



Standard Terminology Relating to Materials for Roads and Pavements¹

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aggregate, *n*—a granular material of mineral composition such as sand, gravel, shell, slag, or crushed stone, used with a cementing medium to form mortars or concrete, or alone as in base courses, railroad ballasts, etc.

anionic emulsion, *n*—a type of emulsion such that a particular emulsifying agent establishes a predominance of negative charges on the discontinuous phase.

asphalt, *n*—a subclass of bitumen which occurs in nature or is obtained in petroleum processing.

asphalt binder, *n*—an asphalt that is produced from petroleum residue either with or without the addition of non-particulate, non-fibrous modifiers.

asphalt cement, *n*—See *asphalt*

asphalt concrete, *n*—See *asphalt mix*.

asphalt mix (asphalt mixture), *n*—a mixture of asphalt binder, emulsified asphalt, or cutback asphalt and aggregates. The mixture may also include other materials.

asphalt modifier, *n*—Organic or inorganic materials added to an asphalt binder to alter the properties or behavior of the binder.

DISCUSSION—Such materials include polymers, other chemical modifiers, rubber, and hydrated lime. With the exception of rubber, asphalt modifiers have a particle size of 250 μm or smaller.

asphalt pavement, *n*—a structure consisting of one or more layers of asphalt mix resting on a subgrade.

asphalt rock (rock asphalt), *n*—rock from a naturally occurring formation, usually limestone or sandstone, impregnated throughout its mass with asphalt.

asphalt-rubber, *n*—a blend of asphalt cement, reclaimed tire rubber, and certain additives in which the rubber component is at least 15 % by weight of the total blend and has reacted in the hot asphalt cement sufficiently to cause swelling of the rubber particles.

asphaltenes, *n*—insoluble materials that are precipitated by use of **selected solvents, such as *n*-heptane**.

DISCUSSION—The asphaltene fraction should be identified by the solvent and solvent-asphalt ratio used.

bank gravel, *n*—gravel found in natural deposits, usually more or less intermixed with fine material, such as sand or clay, or combinations thereof; gravelly clay, gravelly sand, clayey gravel, and sandy gravel indicate the varying proportions of the materials in the mixture.

bitumen, *n*—a class of black or dark-colored (solid, semisolid, or viscous) cementitious substances, natural or manufactured, composed principally of high molecular weight hydrocarbons, of which asphalts, tars, and pitches are subclasses.

bituminous, *adj*—containing or treated with bitumen (also *bituminized*). Examples: bituminous concrete, bituminized felts and fabrics, bituminous pavement.

bituminous emulsion, *n*—(1) a suspension of minute globules of bituminous material in water or in an aqueous solution, (2) a suspension of minute globules of water or of an aqueous solution in a liquid bituminous material.

blast-furnace slag, *n*—the nonmetallic product, consisting essentially of silicates and alumino-silicates of lime and of other bases, that is developed simultaneously with iron in a blast furnace.

cationic emulsion, *n*—a type of emulsion such that a particular emulsifying agent establishes a predominance of positive charges on the discontinuous phase.

clinker, *n*—generally a fused or partly fused by-product of the combustion of coal, but also including lava and portland-cement clinker, and partly vitrified slag and brick.

coal tar, *n*—a dark brown to black cementitious material produced by the destructive distillation of bituminous coal.

coarse aggregate, *n*—(1) aggregate predominantly retained on the 4.75-mm (No. 4) sieve; or (2) that portion of an aggregate retained on the 4.75-mm (No. 4) sieve.

DISCUSSION—The definitions are alternatives to be applied under differing circumstances. Definition (1) is applied to an entire aggregate either in a natural condition or after processing. Definition (2) is applied to a portion of an aggregate. Requirements for properties and grading should be stated in the specification.

coke-oven tar, *n*—coal tar produced in by-product coke ovens in the manufacture of coke from bituminous coal.

crack filler, *n*—bituminous material used to fill and seal cracks in existing pavements.

crusher-run, *n*—the total unscreened product of a stone crusher.

cut-back asphalt, *n*—petroleum residuum (asphalt) which has

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been blended with petroleum distillates.

DISCUSSION—Slow-curing materials may be made directly by distillation and are often referred to as road oils.

cut-back products, *n*—petroleum or tar residuums which have been blended with distillates.

dense-graded aggregate, *n*—an aggregate that has a particle size distribution such that when it is compacted, the resulting voids between the aggregate particles, expressed as a percentage of the total space occupied by the material, are relatively small.

dust binder, *n*—a light application of bituminous material for the express purpose of laying and bonding loose dust.

fine aggregate, *n*—(1) aggregate passing the $\frac{3}{8}$ -in. (9.5-mm) sieve and almost entirely passing the 4.75-mm (No. 4) sieve and predominantly retained on the 75- μ m (No. 200) sieve; or (2) that portion of an aggregate passing the 4.75-mm (No. 4) sieve and retained on the 75- μ m (No. 200) sieve.

DISCUSSION—The definitions are alternatives to be applied under differing circumstances. Definition (1) is applied to an entire aggregate either in a natural condition or after processing. Definition (2) is applied to a portion of an aggregate. Requirements for properties and grading should be stated in the specifications.

flux, *n*—a bituminous material, generally liquid, used for softening other bituminous materials.

fog seal, *n*—a light application of bituminous material to an existing pavement as a seal to inhibit raveling, or to seal the surface, or both. Medium and slow-setting bituminous emulsions are usually used and may be diluted with water.

fractured face, *n*—an angular, rough, or broken surface of an aggregate particle created by crushing, by other artificial means, or by nature.

“free-carbon” in tars, *n*—the hydrocarbon fraction that is precipitated from a tar by dilution with carbon disulfide or benzene.

gas-house coal tar, *n*—coal tar produced in gas-house retorts in the manufacture of illuminating gas from bituminous coal.

macadam, dry-bound and water bound, *n*—a pavement layer containing essentially one-size coarse aggregate choked in place with an application of screenings or sand; water is applied to the choke material for water-bound macadam. Multiple layers must be used.

maintenance mix, *n*—a mixture of bituminous material and mineral aggregate applied at ambient temperature for use in patching holes, depressions, and distress areas in existing pavements using appropriate hand or mechanical methods in placing and compacting the mix. These mixes may be designed for immediate use or for use out of a stockpile at a later time without further processing.

maltenes, *n*—a red-brown to black heavy oil material remaining after precipitation of asphaltenes from asphalt binder with selected solvents.

maximum size (of aggregate), *n*—in specifications for, or descriptions of aggregate, the smallest sieve opening through which the entire amount of aggregate is required to pass.

mesh, *n*—the square opening of a sieve.

mixed-in-place (road mix), *n*—a bituminous surface or base course produced by mixing mineral aggregate and cut-back asphalt, bituminous emulsion, or tar at the job-site by means of travel plants, motor graders, drags, or special road-mixing equipment. Open or dense-graded aggregates, sand, and sandy soil may be used.

modified asphalt, *n*—asphalt binder combined with one or more asphalt modifiers.

mulch treatment, *n*—a spray application of bituminous material used to temporarily stabilize a recently seeded area. The bituminous material can be applied to the soil or to straw or hay mulch as a tie-down, also.

naphthene-aromatics, *n*—a mixture of naphthenic and aromatic hydrocarbons which are adsorbed from a paraffinic solvent on an adsorbent during percolation and then desorbed with an aromatic solvent such as toluene.

DISCUSSION—The naphthene-aromatics fraction should be identified by the solvent, the solvent-asphalt ratio and the absorbing medium.

native asphalt, *n*—asphalt occurring as such in nature.

nominal maximum size (of aggregate), *n*—in specifications for, or descriptions of aggregate, the smallest sieve opening through which the entire amount of the aggregate is permitted to pass.

DISCUSSION—Specifications on aggregates usually stipulate a sieve opening through which all of the aggregate may, but need not, pass so that a stated maximum proportion of the aggregate may be retained on that sieve. A sieve opening so designated is the *nominal maximum size*.

normal temperature, *n*—as applied to laboratory observations of the physical characteristics of bituminous materials, 25°C (77°F).

oil-gas tars, *n*—tars produced by cracking oil vapors at high temperatures in the manufacture of oil gas.

open-graded aggregate, *n*—an aggregate that has a particle size distribution such that when it is compacted, the voids between the aggregate particles, expressed as a percentage of the total space occupied by the material, remain relatively large.

penetration, *n*—the consistency of a bituminous material expressed as the distance in tenths of a millimetre (0.1 mm) that a standard needle penetrates vertically a sample of the material under specified conditions of loading, time, and temperature.

penetration macadam, *n*—a pavement layer containing essentially one-size coarse aggregate, penetrated in place by a heavy application of bituminous material, followed by an application of a smaller size coarse aggregate, and compacted. Multiple layers containing still smaller coarse aggregate may be used.

pitches, *n*—black or dark-brown solid cementitious materials which gradually liquefy when heated and which are obtained as residua in the partial evaporation or fractional distillation of tar.

plant mix, cold-laid, *n*—a mixture of cut-back asphalt, bituminous emulsion, or tar and mineral aggregate prepared in a



central bituminous mixing plant and spread and compacted at the job-site when the mixture is at or near ambient temperature.

plant mix, hot-laid bituminous emulsion mixtures, *n*—a mixture of emulsion and heated mineral aggregate usually prepared in a conventional asphalt plant or drum mixer and spread and compacted at the job site at a temperature above ambient.

polar-aromatics, *n*—a polar aromatic hydrocarbon fraction that is adsorbed on an adsorbing medium from a paraffinic solvent during percolation and then desorbed with a chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent such as trichloroethylene.

DISCUSSION—The polar-aromatics fraction should be identified by the solvent, the solvent-asphalt ratio and the absorbing medium.

prime coat, *n*—an application of a low-viscosity bituminous material to an absorptive surface, designed to penetrate, bond, and stabilize this existing surface and to promote adhesion between it and the construction course that follows.

reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP), *n*—asphalt pavement or paving mixture removed from its original location for use in recycled asphalt paving mixture.

recycled asphalt paving mixture, *n*—a mixture of reclaimed asphalt pavement with the inclusion, if required, of asphalt cement, emulsified asphalt, cut-back asphalt, recycling agent, mineral aggregate, and mineral filler.

recycling agent (RA), *n*—a blend of hydrocarbons with or without minor amounts of other materials that is used to alter or improve the properties of the aged asphalt in a recycled asphalt paving mixture.

refined tar, *n*—tar freed from water by evaporation or distillation which is continued until the residue is of desired consistency; or a product produced by fluxing tar residuum with tar distillate.

rock asphalt—see **asphalt rock**.

rubble, *n*—rough stones of irregular shapes and sizes, broken from larger masses either naturally or artificially, as by geological action, in quarrying, or in stone cutting or blasting.

saturates, *n*—a mixture of paraffinic and naphthenic hydrocarbons that on percolation in a paraffinic solvent are not adsorbed on the adsorbing medium. Other compounds such as naphthenic and polar aromatics are adsorbed thus permitting the separation of the saturate fraction.

DISCUSSION—The saturates fraction should be identified by the solvent, the solvent-asphalt ratio and the absorbing medium.

screen, *n*—in laboratory work an apparatus, in which the apertures are circular, for separating sizes of material.

screenings, *n*—a residual product resulting from the artificial crushing of rock, boulders, cobble, gravel, blast-furnace slag or hydraulic cement concrete, all of which passed the smallest screen used with the crushing operation and most of which passed the 2.36-mm (No. 8) sieve.

sieve, *n*—in laboratory work an apparatus, in which the apertures are square, for separating sizes of material.

slurry seal, *n*—an application of a fluid mixture of bituminous emulsion, fine aggregate, mineral filler, and water to an existing pavement. Single or multiple applications may be used.

soil aggregate, *n*—natural or prepared mixtures consisting predominantly of stone, gravel, or sand which contain a significant amount of minus 75- μ m (No. 200) silt-clay material.

steel slag, *n*—the nonmetallic product consisting essentially of calcium silicates and ferrites combined with fused oxides of iron, aluminum, manganese, calcium and magnesium, that is developed simultaneously with steel in basic oxygen, electric, or open hearth furnaces.

Relating Specifically to Tests

stone chips, *n*—small angular fragments of stone containing no dust.

straight-run pitch, *n*—a pitch run to the consistency desired in the initial process of distillation and without subsequent fluxing.

surface treatment, *n*—an application of bituminous material followed by a layer of mineral aggregate. Multiple applications of bituminous material and mineral aggregate may be used.

tack coat (bond coat), *n*—an application of bituminous material to an existing relatively nonabsorptive surface to provide a thorough bond between old and new surfacing.

tar, *n*—brown or black bituminous material, liquid or semi-solid in consistency, in which the predominating constituents are bitumens obtained as condensates in the destructive distillation of coal, petroleum, oil-shale, wood, or other organic materials, and which yields substantial quantities of pitch when distilled.

tar concrete, cold-laid, *n*—a plant mix containing a medium-viscosity grade of tar and a graded mineral aggregate, designed to be laid either shortly after mixing or when the mixture is at or near ambient temperature.

tar concrete, hot laid, *n*—a plant mix containing a high-viscosity grade of tar and a densely graded mineral aggregate designed to be laid at or near the elevated temperature of mixing.

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