

CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association
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CALENDAR

(Always on-line [HERE](#))

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SIGN-UP NOW!
Southern California
Contractors' Dinner
Tuesday, May 14, 5:30 p.m.
to 9 p.m.

Greetings!

This weekly bulletin contains the latest news and information of interest to the asphalt pavement industry in California. Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to others who may be interested in asphalt pavements.

→ Caltrans releases interim policy guidance on Hamburg Wheel Track test for RHMA-G mixes, changes to specification limits

Caltrans recently published Construction Policy Directive (CPD) 19-8 related to Hamburg Wheel Tracking (HWT) Testing of Rubberized Hot Mix Asphalt-Gap Graded (HMA-G) mixes. The CPD includes changes to the HWT test method as well as changes to the specification limits. The CPD, along with other Caltrans policy documents, can be found [HERE](#).

Some key changes in the guidance, dated April 2, include:

- Report rut depth test results as the average of the deepest rut depth from the left and right wheels at the specified number of passes.
- Reduction of number passes to a 1/2" rut depth by 5,000.
- Stripping Inflection Point as a report-only requirement.

The Caltrans memorandum notes the test variability issues that have arisen, and provides guidance and various sample documents to Caltrans district construction personnel on how to respond to a change-order request by a contractor for a project utilizing RHMA-G, which is widely used in California.

Caltrans released the CPD as a first step in the Pavement & Materials Partnering Committee (PMPC) prioritized effort to evaluate variability in the HWT and to craft revisions to the test method and specifications. The PMPC is an industry-agency effort to evaluate and propose improvements to specifications, test methods and construction standards as they relate to pavements and roadway materials.



A Hamburg Wheel Track testing machine.

The Hamburg Wheel Track (HWT) is a laboratory test that attempts to measure Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) characteristics and predict performance by passing a weighted steel wheel over HMA samples and measuring deformity.

CalAPA organized a meeting Oct. 18 between the asphalt industry and Caltrans managers to discuss several major issues with the use of HWT and RHMA-G mixes. At the meeting, which was held at the Caltrans transportation laboratory in Sacramento, contractors and producers from across California provided compelling, first-hand

Dal Rae Restaurant, 9023 E. Washington Blvd., Pico Rivera.
Details [HERE](#).

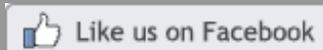
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Transportation Construction Coalition "Fly-in" to Washington, D.C. Tuesday & Wednesday, May 14-15
Details [HERE](#).
Contact: Russell Snyder (916) 791-5044.

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RESERVE YOUR SPOT!
Day at the Races
Saturday, July 20, noon to 6 p.m.
Del Mar Race Track
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar
Contact: Sophie You (916) 791-5044
Details [HERE](#).

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SAVE THE DATES!
Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference, Wednesday & Thursday, Nov. 6-7
Hilton Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard St., Sacramento
Contact Sophie You at (916) 791-5044 for sponsorship and exhibitor information.

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SAVE THE DATE!
CalAPA Annual Dinner
Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Jonathan Club, 545 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles.
Contact Sophie You at (916) 791-5044 for sponsorship and table-reservation information.

SOCIALIZE



accounts of the issues with test variability. Key participants at the meeting representing Caltrans were: Ray Hopkins, Deputy Division Chief, Division of Construction; Dan Speer, Chief of Materials Engineering & Testing Services (METS) and State Materials Engineer; Sergio Aceves, Chief of the Caltrans Division of Pavements (State Pavement Engineer); and Tim Greutert, chief of the Office of Roadway Materials Testing within METS.



Hamburg Wheel Track post-test samples.

As a result of this meeting, Caltrans and industry agreed to prioritize the evaluation of the test variability and specification limits through the PMPC. A "scoping document" outlining the evaluation protocol was developed and is available (along with other PMPC scoping documents) [HERE](#).

The Caltrans-Industry working group will develop test and specification revisions to address the variability issues.

In the meantime, until the long-term PMPC evaluation can be completed, Caltrans and industry agreed to several key changes that can provide significant relief to the variability and specification issues on current projects. Those changes were part of the CPD released this month.

For more information on this topic, contact CalAPA Director of Technical Services Brandon Milar at (916) 791-5044.



CalAPA previously conducted Hamburg Wheel Track training classes, including this one hosted by CalAPA-member Twining Laboratories in Sacramento.

→ New FHWA video on asphalt pavement principles focuses on density and durability

A new video recently posted on-line by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) examines the important relationship between asphalt density and durability. You can view the 8-minute video



CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 93 percent of paved roads in California and across the U.S. Why? Because it's smooth, quiet, safe, durable and 100 percent recyclable. Visit the [Asphalt Pavement Alliance](#) website learn more about why asphalt is the right choice now more than ever.



GET TECHNICAL

Are you an engineer, designer or technical professional who makes decisions on pavement type selection? The DriveAsphalt website has technical reports and other resources may be just what you're looking for. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



CalAPA

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[HERE](#).

"Increasing asphalt durability and longevity benefits everyone -- contractors, agencies and the driving public," the video narrator says at one point. The video features interviews with several prominent figures in industry and academia discussing how many factors impact pavement density from the plant to the paving operation, and the strong correlation between optimum density and pavement performance.



The video is the first in a series of forthcoming videos from the FHWA on Asphalt Pavement Principles, which will be highlighted in future issues of *Asphalt Insider*.

To view other educational and promotional videos, click [HERE](#) to visit the video page on the CalAPA website.

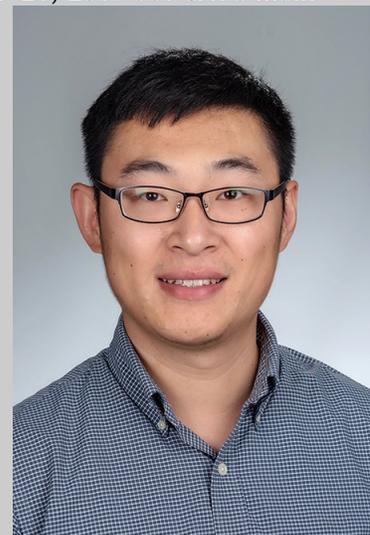
→ CSU Chico engineering professor accepted into intensive National Center for Asphalt Technology 'Professor Training' course

Dr. Kun Zhang, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering at California State University in Chico, has been accepted into this summer's "Professor Training" asphalt class at the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) at Auburn University.

NCAT developed the educational program for college and university civil engineering faculty that provides intensive, up-to-date lecture and laboratory material for the asphalt portion of an undergraduate civil engineering materials course. The program, underwritten by the asphalt industry, is designed to help increase the pool of qualified civil engineers and technologists knowledgeable in asphalt technology by providing faculty with appropriate educational material.

The five-day course will be held June 17-21, 2019 at NCAT's main facility in Auburn, Alabama. There is no fee for the course and a stipend is provided to offset travel expenses for eligible domestic applicants. Zhang is one of 20 participants selected from a nationwide pool of applicants. CalAPA endorsed his application along with his department chair, Dr. Steffen Mehl.

Zhang has been with CSU Chico since August of 2018 and is the senior pavement researcher at the California Pavement Preservation Center. Prior to joining the faculty at CSU Chico, Zhang served on the staff at Washington State University from 2012 to 2018, where in addition to serving on the faculty he was Co-



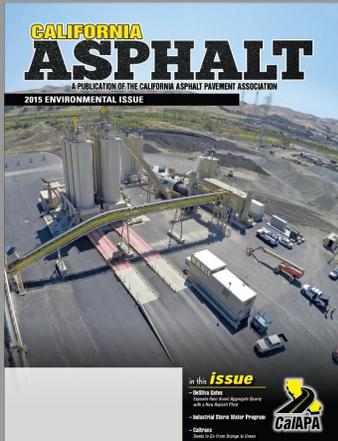
Dr. Kun Zhang

Director of the Washington Center for Asphalt Technology (WCAT). He earned his Ph.D. in civil engineering from Washington State University in July of 2016, and both his Bachelor of Science and Masters of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from Shandong University in Jinan, China, where he studied between 2009 and 2012.

BACK ISSUES

Did you miss an issue of the *California Asphalt Insider*? No problem! Past editions of the newsletter are available at the CalAPA newsletter [archive page](#).

MAGAZINE



CalAPA produces a highly regarded magazine, *California Asphalt*, and an annual membership directory. To view current and past issues of the magazine, click [HERE](#). For advertising sales information, click [HERE](#) or call Kerry Hoover with Construction Marketing Services at (909) 772-3121.

STAY INFORMED



Click [HERE](#) to receive *California Asphalt Insider* each week via e-mail FREE! Or visit our website at: www.calapa.net

GET CERTIFIED!

He is a frequently published author and presenter on asphalt-related topics ranging from porous asphalt to Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP), Recycled Asphalt Shingles (RAS) and Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA). His official CSU Chico bio is [HERE](#).

"I believe these activities ... can greatly benefit the teaching effectiveness and improve the teaching quality of those undergraduate courses at my own institution, Zhang said in his NCAT application. "It can also encourage our undergraduate students to have more hands-on experiences and pursue a career in the asphalt industry as pavement engineers."

"CalAPA is pleased to have this young professor represent our state at NCAT this June and we wish him the very best in his career," said CalAPA Regional Director Bill Knopf, who is the association's point-person on workforce development initiatives. "Kudos to NCAT and to the National Asphalt Pavement Association for its foresight in assembling a high-quality educational learning experience for the educators in our colleges and universities who are transferring knowledge to the next generation of industry employees and pavement decision-makers working for agencies like Caltrans and many California counties and municipalities."

For more information on NCAT's Professor Training program, click [HERE](#).

➔ Sign up now for next CalAPA Southern California paving contractor & general membership dinner May 14 in Pico Rivera

The CalAPA Southern California Paving Contractor Committee cordially invites all CalAPA members to attend the next contractor dinner & general membership meeting, which will take place Tuesday, May 14 at the venerable Dal Rae restaurant in Pico Rivera. Details and on-line registration can be found [HERE](#).

In addition to the sumptuous food that has made the Dal Rae a local landmark, the dinner will feature an entertaining and informative program that promises to have something for everyone.

The featured presentation will be delivered by new CalAPA Regional Director Bill Knopf, a longtime Indiana asphalt pavement association executive before joining the staff of CalAPA earlier this year. His presentation will provide a compelling "real-world" case study about the power of collective action in industry-agency relations. The lessons are universal and can apply to any state or local jurisdiction.

The program will also feature a "Technical Tidbit" by Steve Marvin of Labelle Marvin, and an insurance & surety update by Steve Cota of Patriot Risk & Insurance. Contractor dinners are a great way to catch up with old friends, make new ones, and have a great time in the process. This exclusive



Steve Marvin covers the finer points of delivering quality asphalt pavement jobs in a fun and memorable way with his "Technical Tidbit."



The Caltrans-industry Joint Training & Certification Program (JTCP) for materials technicians is holding classes in Northern and Southern California. Click [HERE](#) to visit our JTCP resource page to learn more.

DESIGN!



To visit the PAVEExpress website, click [HERE](#). To view the companion website, PaveInstruct, click [HERE](#).

LEARN!

We can bring CalAPA's popular training classes to your facility at a date and time convenient to you! Click [HERE](#) to view our "hosted" training class flier, or contact CalAPA at (916) 791-5044 for details. This service is available to public agencies and CalAPA members only.



event is open to CalAPA members and their invited guests (future members) only.

Space is limited so early registration is strongly recommended and must be completed on-line. The \$59 "early-bird" discount pricing ends May 7. Registration questions may be directed to Sophie You of CalAPA at (916) 791-5044. Questions about the dinner program may be directed to CalAPA Regional Director Bill Knopf at (442) 400-9697.

→ Tech Term of the Week

Each week we highlight a word, acronym or other reference commonly used in the asphalt pavement industry in California.

EROSION: Removal and transportation of soil by the action of water or wind.

→ Paving Pointer of the Week

Each week we highlight a key point or best practice of interest to asphalt paving crews, inspectors and others working in the field. We welcome suggestions. More tips can be found in our Asphalt Parking Lot Construction Checklist [HERE](#).

PRE-CONSTRUCTION REVIEW: Every paving project should start with a detailed review of the project's contract, plans, and specifications. Any questions arising from this review should be promptly directed to the design firm's engineers.

→ Quote of the Week

"For every minute you are angry you lose 60 seconds of happiness."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

We hope you enjoy CalAPA's *Asphalt Insider*. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information on technical issues, regulation, news, analysis, events and trends in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Snyder, CAE
Executive Director
California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)®