

On the Road™

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FiberMat® Workshop in Texas

As the result of last year's FiberMat demonstration projects in Texas, the Texas Pavement Preservation Center (TPPC) invited Colas Solutions to give a FiberMat workshop at the Center, which is located on the University of Texas campus in Austin, Texas.

Nelson Wesenberg & Bob Friedline conducted a FiberMat and chip seal workshop on Feb. 15, 2011 for several engineers from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Also featured on the program was Dr. Yetkin Yildirim, the Director of TPPC, who talked about pavement preservation in general, and chip seals in Texas in particular.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the program was presentations by the owners of two of the demonstration projects from last year regarding the performance of FiberMat thus far. Tony Vasquez of the Bexar County (San Antonio) and Paul Montgomery of TxDOT (Lufkin District) both reported that the FiberMat sections were doing better than the non-FiberMat control sections on their jobs, although it is still too early to make any final conclusions. Both gentlemen noted that their jobs, by design, had none of the customary crack filling or other preparation work prior to FiberMat in order to "put it through its paces faster".

Also on the program was Pierre Peltier of Terry Asphalt Materials who urged attendees to contact decision makers in their area to try to get more money appropriated for road infrastructure, especially maintenance. Chuck Dannheim & Ian Jack of Heartland Asphalt Materials and Doug Gordon of Ballou Pavement Solutions were in attendance as well.

The entire program was filmed by the Center and is available for viewing on their website:

http://www.utexas.edu/research/tppc/conf/2011_Chipseal_FiberMat_workshop/indexx.htm

Incidentally, Ballou, which already does a significant amount of work in Texas, was recently added to the Board of Directors of TCPP.



Pictured above: Nelson Wesenberg (CSI)