demonstration projects in New Hill, NC. Those projects were placed with the help of Midland Asphalt's Tom Szarleta operating the FiberMat® machine and Nelson Wesenberg from Colas Solutions presenting the FiberMat® process to the NCDOT personnel on site prior to the demonstrations.

FiberMat Type B was placed on farm to market roads, first on one lane ¼ mile long, then switched lanes and placed it for another ¼ mile section. A week or so later both lanes received a typical asphalt overlay, making possible a side-by-side comparison of the benefits of FiberMat®. These roads consisted of a composite roadway section which had been widened from 18' to 24' with full depth asphalt and had the typical widening cracks as well as typical reflective cracking.

As we have experienced in other areas of the country, because FiberMat® is a Crack Inhibiting Membrane, the NCDOT waited three years to allow the winter weather to do its worst before reexamining the roads for comparison. Upon final visual inspection, the NCDOT Product Evaluation Unit determined that "The FiberMat had been in place for three full years and there were only a couple of locations where cracks were starting to appear in the FiberMat locations. In the areas that just received the typical asphalt overlay the cracks came through after the first winter and have increased in width the last two winters."



Tom Szarleta of Midland Asphalt placing FiberMat® for Hammaker East in New Hill, North Carolina

This is fantastic news but it does not mean the work is over; in reality it has just begun. Now it's time to use this information to help market and sell FiberMat® to the NCDOT and well as other State DOT's around the country. As we know, just because a product is approved does not mean it will be used and accepted immediately. It's up to us to show the benefits of the process and help specify FiberMat® in the right locations, at the right time, on the right roads.

FiberMat® has been assigned the NCDOT tracking number NP11-5725 and can be viewed by visiting NCDOT's Product Evaluation Program webpage: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/Products/Pages/default.aspx>

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