# MnROAD Concrete Pavement Research – Recent Observations

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#### **Ultrathin Unbonded Concrete Overlay**



- Cells 140 and 240
- Constructed in June 2013
- 3" thick, 6' x 6' panels, structural fiber-reinforced concrete
- Nonwoven geotextile fabric
  - Standard thickness (wt.) and ½ thickness (wt.)



## MnROAD Cells 140 & 240

3" FRC 6'x6' panels, 6.5 lb/yd<sup>3</sup> Propex

Fabric interlayer (std and thin)

Thickened-edge PCC 5.5-7" design (1993)

5" Class 5 Sp (1993)

Silty/Clay



#### Cell 240 Performance (Standard wt. fabric)

- Approximately 9000 passes of 80k MnROAD truck ≈ 33,000 ESALS
- 1 polar vortex winter
- 1 "monsoon" June ≈ 14" rain



- One transverse reflective crack over old utility trench
- Audible movement of panels on cooler days



## Cell 140 Performance (Thinner wt. fabric)



2 (total) reflective cracks over underlying skewed, undoweled & faulted PCC joints



## Cell 140 Performance (Thinner wt. fabric)



Question: Will structural fibers hold these cracks together?



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### Rehabilitation of Thin Concrete Pavements

- Cell 32: 5" thick concrete section constructed in 2000
  - LVR traffic = 80k 5-axle truck
  - > 10'L x 12'W panels, undoweled joints
  - Undrained gravel base, gravel shoulders
- After 12 years of traffic, developed significant joint faulting (average=9mm, 3/8")
- Multiple slabs with corner and longitudinal cracks





Cell 32, 5" thick, after 12 years





October 2013 Repairs









October 2013 Repairs





October 2013 Repairs



## Cell 32 Performance (4,000 passes≈15,000 ESALs)



Plate dowels "popping through" leave side of repair joints



## Cell 32 Performance (7,700 passes≈29,000 ESALs)



Plate dowels "popping through" longitudinal side of repair joints



### Cell 32 Performance (7,700 passes≈29,000 ESALs)





Cracking in retrofit dowel slots (both dowel types)



## **MnROAD Pavement Patching – Full depth**

#### 9.5" Cell 12 – Oct 2013 installation

- PNA CoVex, ¾" thick plates
- Fiber-reinforced ready mix PCC























## MnROAD Pavement Patching – Full depth

#### 9.5" Cell 12 – June 2014 installation

CRT Long Life™ dowels, 1" and 1.5" diameter FRP clad steel























## Questions????

