

# **RAP Update**

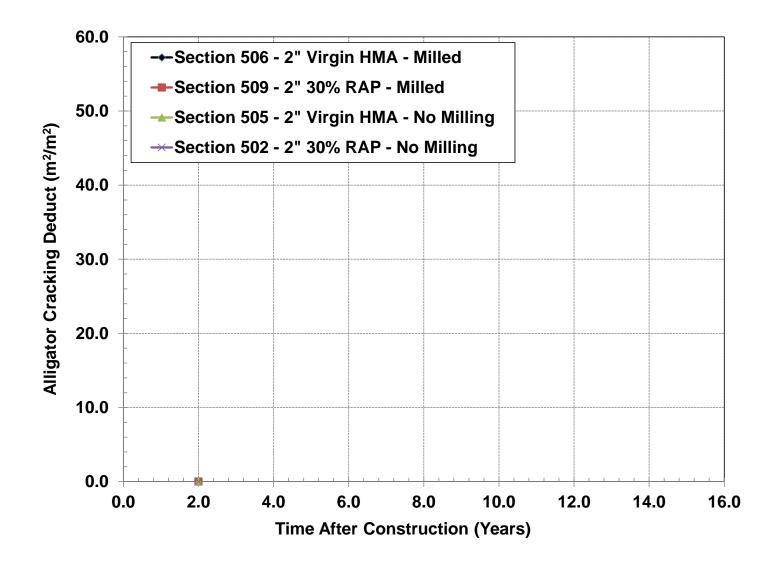
# Thomas Bennert, Ph.D. Rutgers University

57<sup>th</sup> Annual Rutgers Paving Conference March 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014

# General Concerns with RAP Usage

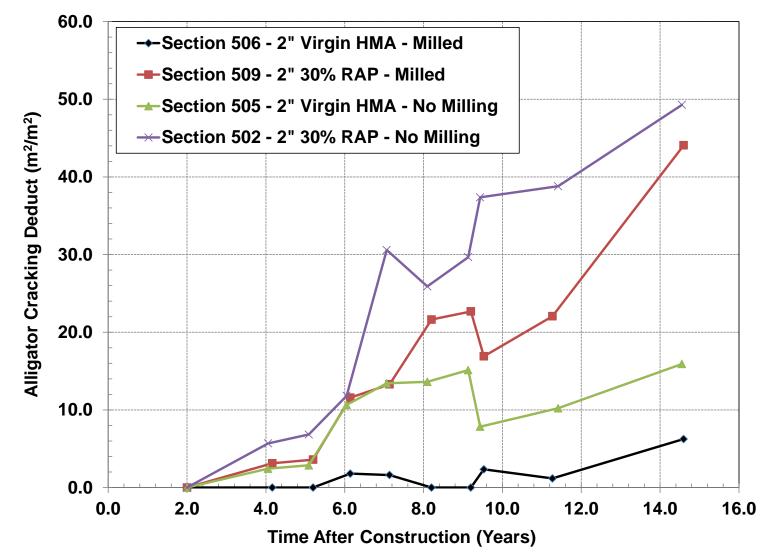
- Higher binder stiffness
- Does blending between virgin and RAP binders occur?
- Incorrect asphalt content determination
- Primary concern by state agencies
  - Cracking
  - But what is the definition of "cracking" two modes
    - Crack initiation when a crack starts
      - More structurally dependent
    - Crack propagation how a crack grows once it starts
      - More material dependent

# Example: NJ SPS-5 Alligator Cracking - Initiation



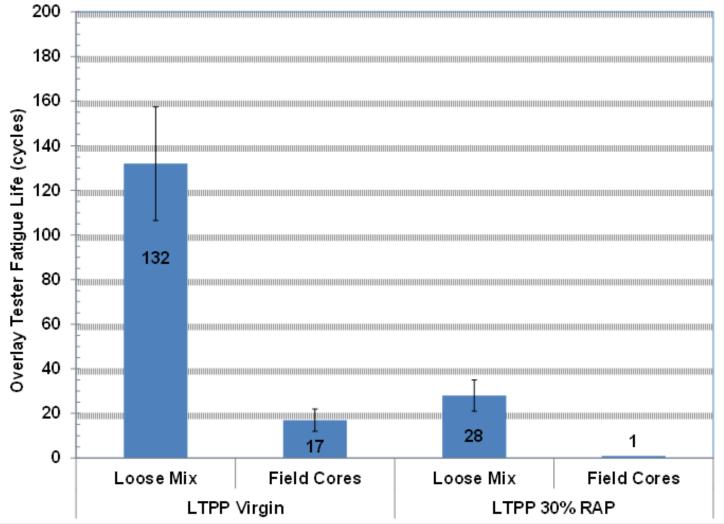
#### RAP Update – Bennert

# Example: NJ SPS-5 Alligator Cracking – Final (Propagation)



#### RAP Update – Bennert

# Example: NJ SPS-5 Alligator Cracking – Overlay Tester Results





# **HIGHER BINDER STIFFNESS**

# Higher Binder Stiffness (Warmer PG Grades)

- On average for every 10% RAP added:
  - High temperature PG grade increases 2°C
  - Low temperature PG grade increases 1.5°C
- Use of softer grade generally used to offset
- Can the use of rejuvenators help?

# Soft Binder Grade – Conclusions for Northeast High RAP Pooled Fund Study

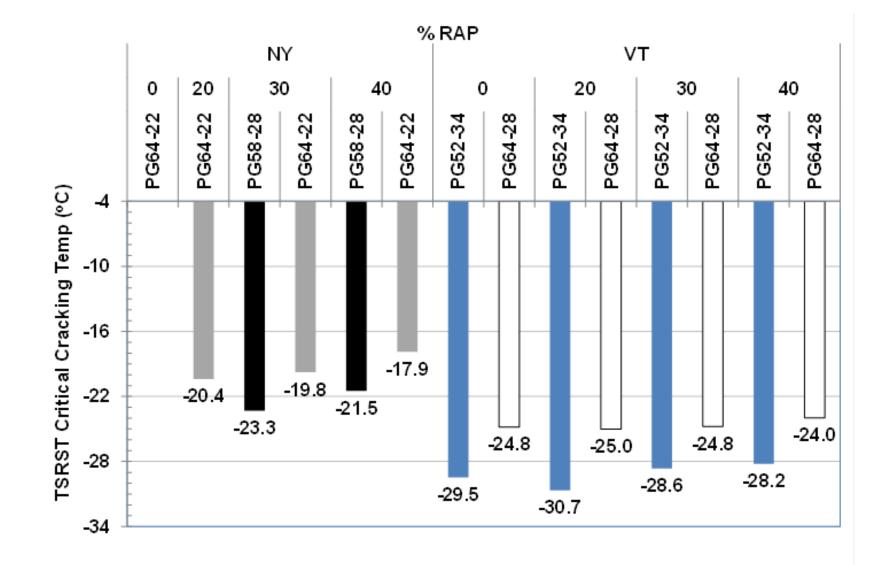
- Resulted in slightly better low temperature cracking performance
  - Improvement not the full PG grade as in the drop
  - Less of improvement in critical cracking than TSRST
- Softer binder did not always improve the crack propagation performance in the Overlay Tester

- Especially at RAP contents greater than 20%

- Softer binder showed mixed results for crack initiation in Flexural Beam Fatigue
- May indicate production and mixture parameters may negate or minimize effectiveness of softer grade

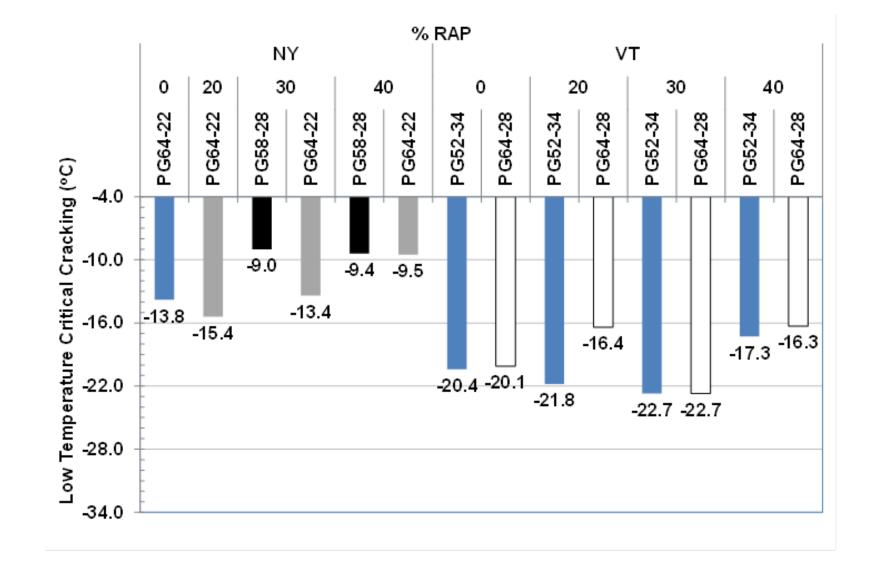


# Low Temperature Cracking - TSRST





## Low Temperature – IDT TCModel



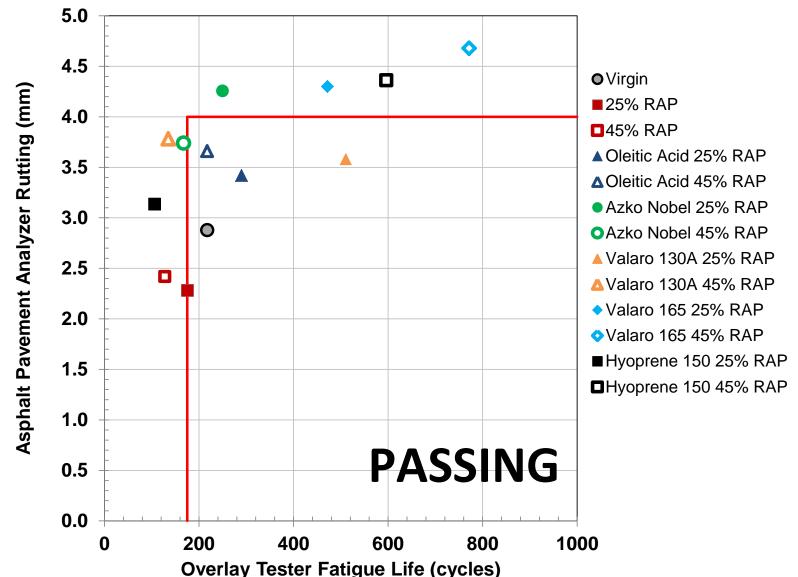
# NJDOT Rejuvenator Study - Conclusions

- Rheological verification of rejuvenating (binder only) but mixtures showed mixed results
- There appears some rejuvenators help in improving performance
  - Dosage rate should be a function of total binder contribution and RAP binder properties specific to the project/plant
- Conditioning time did not improve fatigue performance
  Some rejuvenators maybe volatizing during this period
- Improved results may be attainable by improving point of entry to allow more time for rejuvenator to co-mingle with recycled binder

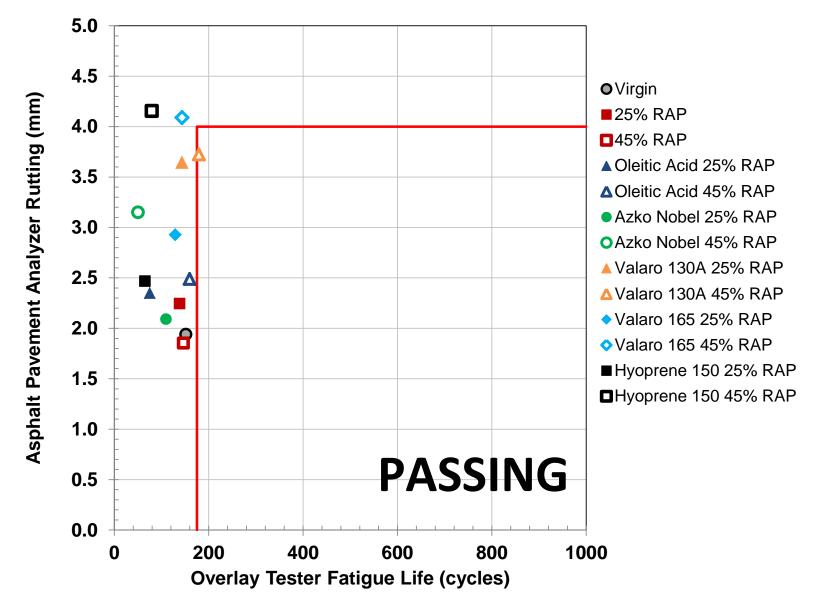
#### RAP Update – Bennert

Rejuvenator/Binder Type	RAP Content (%)	Aging Condition	Continuous PG Grade Results		
			High Temp	Low Temp	Final PG
			(°C)	(°C)	Grade
PG76-22 (No Rejuvenator)	0%	2 Hr	88.2	-21.8	88-16
	25%	2 Hr	89.0	-24.0	88-22
	45%	2 Hr	92.7	-22.3	88-22
	0%	6 Hr	101.0	-18.6	100-16
	25%	6 Hr	91.5	-22.0	88-22
	45%	6 Hr	89.1	-22.4	88-22
Valaro 130	25%	2 Hr	82.8	-25.7	82-22
	45%	2 Hr	78.4	-29.6	76-28
	25%	6 Hr	81.8	-26.5	76-22
	45%	6 Hr	83.0	-26.2	82-22
Valaro 165	25%	2 Hr	79.4	-28.9	76-28
	45%	2 Hr	80.1	-30.3	76-28
	25%	6 Hr	81.5	-27.5	76-22
	45%	6 Hr	77.3	-30.2	76-28
Hyprene	25%	2 Hr	83.4	-26.3	82-22
	45%	2 Hr	81.1	-27.0	76-22
	25%	6 Hr	88.6	-24.5	88-22
	45%	6 Hr	82.7	-25.8	82-22
Oleitic Acid	25%	2 Hr	85.2	-27.2	82-22
	45%	2 Hr	82.7	-27.5	82-22
	25%	6 Hr	84.7	-24.8	82-22
	45%	6 Hr	87.1	-26.8	82-22
Akzo Nobel	25%	2 Hr	82.9	-26.6	82-22
	45%	2 Hr	79.7	-25.9	76-22
	25%	6 Hr	82.1	-26.2	82-22
	45%	6 Hr	84.4	-24.5	82-22

# "Balancing Performance" – 2 Hr Aging



# "Balancing Performance" – 6 Hr Aging



# BLENDING OF RAP AND VIRGIN BINDERS



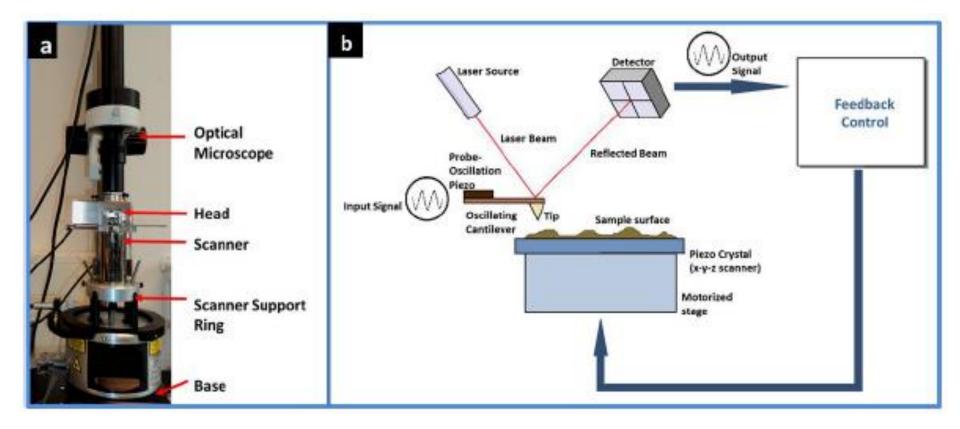


# Blending?

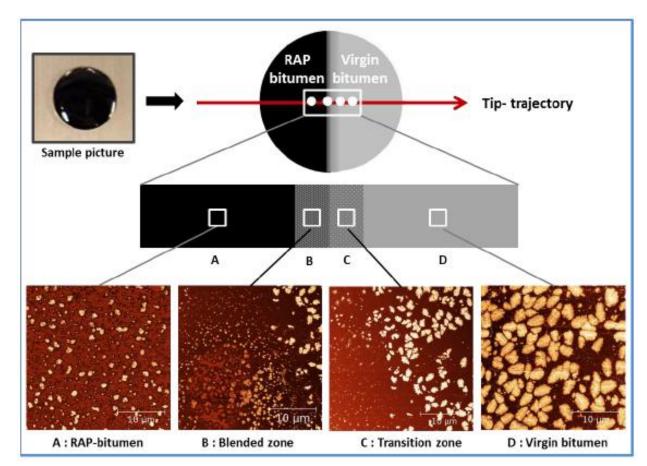
- Does blending occur between RAP and virgin binder? If so, how much?
- Too much influences degree of blending
  - Production and materials
- Scientific proof of blending?

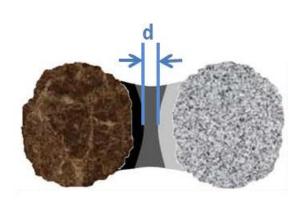


# Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) – used to probe the change in microstructural properties



# Blending occurring in small zone (after 24 hrs)





# Is the RAP binder mobilized during mixing?



## HMA MIX PARAMETERS



- 1. 12.5 mm Superpave<sup>™</sup> mix with Florida Limestone
- 2. Mix: 75% virgin aggregate + 25% RAP.
  - RAP treated as a graded stockpile
- 3. Three RAP Types:
  - RAP 1: Absolute Viscosity ≈ 1.25x10<sup>6</sup> Poise, % Binder = 4.6%
    - Commercial 50K+ tons
  - RAP 2: Absolute Viscosity < 60,000 Poise, % Binder = 4.1%
    - 'Fresh' Pavement Millings
  - RAP 3: Lab Prepared: 95% JMF virgin aggregate blend + 5% PG 64-22 binder.



#### Virgin JMF Aggregate & Three RAPs







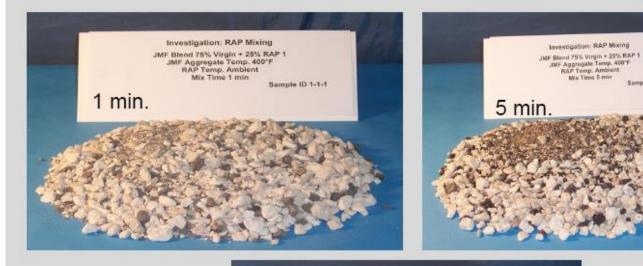




Sample ID 1-1-5

#### Effect of Mixing Time on the Mix

(400°F Virgin + RAP-1 @ ambient)









#### Effect of Mixing Time on the Mix

(800°F Virgin + RAP-1 @ ambient)









#### RAP #1, Preheated to 375F, Mixed for 10 minutes







0/15/2000



## Effect of Mixing Time on the Mix

#### (400°F Virgin + RAP-2 @ ambient)











#### Effect of Mixing Time on the Mix

(800°F Virgin + RAP-2 @ ambient)











#### Effect of Mixing Time on the Mix

(400°F Virgin + RAP-3 @ ambient)











#### Effect of Mixing Time on the Mix

(800°F Virgin + RAP-3 @ ambient)



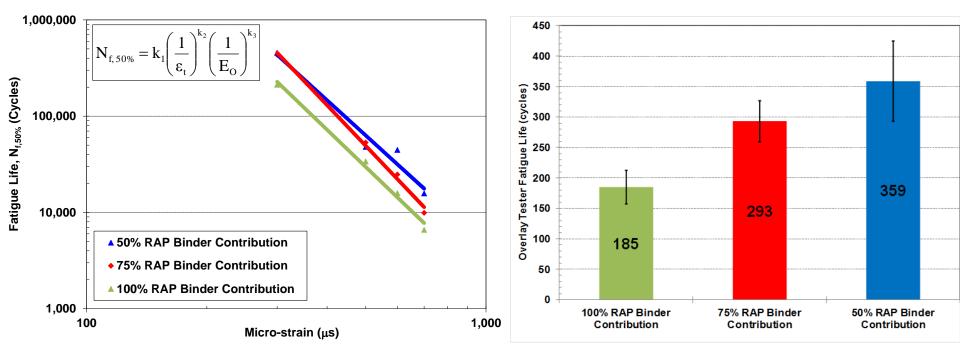






# **Degree of Blending**

- New York State looking at the influence of different degrees of blending by limiting the amount of RAP binder credited to total asphalt content
  - Reducing % contribution requires additional virgin AC, which increases effective asphalt content



# INCORRECT ASPHALT CONTENT DETERMINATIONS



# What is my RAP binder content?

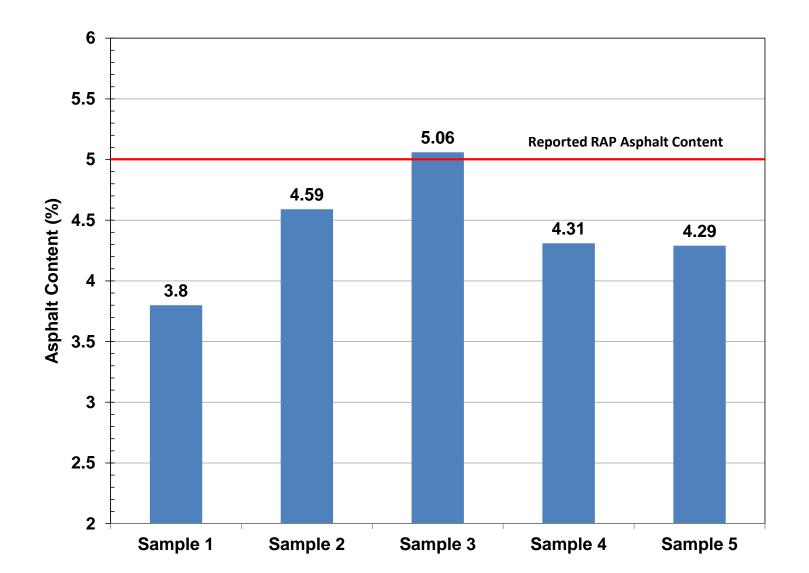
- Industry's current practice is to use the Ignition Oven to determine RAP binder content
- Unfortunately, Correction Factor is assumed based on "typical" results at plant
- As RAP content increases, results in greater degree of under-asphalting
- Also, need to move to "Binder Replacement".
  Current NJ practice is RAP % by total weight
  - What if mix calls for 5.5% asphalt content but RAP binder content is 4.5%?

# Collected PANYNJ Data – RAP AC%

	Extracted	Ignition	Diff. (or Correction Factor)
Plant #1	5.75%	6.99%	-1.24%
Plant #2	4.62%	5.31%	-0.69%
Plant #3	5.27%	6.17%	-0.90%
Plant #4	4.38%	5.46%	-1.08%
Plant #5	5.43%	6.25%	<u>-0.82%</u>

Average = -0.88%

# NJ Plant (One Plant) – Stockpile Variability



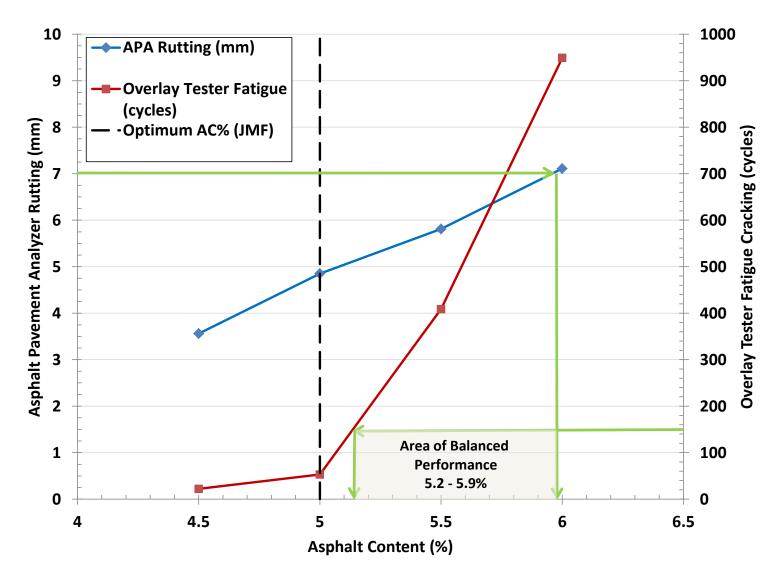


# **DESIGNING FOR PERFORMANCE**

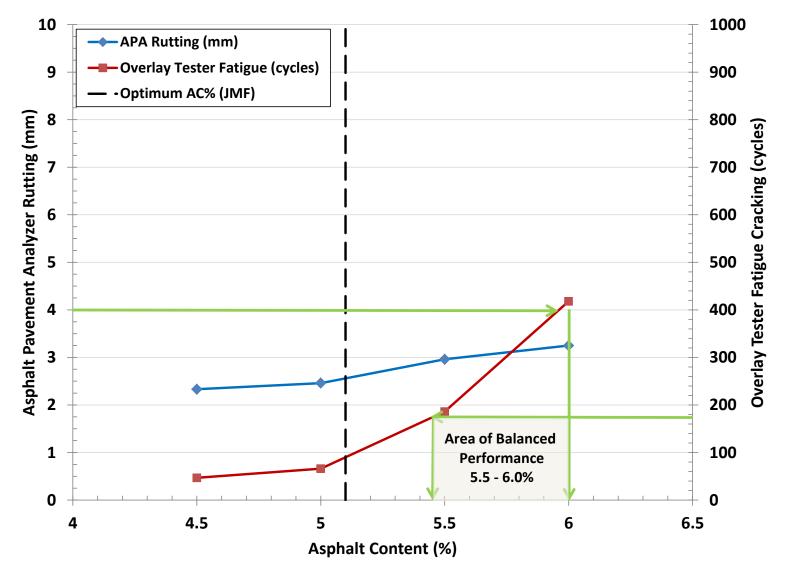
# Designing RAP Mixtures to Performance

- New NJDOT High RAP (HRAP) specification allows suppliers to use as much RAP as they want, as long as the resultant mixture performs to established criteria.
- Can use:
  - Rejuvenators, WMA, increase asphalt contents, specialized binders, etc.
  - As long as the final mixture meets HRAP specification
  - Sometimes, a little more binder is all that is needed....

# Supplier #1 – 9.5M64



# Supplier #2 – 12.5M76



# More RAP...

- When looking to utilize higher RAP
  - Know what you have for RAP
    - Stiffness, binder grade, asphalt content (solvent extraction)
  - Rejuvenators show promise but concerns with volatizing during excessive hold times
    - Conducting research on long-term performance
  - Full mobilizing and blending of RAP binder not occurring
    - State agencies looking into limiting RAP binder contribution to total binder content
    - Results in increased effective asphalt contents
  - High RAP mixtures can be designed to perform. Takes a little work, but can be accomplished



# Thank you for your time!

Thomas Bennert, Ph.D. Rutgers University Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation (CAIT) <u>bennert@rci.rutgers.edu</u> 732-445-5376