



AUSTRALIAN FLEXIBLE PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION (AfPA) AND MAIN ROADS WA (MRWA) JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Purpose

This Communique presents the outcomes of a collaborative workshop held between AfPA and MRWA in Perth Western Australia in July 2021 as part of the Strategic Alliance Agreement established between the two parties. It identifies priority actions and responsibilities for the 2021-22 financial year.

Our Goals and Actions

Our goals and actions for the immediate future are listed beneath the following six headings. As partners to this agreement, we will:

1. Product Quality

- Continue collaborative workshops on root causes and process control improvements for binders and asphalt, including with the quarry industry and other materials suppliers, to reduce non-conformances in a sustainable and planned way.

2. Sustainable Workforce

- Expand detail in the 6-monthly MRWA pipeline of projects to include state-wide asphalt and spray seal requirements.
- Continue the jointly funded training initiative at a similar level as per 2020 to ensure the required levels of skill are available for industry and MRWA.
- Require the use of the Be Bitumen Safe (BBS) industry safety card scheme in all roadwork involving hot bitumen and support the phasing in of the expanded seal and asphalt industry skills card to manage, recognise and promote workforce competency.
- All liaise with the MRWA Aboriginal engagement team to co-ordinate and collaborate on increasing opportunities to engage with the Aboriginal community, including collating industry data on Aboriginal engagement and employment.

3. Sustainability and Innovation

- Jointly progress implementation of the identified key sustainability initiatives in a data collection framework for GhG emissions calculations, joint research project on replacements for hydrated lime, and hold an industry knowledge transfer workshop.
- Clarify the process to better inform industry on the required steps to adopt or implement new, innovative, or more sustainable products and technology.
- Increase usage of high RAP asphalt mixes to above 50% of all FDA, and set usage target for crumb rubber OGA.

4. Contract Risk Allocation

- Develop a standard set of clauses relating to sub-contractor risk allocation for adoption in MRWA D&C and Alliance contract forms, including clauses for defect correction period, quality issue resolution and a dispute escalation mechanism.
- Pursue adoption of a rise and fall clause into alliance and regional contracts.
- Establish an asphalt and surfacing sub-alliance contract within a MRWA Alliance in 21/22, to assess and demonstrate the potential benefits.

5. Traffic Management Safety at Roadworks

- Develop and implement joint initiatives and technologies under the roll out of the Austroads harmonisation initiative and share the resultant outcomes.

6. Specifications

- Jointly conduct an annual review of all spray sealing and asphalt specifications to identify improvements and updates to reflect international best practice.
- Collaboratively review mix design procedures, modulus values and testing methodology
- Collaboratively develop a forward plan for national harmonisation of test methods and specifications.



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21 / 9 / 2021

