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FHWA Project: Development and Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Programs

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Development and Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Programs (PFMP) – Goals

• Reduce Highway Crashes and Related Fatalities





Development and Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Programs (PFMP) - Objectives

- Establish investigatory (desirable) and intervention (minimum) thresholds for pavement surface friction and macro-texture for various classes of highway facilities (friction demand categories)
- Demonstrate state of art friction/texture measurement equipment
- Work with approximately 4 state DOT's to develop a PFMP





Development and Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Programs (PFMP) - Background

- 2008 AASHTO Guide for Pavement Friction
- 23 CFR 924 Highway Safety Improvement Program safety database
- Many state DOT's have executive level performance goals to reduce fatalities
- Improved friction/texture measurement technology









Locked Wheel



Continuous Friction Fixed-slip





Friction Demand - Investigatory Levels (UK-English)

Investigatory level (50 or 80 km/h)

Site category and definition									
		0.30	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.55	0.60	0.65
А	Motorway								
В	Dual carriageway non-event								
С	Single carriageway non-event								
Q	Approaches to and across minor and major junctions, approaches to roundabouts								
K	Approaches to pedestrian crossings and other high risk situations								
R	Roundabout								
G1	Gradient 5-10% longer than 50m								
G2	Gradient >10% longer than 50m								
S1	Bend radius < 500m - dual carriageway								
S2	Bend radius < 500m - single carriageway								



Development and Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Programs (PFMP) - Status

- Consortium led by Virginia Tech selected through RFP process
- Procure equipment 2013
- Select state DOT's for demonstration 2013





Friction measurement equipment

1	Effectiveness in the prediction of (fatal) crash potential			
2	Continuous friction measurement capability and operating			
	principle; slip ratio			
3	Macrotexture measurement			
4	Stage of development of the device (experimental or			
	commercially available)			
5	Robustness and readiness for deployment			
6	Data collection productivity			
7	Measurement speed			
8	Precision (Repeatability and Reproducibility)			
9	Global Positioning System (GPS)			
10	Software			



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

Development and Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Programs (PFMP) – State DOT interest

- Organizational goals to reduce fatalities
- Friction and crash analysis experience
- 2008 AASHTO Guide for Pavement Friction experience
- Geographic diversity
- Aggregate friction quality
- Interest in cooperating





Pavement Friction Management Programs

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Questions/Comments

