



The California Asphalt Pavement Association

SPRING ASPHALT PAVEMENT CONFERENCE & EQUIPMENT EXPO

SPEAKER BIOS

Tuesday & Wednesday, February 25-26, 2025

Sheraton Fairplex Suites & Conference Center, 601 West McKinley Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25th - DAY 1 PROGRAM



1.1 Caltrans District Welcome

John Yang, District 7 Deputy District Director Construction, Caltrans

As Deputy District Director for the California Department of Transportation, District 7 (Los Angeles and Ventura counties), Mr. Yang is responsible for managing and overseeing the work of over 325 employees who are administering a \$2 billion construction program in District 7.

John has been with District 7 for 34 years and brings a wealth of experience from various disciplines in Caltrans. Between 1991 and 1997, John went through District 7's rotation program and worked in Office of Project Development A, Operations, District Construction, Seismic Design, and Structures Construction. In 1997, he was promoted to take on the role of District Office Engineer and responsible for all PS&E delivery through Headquarters OE. In 2005, he took on the role of District Traffic Manager overseeing the operations of Transportation Management Plan (TMP), Traffic Management Team (TMT), Planned Lane Closure reviews and Transportation Management Center (TMC). He also served as the Acting Deputy District Director for District 7's Maintenance Division for six months in 2013. In September of 2013, he was promoted to be the Principal Transportation Engineer in charge of I-5 North and South Corridor construction and assisting the Deputy District Director overseeing the operation of the Division of Construction.

John is committed to implementing the Department's foundational principles of safety, equity, climate action and economic prosperity for our communities. He aims to advance the District Construction's delivery culture, empower construction managers and their staff to meet delivery commitments, and satisfy the needs of our communities and stakeholders.



1.2 Caltrans Headquarters Welcome

Tigi Thomas, Deputy Division Chief, State Pavement Engineer, Division of Maintenance, Caltrans

Tigi M. Thomas is the State Pavement Engineer and Deputy Division Chief, Pavement Program, HQ Division of Maintenance, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). She is a registered engineer in California with over 29 years of experience with the Department in various areas such as design, program/project management, construction, asset management and maintenance. She is currently the Chair of the Executive Committee, Pavement & Materials Partnering Committee (PMPC), a key forum for the Caltrans and the industry to collaborate on construction specifications and test methods. One of the main Task Groups in the PMPC is the Asphalt Task Group.

Tigi graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a M.S degree in Structures and a B.S degree in Architectural Engineering from National Institute of Technology, Calicut, India. During her free time, she enjoys travelling, gardening, movies, and spending time with family.



1.3 Caltrans Joint Training & Certification Program (JTCP) Update

Shadi Saadeh, Ph.D., P.E. (WY), M. ASCE, Program Manager, JTCP, California State University, Long Beach

Dr. Shadi Saadeh, Ph.D., has been on the faculty of civil engineering at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) since 2007. Dr. Saadeh worked for Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) 2003-2005 and Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC) 2006-2007. He received his B.Sc. in civil engineering from University of Jordan (1997), M.Sc. in civil engineering from Washington State University (2002), and Ph.D. in civil engineering from Texas A & M University (2005). Dr. Saadeh's research has focused on topics directly related to granular materials, including asphalt mixes and their constituents. His main areas of research are experimental characterization of highway materials, constitutive modeling of highway materials at the microstructural level, performance evaluation of highway infrastructure, flexible pavement design and analysis, and experimental characterization of highway materials using X-ray computed tomography (CT), image analysis techniques, and mechanical testing. Dr. Saadeh has authored several refereed research papers in high quality engineering and scientific journals such as Journal of Transportation Research Board (TRB), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), Journal of the American Society for Civil Engineers (ASCE), Journal of the Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists (AAPT), and Journal of Computational Materials Science. He is currently the project manager implementing the Joint Training & Certification Program under Caltrans.



Richard Hibbard, P.E., Senior Transportation Engineer, Caltrans

Richard Hibbard is the Independent Assurance (IA) – North / Joint Training & Certification (JTCP) Branch Chief within Materials Engineering and Testing Services (METS) at Caltrans. He has been instrumental in developing and improving the JTCP since its inception in February of 2018. He currently serves as the program manager and is the chairperson of the JTCP Advisory Council. He also manages IA Program functions for northern California including Caltrans Districts 1 and 2, and parts of 3, 4 and 9. He has a varied construction materials background having worked as a QC manager for a major ready-mix concrete supplier, as a QA supervisor for a major design-build project, and as a Field Engineer for Utah DOT.



1.4 Asphalt Institute (AI)

Jhony Habbouche, Ph.D., P.E., Western US Regional Engineer, AI

Dr. Jhony Habbouche is the Asphalt Institute's new Regional Engineer for the Western Region, which includes California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona, where he currently resides. He joins AI from the Virginia Transportation Research Council (VTRC), the research division of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), where he served as a Senior Research Scientist for nearly six years. He earned his Master's and Doctorate degrees from the University of Nevada, Reno (Go Pack!). Jhony has extensive experience conducting research, workshops, seminars, and presentations on topics related pavement engineering and science for diverse audiences. He also actively contributes to the industry by serving on committees in national and international professional organizations.



1.5 Women of Asphalt California Branch Update

Sarah Hartz, P.E., Office Chief, District 8 Southern Regional Lab, Caltrans

Sarah Hartz is Office Chief for the Caltrans District 8 Southern Regional Lab. She started her career in Caltrans over 25 years ago in Highway Maintenance. She obtained her Commercial Driver's License and became an Equipment Operator. While working for Maintenance she went back to school and received her Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Cal State Northridge in 2004. She obtained her Professional Engineer's License in 2011. In 2018 she transferred to District 7 Construction as a Resident Engineer in the Antelope Valley. In 2019 she joined METS as the Branch Chief for the Independent Assurance (IA) South branch. In this role her team managed half of the technician certifications and laboratory accreditations for the state and implemented the Caltrans Corroboration Sample Program.



Mimi Le, Quality Engineer, MCK Services, Inc.

Mimi Le serves as the Quality Engineer for MCK Services Inc., a general contracting firm specializing in milling, paving, recycling, and quality control & assurance services primarily in the Bay Area. Beyond her responsibilities at MCK, she is one of the co-chairs for the Women of Asphalt California Branch (WofA-CA) and a board member of the California Asphalt Research and Education (CARE) Foundation. Additionally, she is an active member of the California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA), the Recycling and Stabilizing Association (RSA) of California and the Asphalt Recycling and Reclaiming Association (ARRA).

Mimi holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She began her career in the Asphalt Concrete Pavement Industry in 2010. Since 2013, she has been deeply involved in various recycling processes, honing her expertise in foamed asphalt recycling technologies since 2014. Under her leadership and guidance, MCK's Lab has achieved accreditation from both the AASHTO re:source and Caltrans IA Programs. Mimi has successfully developed numerous recycling mix designs and provided quality control services with her team for various roadways throughout California, as well as for projects in the State of Alaska

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2.1 City & County Pavement Improvement Center (CCPIC) Update

Erik Updyke, P.E. – Program Manager – CCPIC

A Specialist for the City and County Pavement Improvement Center at UC Davis, and a Senior Pavement Preservation Engineer for the California Pavement Preservation Center at CSU Chico. Erik retired from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works after 36 years in the Road Maintenance, Design, and Construction Divisions, the latter 22 years as the Section Head of the Specifications and Environmental Compliance Section. Erik was a voting member of the Greenbook Committee from 2000 – 2018, and APWA Co-Chair from 2005 – 2019. Erik has B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maine, and an MBA from California State University, Long Beach. Erik is a Registered Civil Engineer in California and Professional Engineer in Maine.



2.2 Essential Pavement Preservation Strategies, Best Practices and Tools

Cathrina Dmytrow, P.E., Founder CEO, Pavement Aces

Scott Dmytrow, COO, Pavement Aces

Cathrina recently retired from Caltrans after a 37-year career with the department. While at Caltrans, she worked in geotechnical engineering, pavement and materials engineering, and is still part of the asphalt pavement industry. She also acted as the Chair for the Women of Asphalt CA Chapter during her last few years at Caltrans. Cathrina is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Chicago and a registered PE.



Scott Dmytrow is the COO of Pavement ACES and a long-time member and friend of CalAPA. He has been involved in the asphalt and emulsion industries since 1991. He grew up in a family run quarrying and asphalt construction business and has worked for both small and large companies across the US over the past 34 years. He is a board member of the Asphalt Emulsion Manufacturers' Association and was also the President of WRAPP (formerly the Chip Seal Association) twice and was the President of the Nor Cal Chapter of APWA in 2015.

In 2023, Cathrina and Scott founded Pavement ACES with the main mission of helping local agencies improve and optimize their pavement networks. Now that Cathrina has retired she has joined the business as the CEO.

LUNCH



3.3 Constructability Issues and Consequences

Tim Murphy, P.E., Murphy pavement Technology

Tim Murphy, president of Murphy Pavement Technology, Inc., promotes best practices within the asphalt industry on the local, regional and national level. He works collaboratively with academia, agencies, associations, consultants, contractors and materials suppliers to ensure asphalt quality at the most economical means possible. He co-authored "MS-22 Construction of Hot Mix Asphalt Pavements" for the Asphalt Institute and currently travels the country training asphalt professionals and practitioners for the National Highway Institute on asphalt plant production and workmanship. Most recently he served as an outside author and editor of the recently updated Manual Series No. 2, Asphalt Mix Design Methods, for the Asphalt Institute.



3.1 How the Caltrans Division of Construction Impacts Project Delivery

Jeremy Peterson-Self, P.E., Assistant Chief, Division of Construction, Caltrans

Jeremy joined Caltrans in 2008 after spending several years with a Sacramento local commercial/residential design engineering firm. In his 16+ year Caltrans career, he has worked in several capacities within the Department, mostly with Materials Engineering and Testing Services (METS). He has a varied construction materials background having served as a "METS Representative" for several Districts, on the Caltrans Concrete Technology Training Team, as an oversight foundation testing engineer on the Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement project and member of the Pavement and Materials Partnering Committee (PMPC) - Asphalt Task Group. He also led and managed the initial implementation of the Caltrans/Industry Joint Training and Certification Program.

He later led teams responsible for the delivery of the Departments Independent Assurance Program including the management and reporting of Environmental Product Declarations (supporting the Buy Clean CA Act). His current role is as the Deputy Division Chief for Caltrans, Headquarters, Division of Construction who oversees and supports construction activities statewide for Caltrans Districts, contractors and local agencies. He also still remains active in the PMPC as the construction representative on the Executive Committee.



3.2 Eco-Label Tool for Publishing Environmental Product Declarations (EPD)

Ian Davies, Environmental Manager, Reed Family Companies

Ian Davies has been the Environmental Manager at Reed Family Companies since 2021. Reed Family Companies provides asphalt products in addition to aggregate and ready mix.

Ian is responsible for permitting requirements, environmental legislation compliance, ZEV implementation, EPDs, and the sustainability program. Ian has a bachelor's degree in Petroleum Engineering and a master's degree in Civil/ Environmental Engineering.

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4.1 Caltrans Asphalt Mixture Acceptance Revisions

Kee Foo, Ph.D., P.E., Sr. Transportation Engineer, Office of Asphalt Pavement Program, Caltrans



4.2 Balanced Mix Design (BMD) – Caltrans Development Plan

Clinton Edmiston, P.E., Construction Standards Engineer, Division of Construction, Caltrans

Clinton Edmiston has nine years of experience across both the private and public sectors, focusing on the development and modification of roadway specifications. Much of his time has been spent with the Division of Engineering Services within Materials Engineering and Testing Services (METS) as a Transportation Engineer. He has served on the Pavement and Materials Partnering Committee's (PMPC) Asphalt Subtask Group and several PMPC working groups dedicated to reviewing and proposing improvements to construction standards. He is currently on a temporary assignment in the Office of Construction Standards within Caltrans' Division of

Construction. As a Construction Standards Engineer, he develops specifications and procedures as they relate to QC/QA for hot mix asphalt (HMA), HMA statistical pay factor (SPF), and HMA pavement smoothness.



4.3 BMD – Research from the UCPRC

John Harvey, PhD, P.E., Director, University of California Pavement Research Center (UCPRC)

John Harvey is Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Chair of the Transportation Technology and Policy graduate studies program at UC Davis, and Director of the UC Pavement Research Center (UCPRC). He is Principal Investigator for a wide range of pavement projects for Caltrans, FHWA, FAA, CalRecycle, the California Air Resources Board and industry. He is a registered civil engineer in California.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26th - DAY 2 PROGRAM



5.2 Caltrans Welcome: Caltrans Efforts to Implement Sustainable Asphalt Pavement Materials

Tim Greutert, Chief, Materials Engineering and Testing Services (METS), Caltrans

With over 27 years of experience at Caltrans, Tim has worked across various areas, including materials, bridge design, construction, and traffic operations. His extensive background has positioned him as a key figure in shaping Caltrans' materials management practices. Tim is also a member of the AASHTO Committee on Materials and Pavements and serves as the Chief of Caltrans' Materials Engineering and Testing Services (METS). Under his leadership, METS serves as the cornerstone of materials excellence within Caltrans.

In addition, Tim is a member of the Executive Committee of the Pavement and Materials Partnering Committee, which brings together Caltrans, FHWA, and industry partners. Tim's approach to collaboration is grounded in his leadership in problem-solving and his deep commitment to working with industry partners to drive innovation. His efforts have helped implement new ideas and solutions into Caltrans' construction standards.



5.3 High RAP HMA with Rejuvenation

Jhony Habbouche, Ph.D., P.E., Western Regional Engineer, Asphalt Institute

Dr. Jhony Habbouche is the Asphalt Institute's new Regional Engineer for the Western Region, which includes California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona, where he currently resides. He joins AI from the Virginia Transportation Research Council (VTRC), the research division of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), where he served as a Senior Research Scientist for nearly six years. He earned his Master's and Doctorate degrees from the University of Nevada, Reno (Go Pack!). Jhony has extensive experience conducting research, workshops, seminars, and presentations on topics related pavement engineering and science for diverse audiences. He also actively contributes to the industry by serving on committees in national and international professional organizations.



5.4 RAP in Rubberized Hot Mix Asphalt (RHMA)

Angel Mateos, PhD, – Research Engineer, University of California Pavement Research Center (UCPRC)

Angel Mateos is Principal Investigator of the UC Pavement Research Center at Berkeley. He has served as Principal Investigator in numerous research projects funded by the Spanish Ministry for Public Works, the European Union, the World Bank, CalRecycle, and Caltrans, among others. Former Associate Professor of Geotechnical Engineering at Universidad Complutense de Madrid and Pavement Engineering at Universidad Europea de Madrid. His main expertise is in full-scale and mechanistic-empirical design of asphalt and concrete pavements, and fundamental characterization and modelling of pavement materials. He is Master Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota and Ph.D. from the Polytechnic University of Madrid. Member of scientific committees at TRB, APSE, ASCE, and NRRRA.



5.5 Pelletized Rubber Modifier – More Bounce for the Buck

Theron Roschen, P.E., Municipal Services Manager, Interwest (a CalRecycle consultant)

Beginning in August 2009 and continuing to the current date, Theron has been a Program Manager for CalRecycle's Rubberized Asphalt Concrete (RAC) Engineering and Technical Assistance Contract. Under the contract with CalRecycle, Theron has led a team of professionals to provide training, technology transfer and

technical assistance to over 180 California public agencies and associations and has grown the RAC market Statewide.

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6.1 RenuCore Pelletizing Technology Improves Recycled Asphalt Shingles (RAS) for HMA

Maure Creager, Manager, Circular Economy, CertainTeed

Maure Creager is a recognized leader in sustainable building materials and circular economy solutions, with over 20 years of experience in engineering, product stewardship, strategy, and business development. A registered LEED AP BD+C professional, she leverages her technical expertise and strategic vision to drive innovations in recycling asphalt shingles and paving materials. Her passion for sustainability, rooted in her South Dakota upbringing, extends into her personal life, where she enjoys outdoor adventures and supporting her daughters' activities.



6.2 Manage Quality on Recycling Pavement Projects

Mimi Le, Quality Engineer, MCK

Mimi Le serves as the Quality Engineer for MCK Services Inc., a general contracting firm specializing in milling, paving, recycling, and quality control & assurance services primarily in the Bay Area. Beyond her responsibilities at MCK, she is one of the co-chairs for the Women of Asphalt California Branch (WofA-CA) and a board member of the California Asphalt Research and Education (CARE) Foundation. Additionally, she is an active member of the California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA), the Recycling and Stabilizing Association (RSA) of California and the Asphalt Recycling and Reclaiming Association (ARRA).

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Closing Ceremonies and Raffle

Russell Snyder, CAE, Executive Director, CalAPA

Russell W. Snyder, CAE, is executive director of the California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA). Established in 1953, CalAPA is the only statewide construction trade association in California that focuses exclusively on the asphalt pavement industry. Prior to joining CalAPA in 2008, Snyder was regional director for Associated General Contractors of California, and executive director of the Laborers Training Center in Northern California. For 11 years he worked for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and for the Governor's Office of Innovation in Government. His first career was in journalism, where he was a reporter and editor for United Press International at UPI bureaus in Los Angeles, Sacramento and Washington, D.C. He is a Certified Association Executive (CAE) by the American Society of Association Executives.

DAY 2 PROGRAM CONCLUDES