

ECONOMIC IMPACT/QUALITY

Asphalt, a safe, economical and durable paving material, offers many benefits. When properly designed, built and maintained, asphalt pavement enhances vehicle safety by providing a smooth, stable and skid-resistant surface. It also saves wear and tear on vehicles. In colder climates like Colorado, black asphalt pavements will accelerate the melting of snow and ice as compared with lighter pigment pavements such as concrete.

Asphalt pavement is 100 percent recyclable, and its quality actually improves each time it is recycled as new materials are mixed with the used material. In fact, asphalt pavement is the most recycled product in the United States at 80 percent. That compares to 60 percent of aluminum cans, 56 percent of newsprint and 31 percent of glass beverage bottles. According to the EPA, 73 million tons of asphalt are recycled each year.

Thanks to cold milling and recycling, asphalt saves significantly - compared with concrete - on the readjustment of manholes, curbs and sewer drains when rehabilitating streets and roads. American taxpayers save over \$300 million per year from recycling asphalt. In addition, compared to concrete, asphalt reduces road construction time, resulting in fewer traffic delays.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The asphalt industry has a significant, positive effect on Colorado's economy. The industry is comprised of companies ranging from small drive-way-paving operations to multi-million dollar construction companies that produce and place hot mix asphalt on roads, airports, parking lots, etc.

- *Approximately 5,000 people are directly employed by the asphalt industry in Colorado.*
- *Road construction provides employment for planners, civil engineers, construction management executives, equipment operators, laborers and many others.*
- *The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) projects that the yearly construction program will be maintained at levels greater than 500 million per year into the future.*
- *Approximately 12 million tons of HMA are produced in Colorado on an annual basis.*

- *Approximately 2 million tons of HMA are placed on Colorado highways annually.*

QUALITY

While asphalt roads have provided smooth, safe travel for Colorado motorists since 1916, the Industry still has a strong commitment to continuous improvement.

- *The asphalt industry has active partnerships with universities throughout the state to ensure that only the best design and engineering technology are used.*
- *CAPA members are advocates of Total Quality Management. They work hard to ensure that their product is of high quality and produces smoother, and longer-lasting roads for the people of Colorado, and that workers have the equipment and authority needed to accomplish their best work.*
- *CAPA and CDOT have partnered to train road technicians for certification, resulting in higher-quality, longer-lasting roads.*
- *As challenges arise, CAPA works closely with agencies to introduce new and emerging technology. For example, new long-lasting Stone Matrix Asphalt and Superpave have been developed for heavy-traffic, high performance pavements. High quality intersection mixes have been developed and guidelines for the design and construction of asphalt trails and paths are being used.*
- *Through the National Asphalt Pavement Association's (NAPA) Research and Education Foundation and Auburn University, the industry has established the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT). NCAT is conducting state-of-the-art research to assist the asphalt industry in its effort to constantly improve its product.*
- *CAPA is actively involved with state and national agency representatives to ensure appropriate implementation of products from the \$50-million Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP). The knowledge gained from SHRP research is resulting in longer lasting pavements.*