



# Hot-Mix Asphalt (HMA)

## Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

Illinois Bituminous Paving Conference  
Champaign-Urbana, Illinois  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008

**Thomas Harman**

*Team Leader – Senior Pavement Engineer*  
Federal Highway Administration - Resource Center  
Pavement & Materials TST



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration





# CHANGE

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*The dogmas of the quiet past  
are inadequate to the stormy  
present... as our case is new, so  
we must think anew and act  
anew.*

Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance



# Our Visit

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- Our Nation's Transportation System
- ***Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance***
  - Need
  - Structural Design & Analysis
    - Pavement Type Selection, RealCost™
  - Materials Characterization & Design
    - Superpave PGx, AMPT, Mix Type Selection Guide, NAPA/FHWA
  - Quality Assurance Systems
    - 6+ Building Blocks
  - Production & Placement
    - Automation, Innovation, & Basics
  - Monitoring & Preservation
    - Thinking about tomorrow to drive today's decisions
- GOAL: Provide you with resources!

Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Preservation



# Two Words About Our Nation's Transportation System

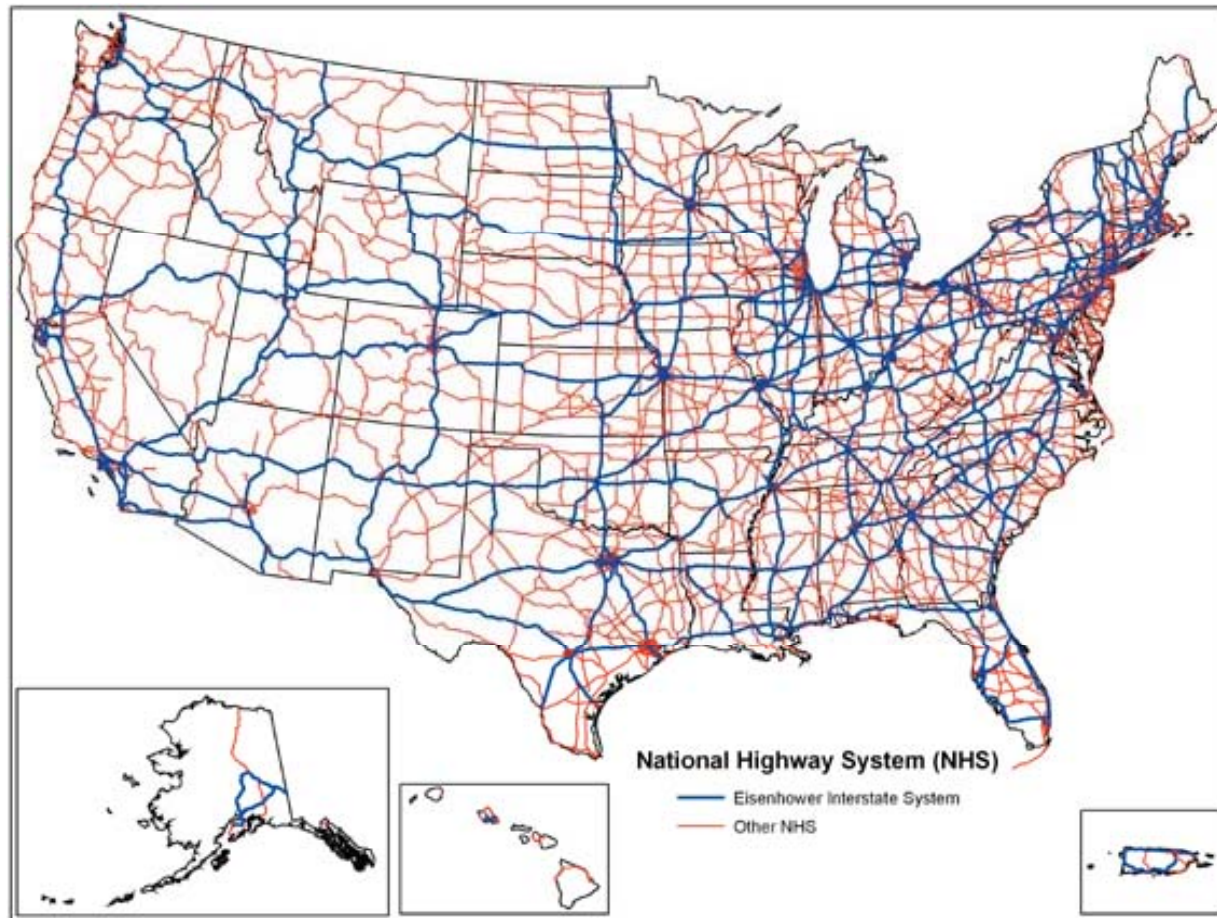




## National Statistics:

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3,963,262 miles of Roads 590,000 Bridges  
2.7 trillion vehicle-miles / year



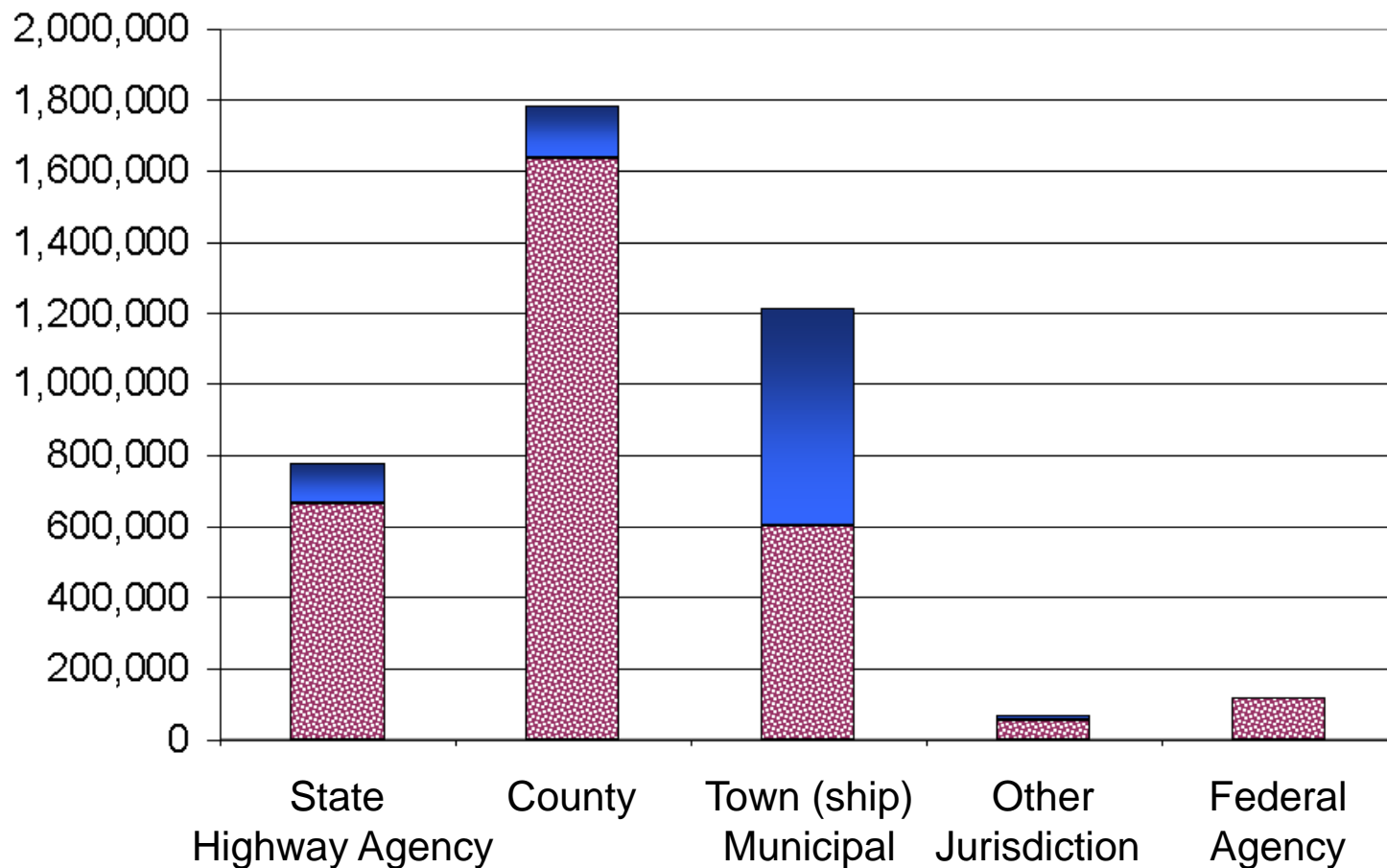


# National Statistics:

## *3,963,262 miles of Roads*

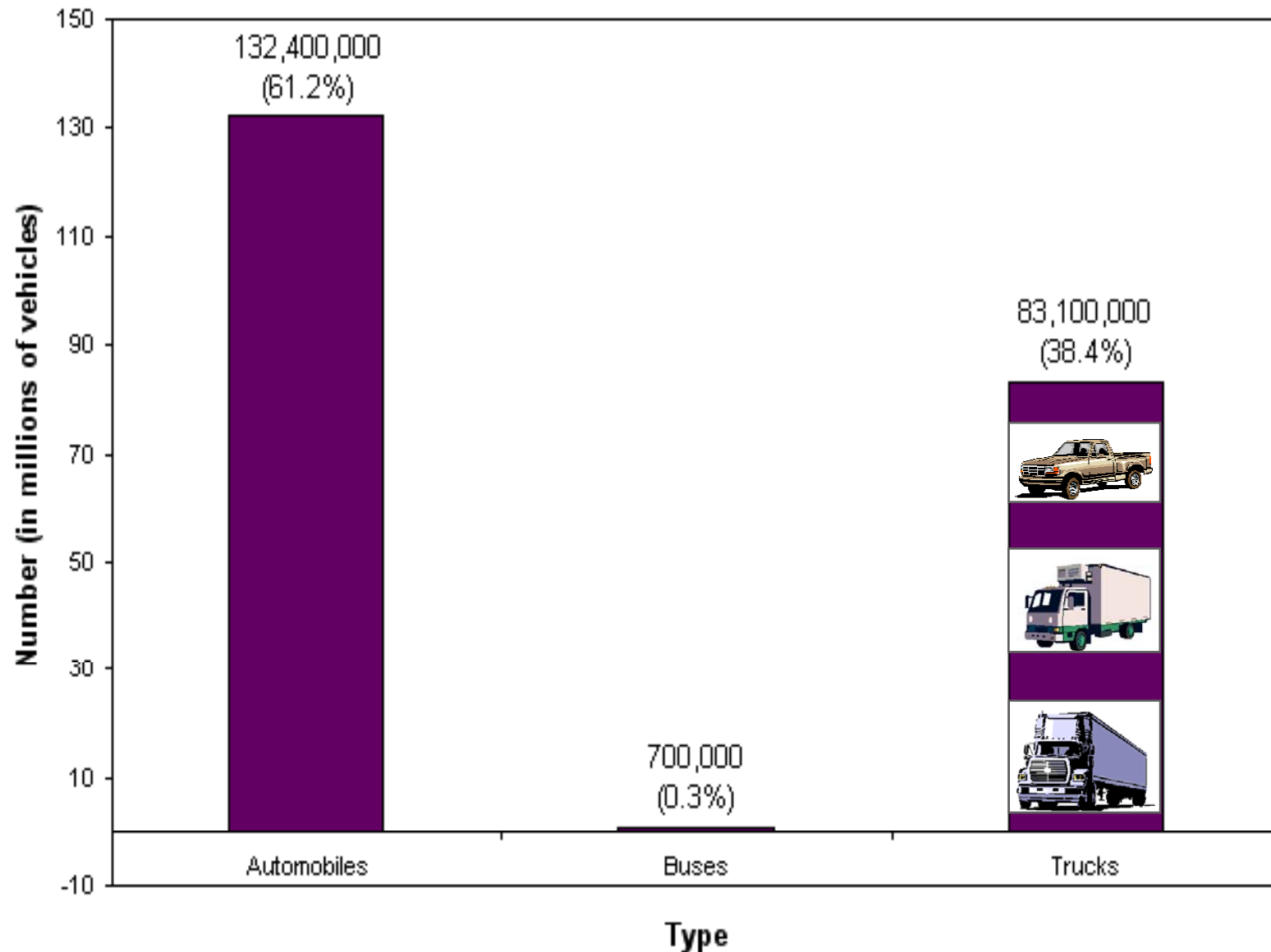
### U.S. Public Road Ownership (Centerline Miles)

Urban (Solid) vs. Rural (crosshatched)



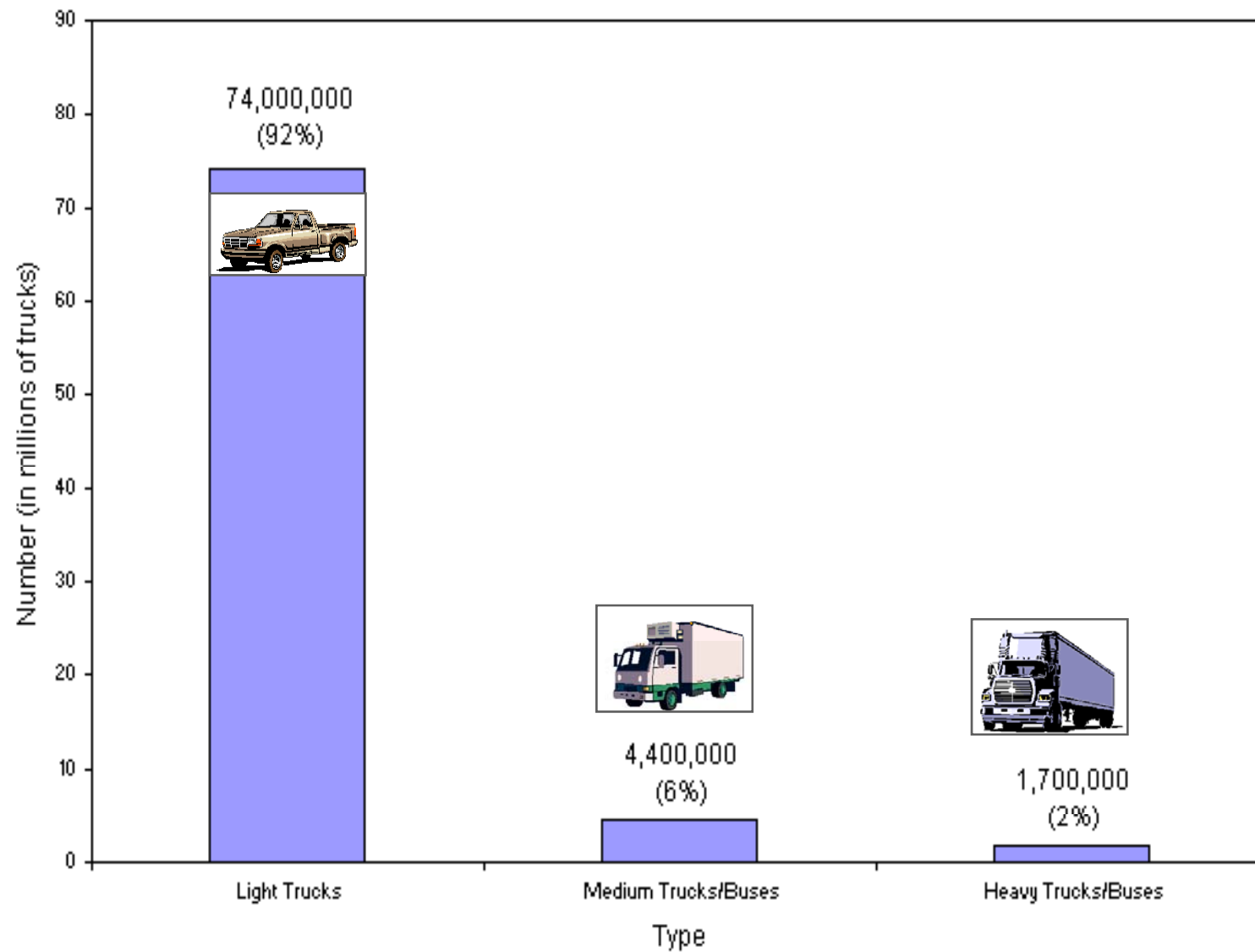
# US Vehicle Population in 2000

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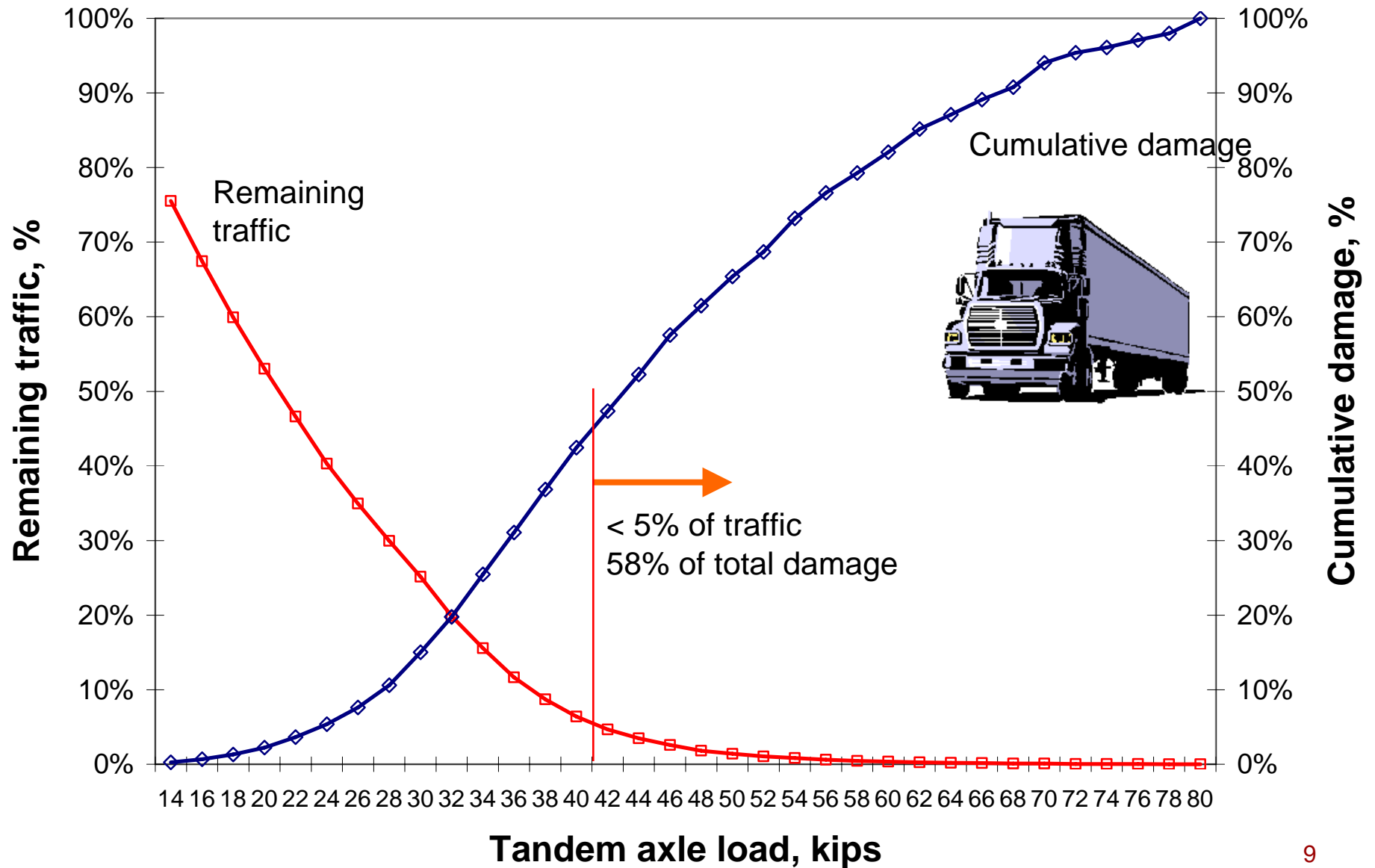


# Truck Distribution

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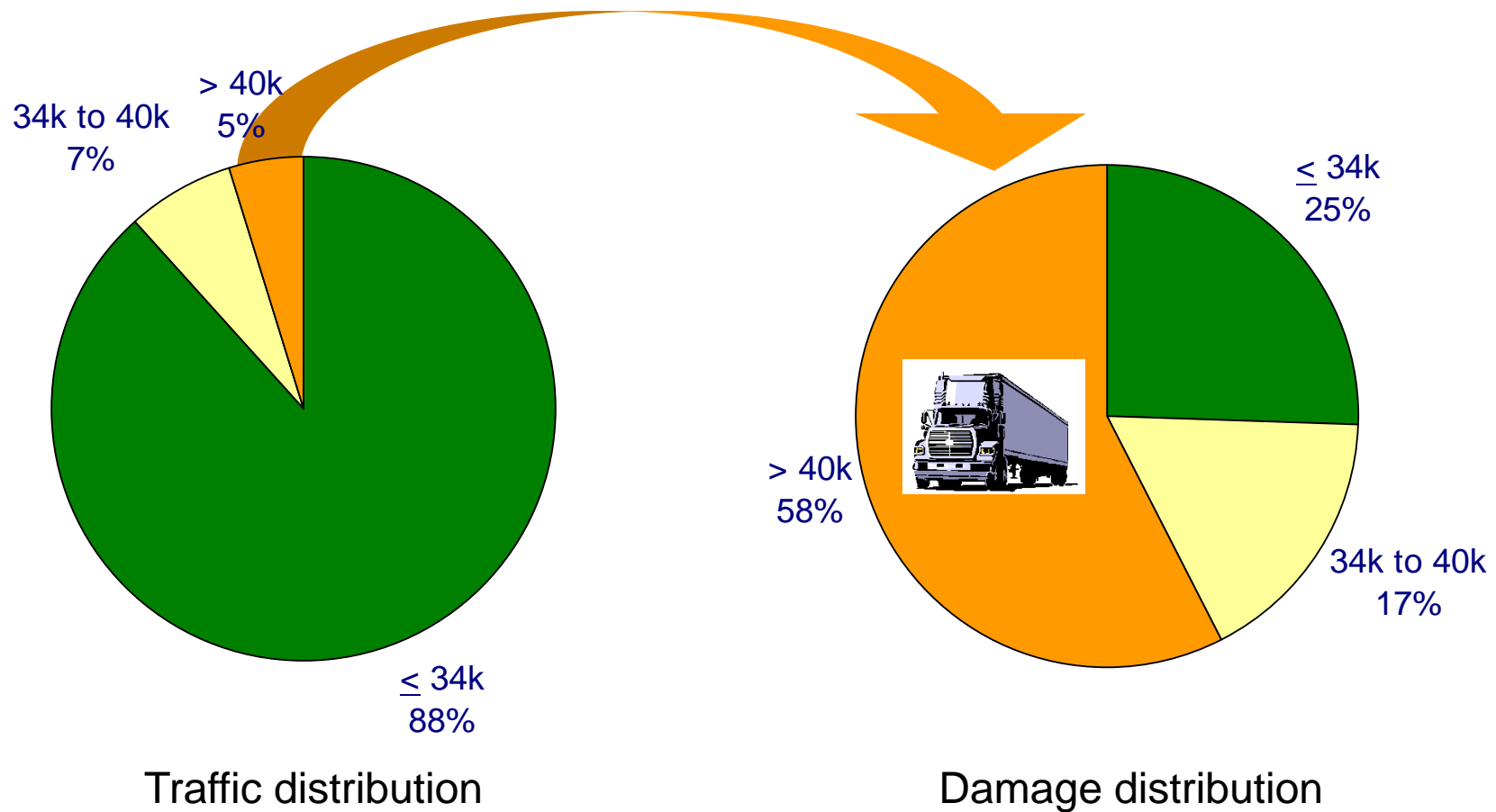
# Damage vs. Axle Weight



# Damage vs. Axle Weight

**5% of traffic causes almost 60% of damage**

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# Networks... Intermodal

Air

Truck

Rail

Water

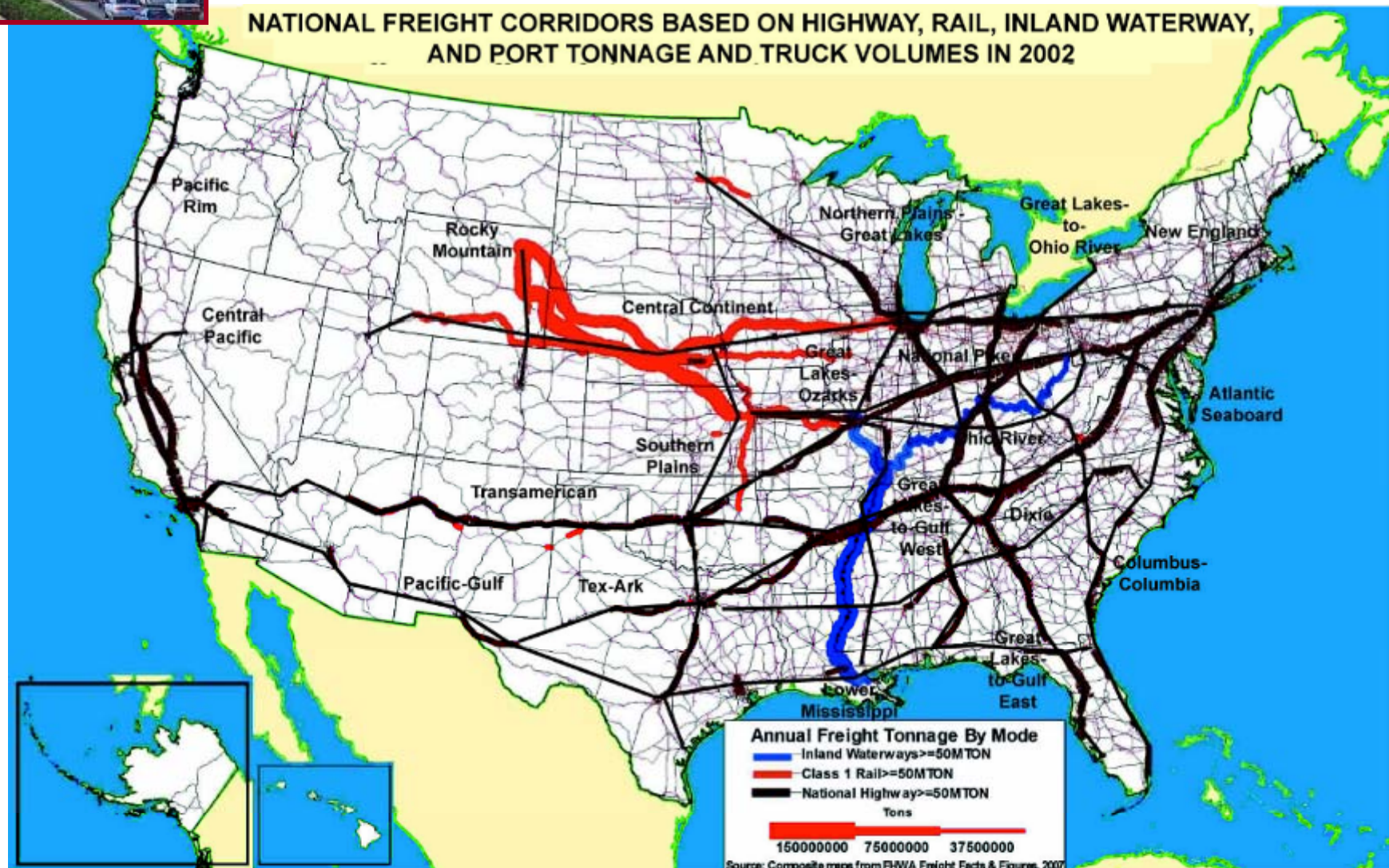
Pipeline

Highway Network





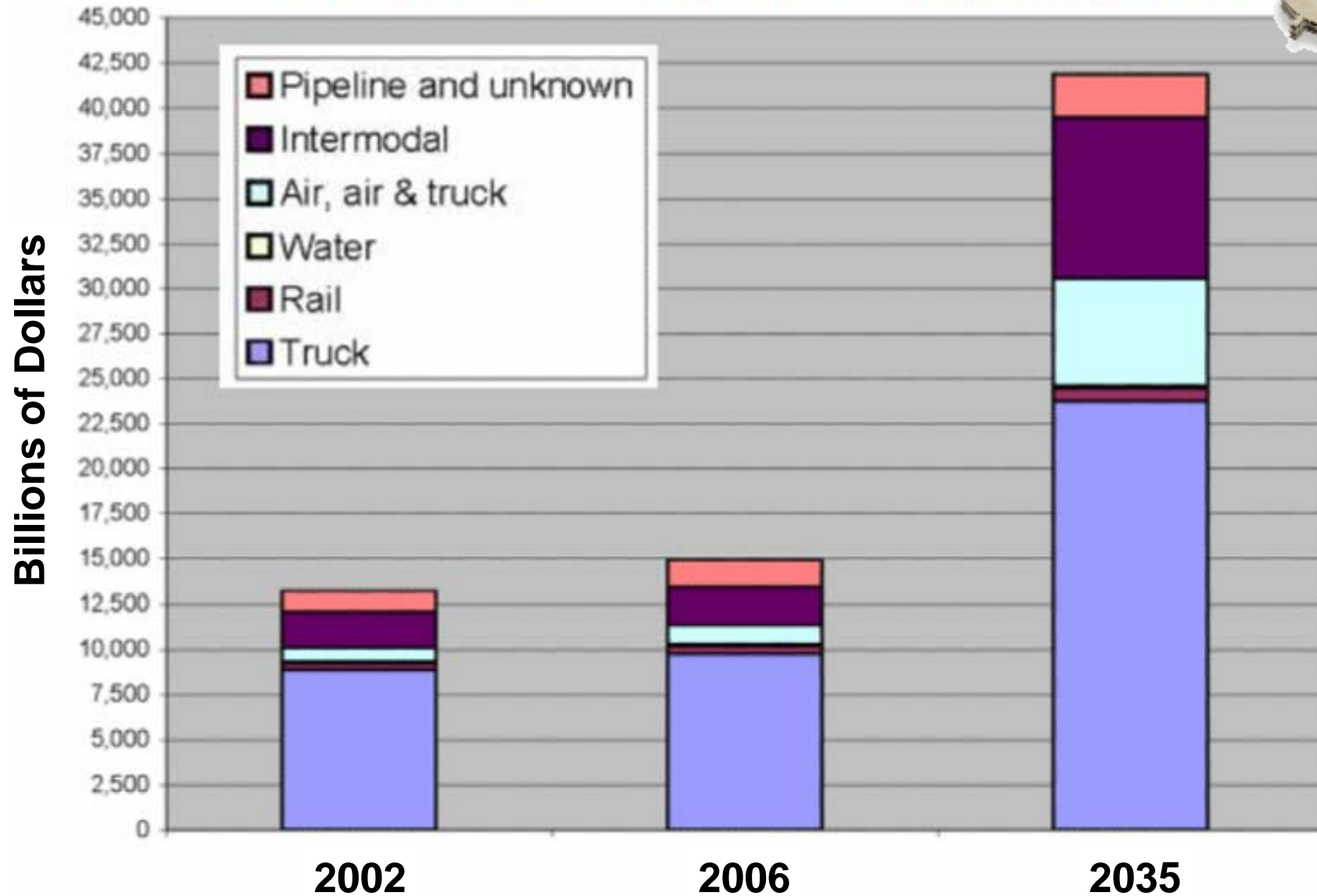
# National Freight Corridors



# Commerce

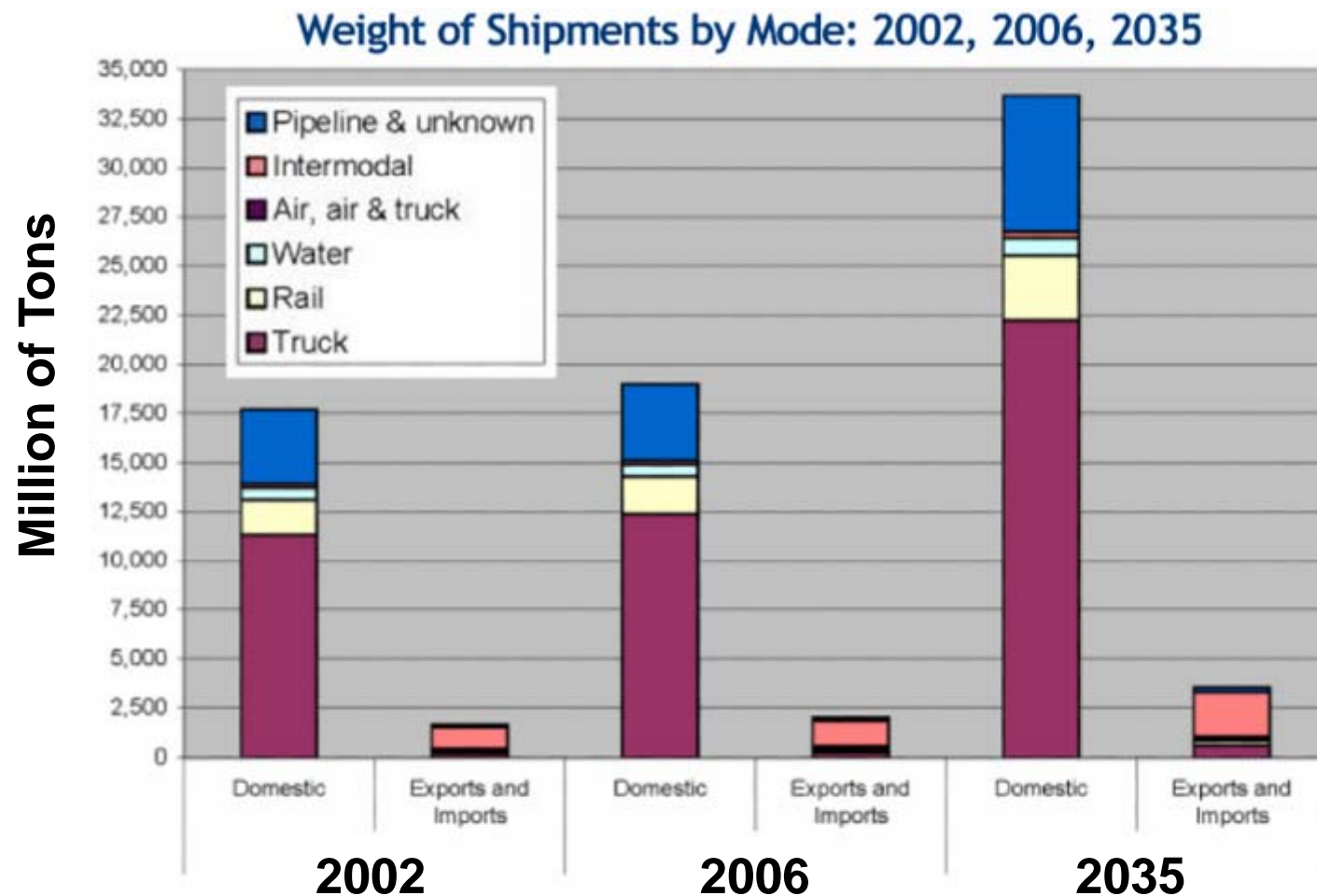


Value of Shipments by Mode: 2002, 2006, 2035



# Tonnage

In the US, an average 53 million tons of freight was moved each day in 2002...



Why



Key

- An efficient freight transportation system can also improve a State or Region's ability to attract and retain businesses



Economic Vitality and  
Competitiveness

The Environment

Safety and Quality-of-Life

National Security

# CHANGES

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- Congestion and Freight are driving factors
- Increased traffic and loadings
- Environmental Concerns (sustainability)
  - ex. Use of bag-houses at production facilities, increase in recycled materials
- Supply sources (asphalt, polymers, aggregates)
  - Escalating materials costs
- Production changes
  - ex. Drum plants vs. batch plants
- Staff reductions
- Shifting roles
- Personnel experience & shortages

# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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- Risk

- Risk is the likelihood of a bad or unwanted outcome – such as poor pavement performance or low profit margin (or crap dice)
- All systems have some inherent Risk, and
- Changes within a system will either increase, decrease, and/or shift Risk between parties,
  - ex. Owner Agency & Contractor



# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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- Risk - Law of Unexpected Consequences...

*“Sometimes in getting what you ask for you loose what you truly wanted.”*



# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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## Innovation

- New materials, testing tools, and production equipment and procedures offer the potential for even greater pavement performance!



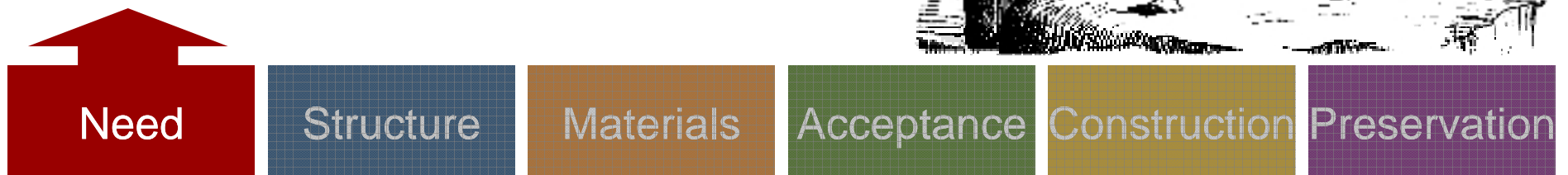
# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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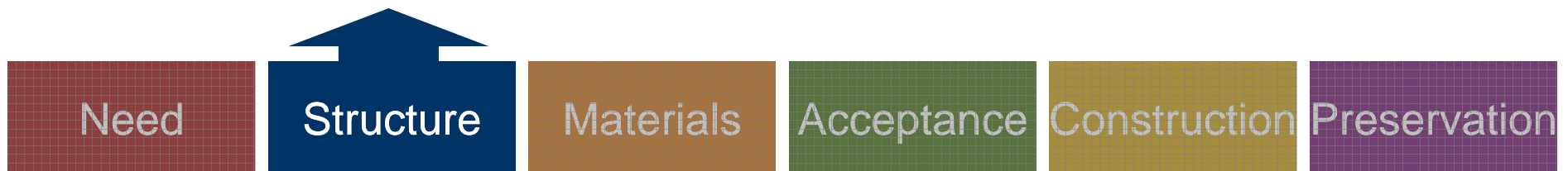
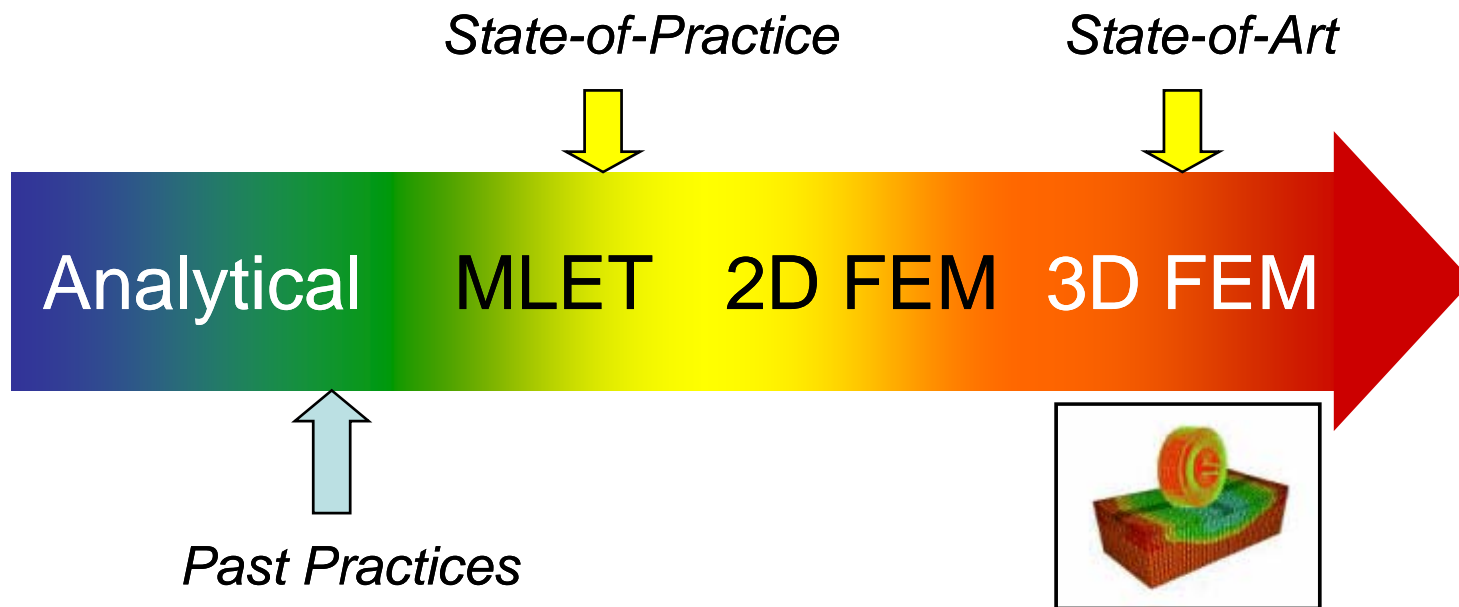
## Risk and Innovation

- In developing systems that reduce overall Risk, we can create an environment that does **NOT** foster or reward innovation.





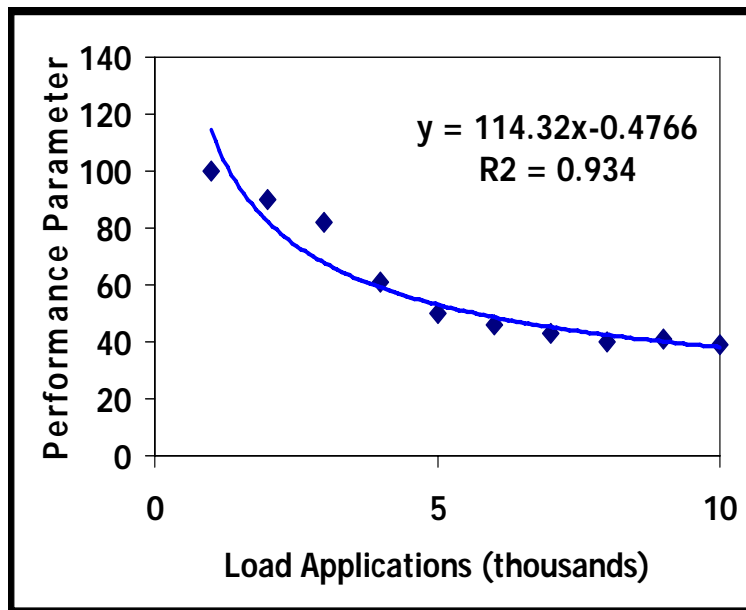
# Evolution of Pavement Design



# Evolution of Pavement Design



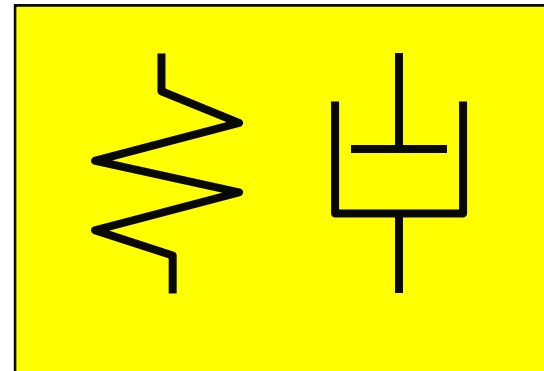
## Empirical



- Get a lot of data
- Find a Trend (Hope for)

## Mechanistic

- Springs
- Dashpots



Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

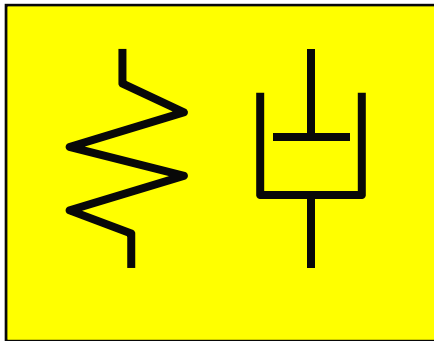
Construction

Preservation

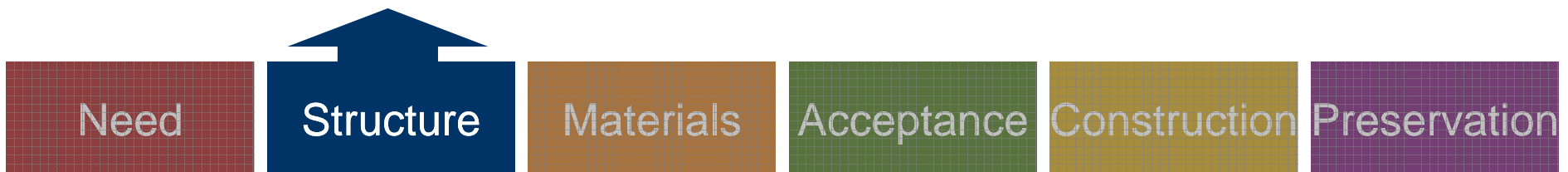
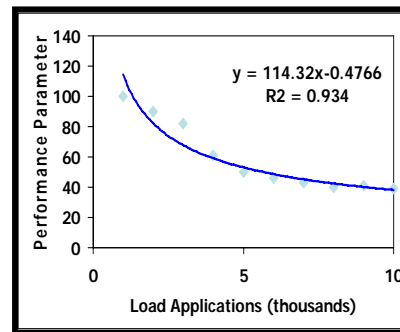
# Evolution of Pavement Design



- Mechanistic-Empirical
  - Combines mechanistically based models (equations) with empirically derived models (equations)



+



AASHO  
Interim Guide  
for the Design

Guide

00V

FOREWORD

This interim guide for the design of pavement structures is based on data from the AASHO Road Test at Ottawa Illinois. In those areas not covered by the Road Test, theoretical analysis and experience have been utilized.

It is essential that the user of the guide understand its limitations, which are: ...

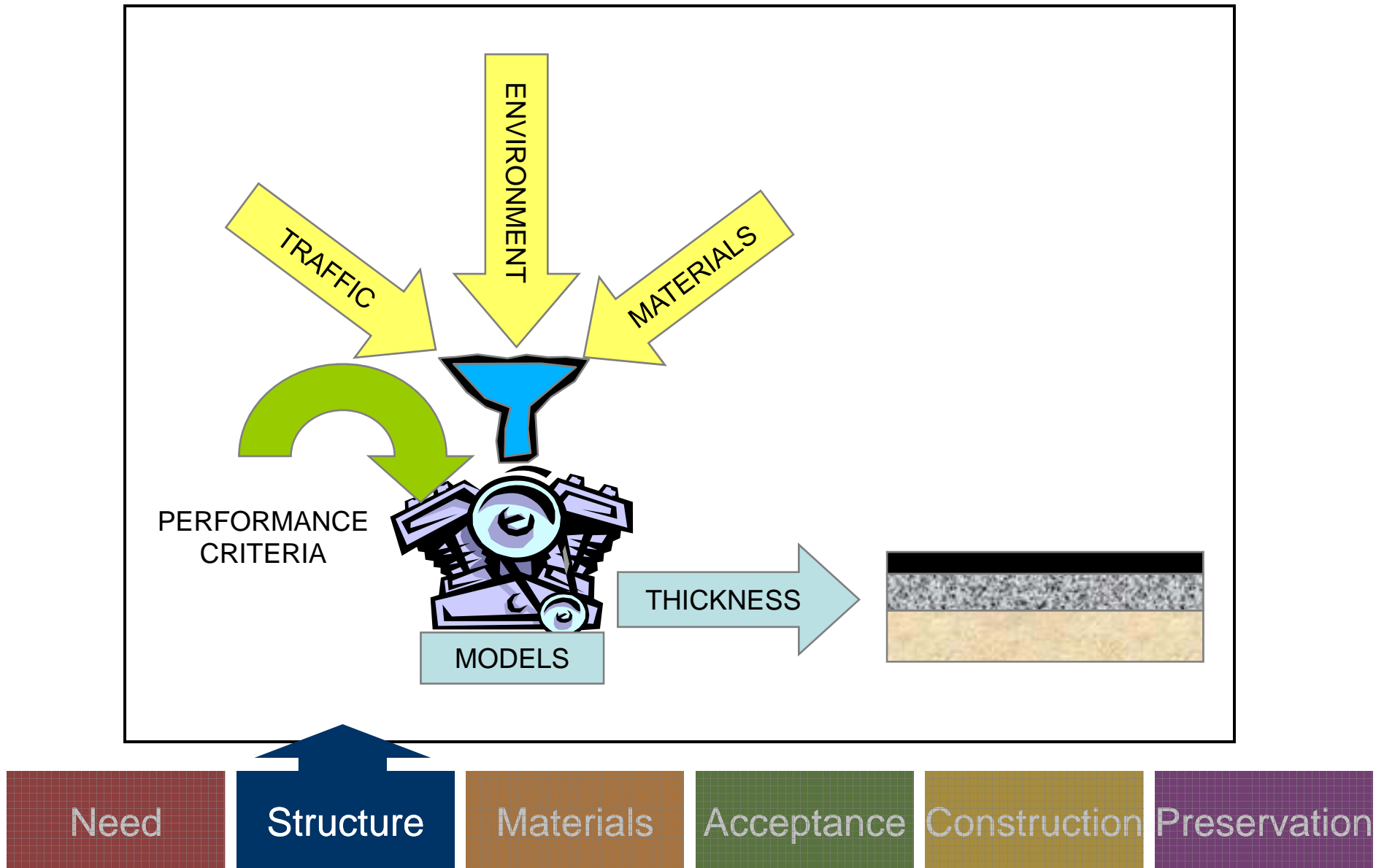
Apr

Environmental Section is still in-place today.

Fred Finn – Bituminous Engineer for the Track



# New AASHTO M-E Pavement Design Guide



# New M-E Pavement Design Guide

The screenshot displays the 'Md SHA Training - Mechanistic Empirical Pavement Design Guide' software interface. The main window is divided into several sections:

- Project [C:\Program Files\Projects\Md SHA Training.dgp]:** A tree view showing the project structure with folders for General Information, Site/Project Identification, and Analysis Parameters.
- Inputs:** A tree view showing the input parameters for the design, including Traffic, General Traffic Inputs, Climate, Structure, and Layers.
- Results:** A tree view showing the output results, including Input Summary, Output Summary, and Flexible Summary.
- Analysis Status:** A table showing the completion status of various analysis components.
- General Project Information:** A table showing project details such as Type, Design Life, Climate, Construction Date, Traffic Open Date, and Initial AADTT.
- Properties:** A table showing the settings for the analysis, including Units, Analysis Type, Output Type, and Warnings.

A 'Run Analysis' button is located at the bottom right of the interface.

Analysis	% Complete
Traffic	100%
Climatic	100%
Thermal Cracking	100%
AC Analysis	100%
Summary	100%

Parameter	Value
Type	New Flexible
Design Life	15 Years
Climate	CADG2002\Projects\Md SHA Training\Md SHA Tr
Construction Date	9/2008
Traffic Open Date	10/2008
Initial AADTT	1500

Setting	Value
Units	US Customary
Analysis Type	Probabilistic
Output Type	Excel Worksheet
Warnings	Enabled

Need

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# Life-Cycle Cost Analysis Software RealCost™



## Probabilistic Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/asstmgmt/lcca.cfm>

**Microsoft Excel - RealCost**

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help AbleBits.com Adobe PDF Type a question for help

100%

A1 INPUT WORKSHEET

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	<b>INPUT WORKSHEET</b>										
2											
3	<b>1. Economic Variables</b>										
4	Value of Time for Passenger Cars (\$/hour)										
5	Value of Time for Single Unit Trucks (\$/hour)										
6	Value of Time for Combination Trucks (\$/hour)										
7											
8	<b>2. Analysis Options</b>										
9	Include User Costs in Analysis	Yes	Yes								
10	Include User Cost Remaining Service Life Value	Yes	Yes								
11	Use Differential User Costs	Yes	Yes								
12	User Cost Computation Method	Calculated	Calculated								
13	Include Agency Cost Remaining Service Life Value	Yes	Yes								
14	Traffic Direction	Both	Both								
15	Analysis Period (Years)	40									
16	Beginning of Analysis Period										
17	Discount Rate (%)										
18											
19	<b>3. Project Details and Quantity Calculations</b>										
20	State Route										
21	Project Name										
22	Region										
23	County										
24	Analyzed By										
25	Mileposts										
26	Begin										
27	End										
28	Length of Project (miles)	0.00									
29	Comments										
30											
31	<b>4. Traffic Data</b>										
32	AADT Construction Year (total for both directions)										
33	Cars as Percentage of AADT (%)	100.0									
34	Single Unit Trucks as Percentage of AADT (%)										
35	Combination Trucks as Percentage of AADT (%)										
36	Annual Growth Rate of Traffic (%)										
37	Speed Limit Under Normal Operating Conditions (mph)										
38	No of Lanes in Each Direction During Construction										
39	Free Flow Capacity (vphpl)										

Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

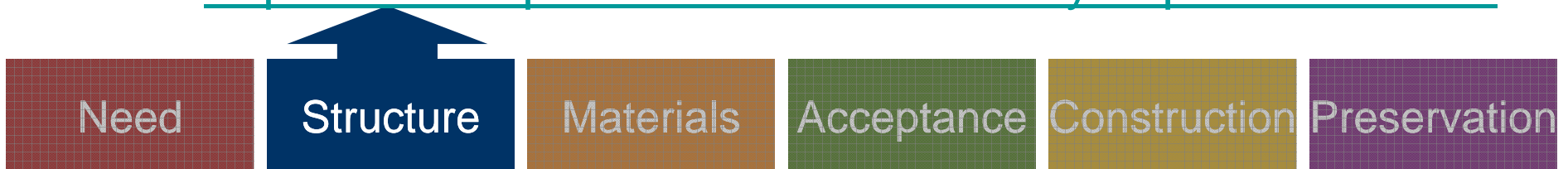
Construction

Preservation

# Pavement Design Resources

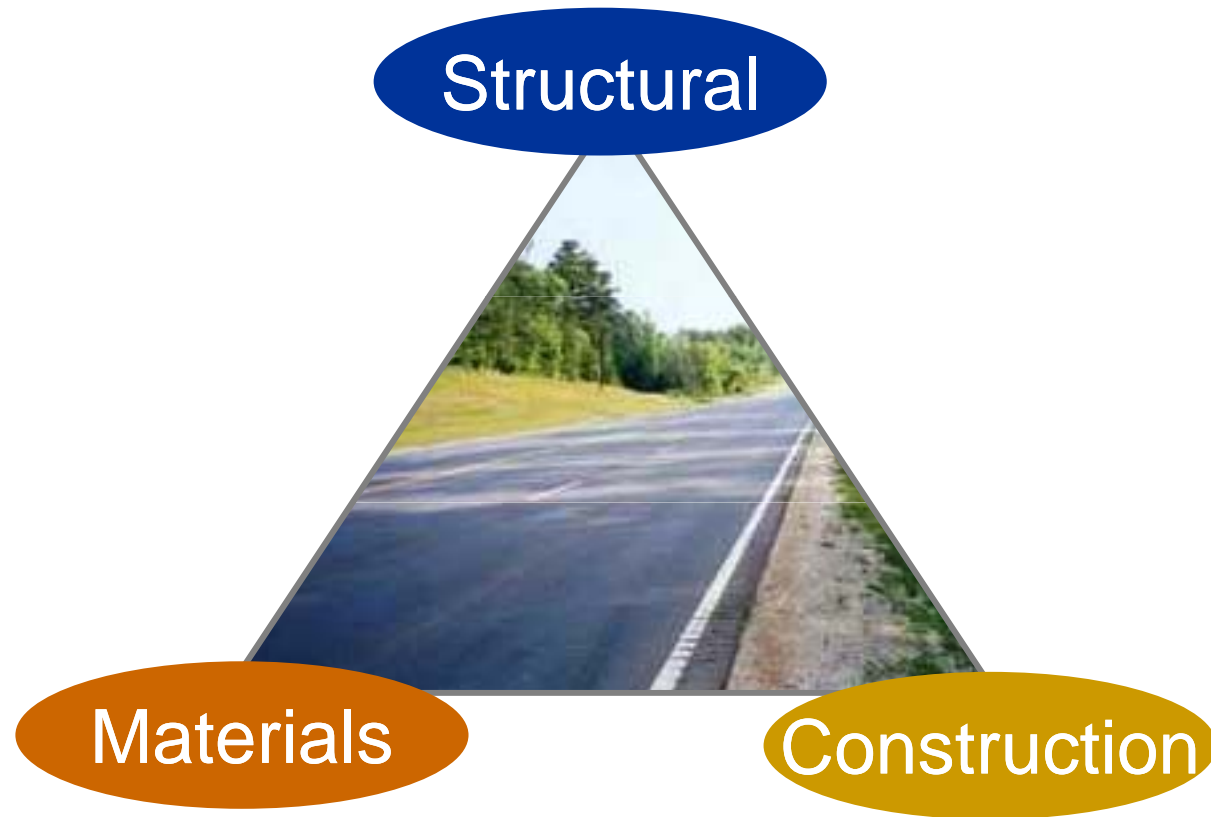
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- FHWA:
  - <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/>
- NCHRP, 1-37A: **Free software download**
  - <http://www.trb.org/mepdg/>
- National Asphalt Pavement Association
  - <http://www.hotmix.org/>
- Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA)
  - <http://www.asphaltalliance.com/index.asp>
- APA: Perpetual Pavements
  - <http://www.asphaltalliance.com/library.asp?MENU=519>



# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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## Superpave<sup>®</sup>

Performance-Based  
Purchase Specification  
Design and Analysis Tool

Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Performance



# Why SHRP?

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- In the 1980's procedures and practices could not assure performance.
- **Unacceptable Risk**
- Distress...
  - Rutting
  - Fatigue cracking
  - Low-temperature cracking



# Major Steps in Superpave Mix Design

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1. Selection of Materials,
2. Selection of a Design Aggregate Structure,
3. Selection of the Design Binder Content,
4. Evaluation of Moisture Sensitivity of the Design Mixture, and
5. Performance Characterization.

Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance





Superpave Gyratory Compactor

# *ONGOING*

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## Refinement

- **Understanding Modifiers, PGx**
- **Asphalt Mix Performance Tester**
- *Equipment Calibration*
- *Understanding acid*
- *Improved moisture test*
  
- Construction Quality
- Link to Pavement Design
- Communication!



Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Preservation

# Paul Mack

*New York State - Retired*

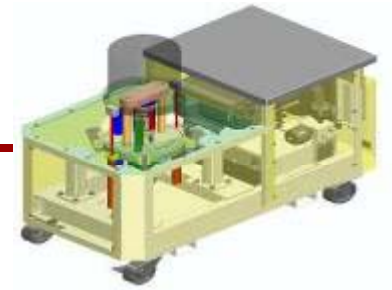
*Imperfection should never  
stall implementation.*

*You can still drink from a  
chipped cup.*

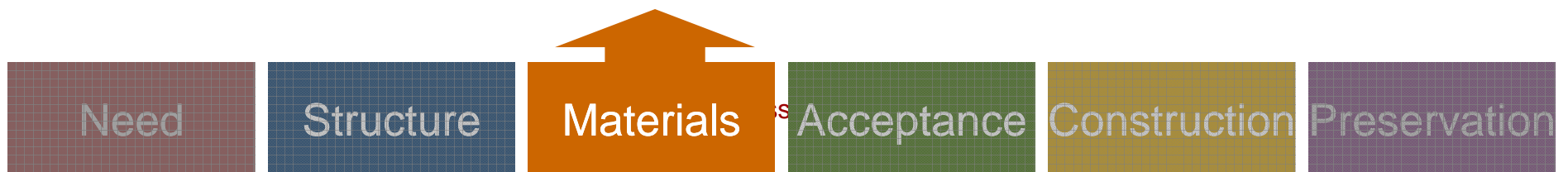


# Challenges

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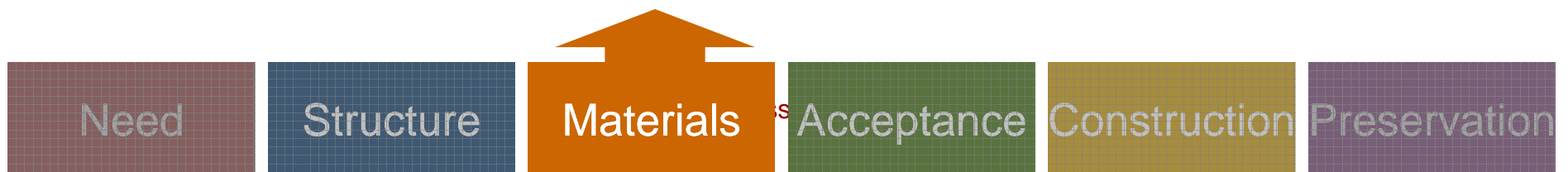
- Achieving VMA
- Suitability of Gyratory Compaction Levels
- Issues of Durability & Binder content
- Need for a Moisture Sensitivity Test
- Deployment of a Performance/Strength Test



# NCHRP 9 – Bituminous Materials

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- RAP Characterization, 9-12
- Gyratory Level, 9-9, 9-16, 9-19
- Volumetric Requirements, 9-25, 9-31
- Performance Testing, 9-19, 9-29
- Mixture Design Manual, 9-33



# New Asphalt Mix Performance Tester AMPT

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Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

# AMPT – Pooled Fund Study

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- POC: Dr. Audrey Copeland, FHWA
  - [Audrey.Copeland@dot.gov](mailto:Audrey.Copeland@dot.gov)



Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Preservation

# SHRP Asphalt Program Coordinator

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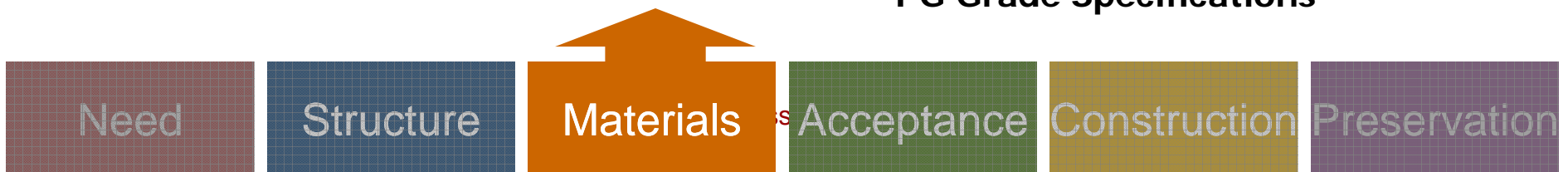
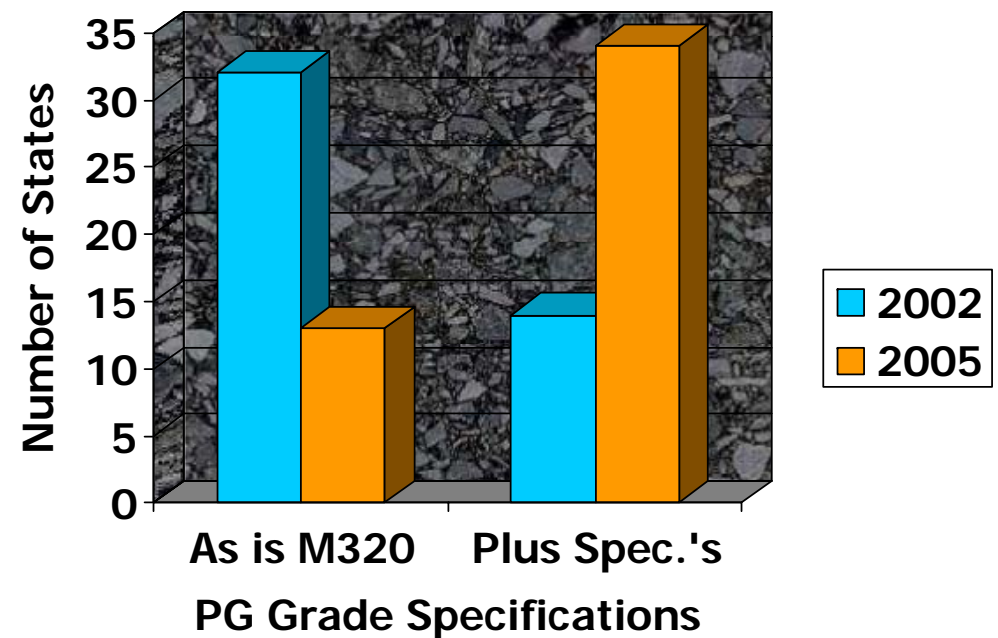
"One of the principal goals of the **SHRP** asphalt program is to reduce or eliminate the proliferation of asphalt binder specifications."

Dr. Thomas Kennedy

# Growing Trend from 2002 to 2005

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- 34 States with Plus Specs (67%)
- 13 States Straight M 320
- 21 Different Pluses
- 4 Duel / Hybrid
- **The Winner! –  
M 320 with 13 Pluses**  
+++++



# Superpave® Plus

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# WHY?

# High-Temperature Performance

## I-80, Nevada

Same gradation - different binders.



PG 63-22 modified  
No rutting



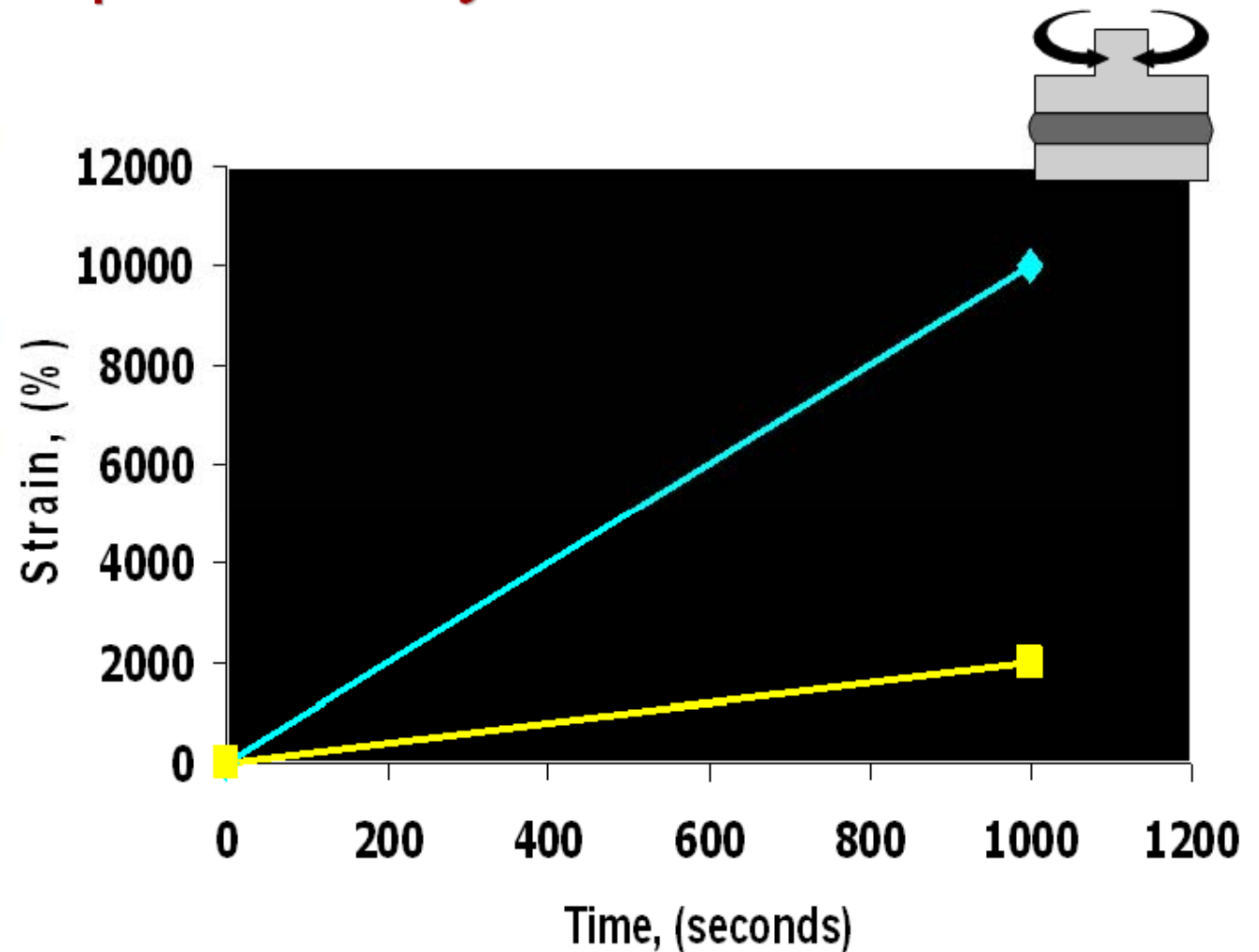
PG 67-22 unmodified  
15mm of rutting

# High Temperature (Rutting) Repeated Creep Recovery Test

PG 67-22 Neat AC



PG 63-22 Modified



## New Superpave Tool... PGx (Table 3)

- Original Spec was based on Modulus,  $G^*$  is Stress / Strain
- Compliance,  $J_{NR}$  is Strain / Stress
  - **x: Standard, Heavy, Very Heavy**
  - Eliminates grade-bumping
  - Accounts for traffic level through Jnr criteria

# Materials Resources

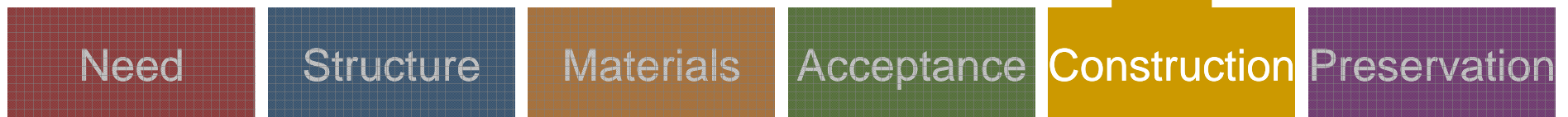
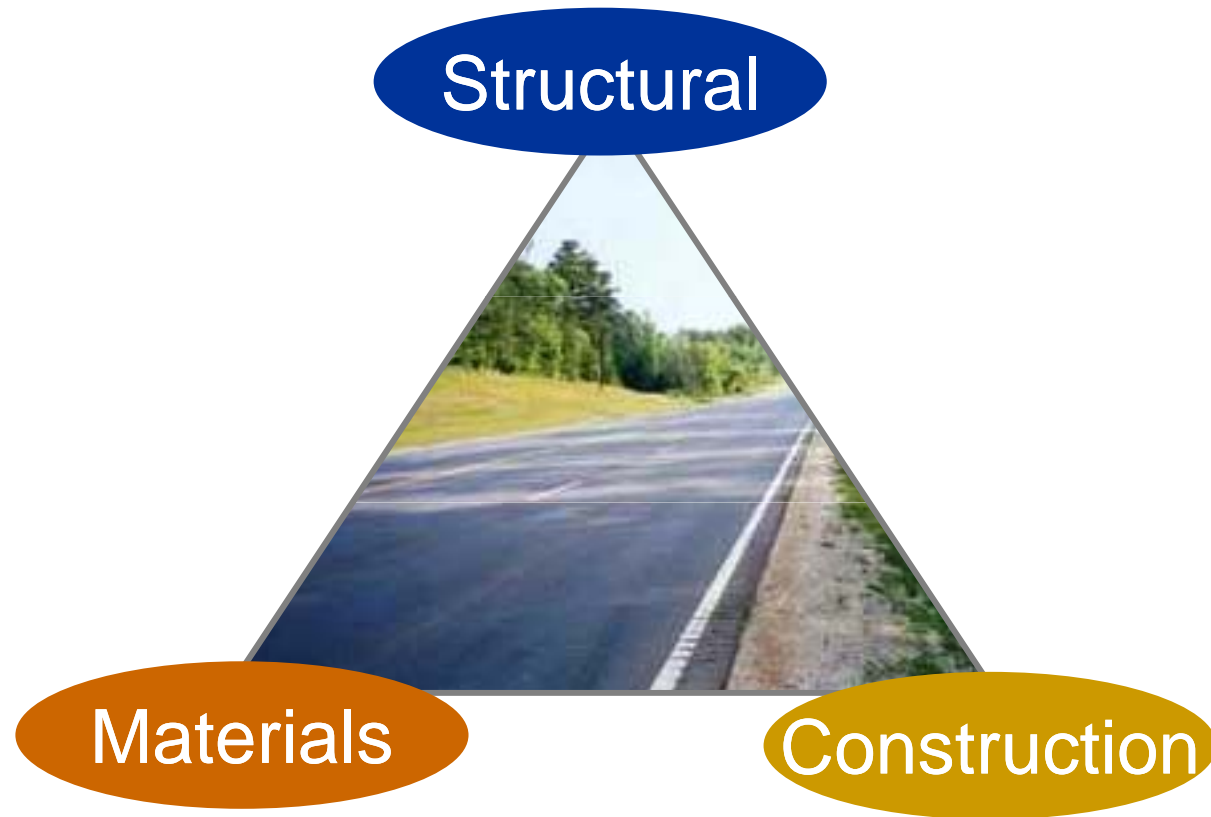
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- FHWA:
  - <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/>
- NCHRP, 9-series
  - <http://www.trb.org/mepdg/>
- National Asphalt Pavement Association
  - <http://www.hotmix.org/>
- Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA)
  - <http://www.asphaltalliance.com/index.asp>
- Asphalt Institute
  - <http://www.asphaltinstitute.org/>



# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

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# Construction

- *Contacting Mechanisms*

- Design Standards (ex. Superpave) to Performance Specifications to Warranties to Public-Private-Partnership



## Quality Assurance Systems

- Ex. Percent Within Limits (PWL)

## Compaction & Intelligent Construction Systems (ICS)

- Longitudinal Joints, Automated Plants, IC Rolls, Infrared Cameras, Real time project information...

- Warm Mix Asphalt Technologies
- HIGH RAP Materials

Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Preservation

**DRAFT**



# **FHWA**

## **Quality Assurance Assessment**

### **FY 2008**

# What it is **NOT** and what it **IS**...

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- The Assessment is NOT...
  - A “Gotcha”
  - A way to compare States
  - A indication of pavement performance
  - Perfect
- The Assessment is...
  - A tool to identify potential areas of RISK
  - A tool to identify “successful practices”
  - A tool to prioritize training
  - A tool to guide specification refinement

# Driving Factors

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- Quality Assurance Reviews (HIPT)
  - State Agency Compliance with CFR
- National Review Program: Quality Assurance in Materials & Construction (Division Office Assessment of Risk)
  - Kevin McLaury (MT), Team Leader, Max Grogg (IA), Mike Praul (ME), Brad Neitzke (WFL), Ken Jacoby (HIAM), Pete Kulyk (HPC), & Tamiko Burnell (HSA)



# National Review Program: Quality Assurance in Materials & Construction

## Six Building Blocks...

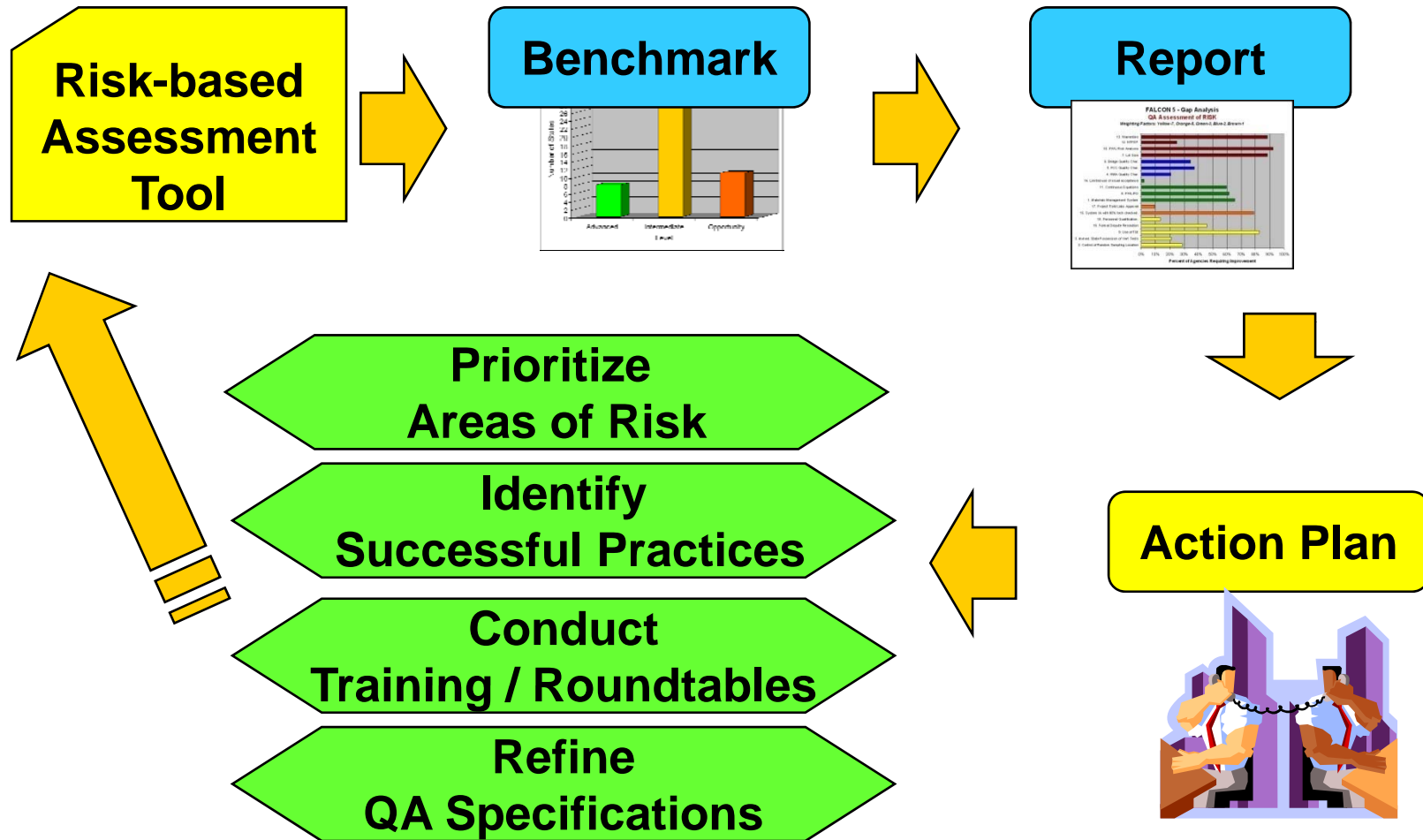
1. Contractor Quality Control
2. Agency Acceptance
3. Independent Assurance
4. Dispute Resolution
5. Laboratory Accreditation and Qualification
6. Personnel Qualification/Certification, and

7. RISK



Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance

# Risk-based Process

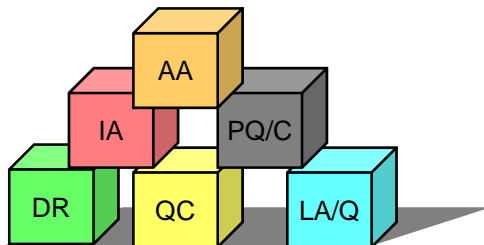


# Division Office Interview *(Mike/Lee/Dennis)*

## Assessment of RISK (QA System)

- 18 Questions...
  - Covers the Six Building Blocks
  - Questions Weighted
  - 1, 2, 3, 5, & 7

- Frequency
  - 52 in FY 2008
  - Updated... TBD



Balancing F

Microsoft Excel - Advanced QA System Performance Measure DVD.tph

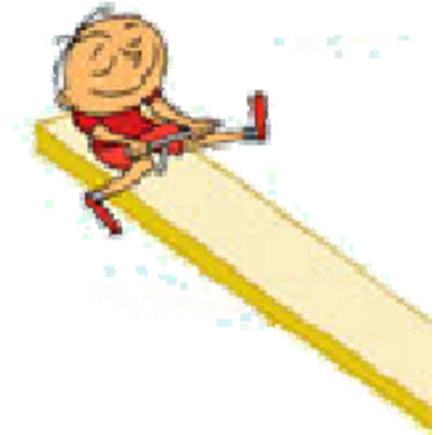
Question #	Question	Weight	State 1	State 2	State 3	State 4	State 5	State 6	State 7	State 8	State 9	State 10	S
1	Does the State use a materials management system, which includes all test results (State and/or Contractor), that is used in the acceptance process?	5	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	
2	Does the State have a documented process for controlling the location of random sampling?	7	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
3	Does the State control of the locations for verification testing and takes immediate possession of the samples?	7	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	
4	Which of the following does the State use for Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) pavement acceptance? (Total weight 3)	3											
	Asphalt Binder Content, P <sub>b</sub>	0.6	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	
	Voids in Total Mix, V <sub>a</sub>	0.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	
	Voids in Mineral Aggregate, V <sub>MA</sub>	0.4	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
	In-place density	0.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Smoothness (ex. IRI)	0.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	
5	Which of the following does the State use for Concrete pavement acceptance? (Total weight 3)	3											
	Strength (either compressive or flexural)	0.8	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Pavement Thickness	0.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	
	Entrained Air Content	0.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Permeability	0.6	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Smoothness (ex. IRI)	0.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	
6	Which of the following does the State use for Concrete Bridge Deck acceptance? (Total weight 3)	3											
	Strength (either compressive or flexural)	0.75	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Entrained Air Content	0.75	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Permeability	0.75	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
	Smoothness (ex. IRI)	0.75	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
7	Are the payment lot sizes between 7 and 20 tests?	3	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	
8	Does the State use P <sub>WL</sub> /P <sub>D</sub> type specifications?	5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
9	Does State include contractors tests in acceptance decision? (Total weight 3 - if applicable)		N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	
	If the State uses contractor tests in the acceptance decision does the State verify the contractor test results with F&I tests using a minimum of five (5) State results to 5-20 contractor results?	3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	

Ready start 3 Wind... Windows... Home... Deleted I... MCT Mtg... 3 Micro... Microsoft... Search with Google 8:57 AM

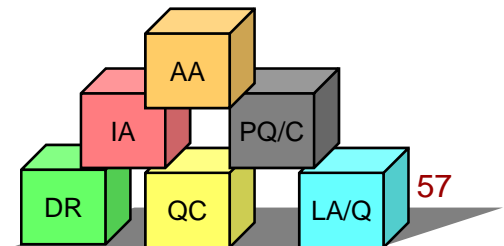
# Two desired outcomes...

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- We get what we pay for... Balanced, low-risk system
- Create a culture of Trust



Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance



# Definitions

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- **Advanced States**

- Those States that have highly developed QA programs that demonstrate their capability for measuring the quality of their construction and materials programs. An advance QA program includes highly developed Contractor Quality Control, Agency Acceptance, Dispute Resolution, Independent Assurance, Technician Certification or Qualification, and Laboratory Certification programs.

- **Intermediate States**

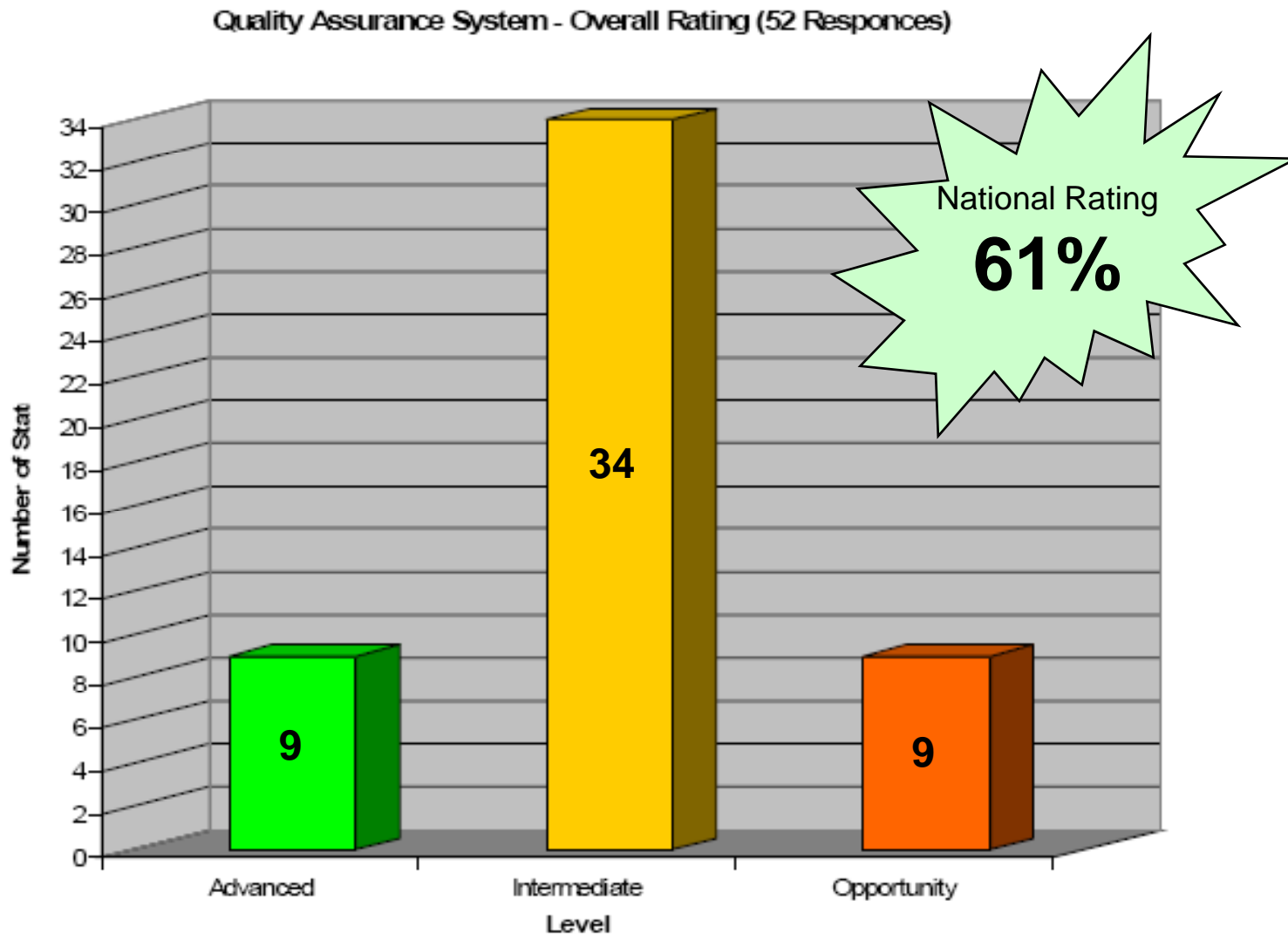
- Those States that have substantially demonstrated an effective QA program for measuring quality and includes most of the QA elements of an advanced QA program.

- **Opportunity States**

- Those States that have a demonstrated a weakness in their construction and materials programs to measure quality or have a weakness in their program that could lead to fraud.

# NPM – A low rating is not a compliance issue with 23 CFR 637.

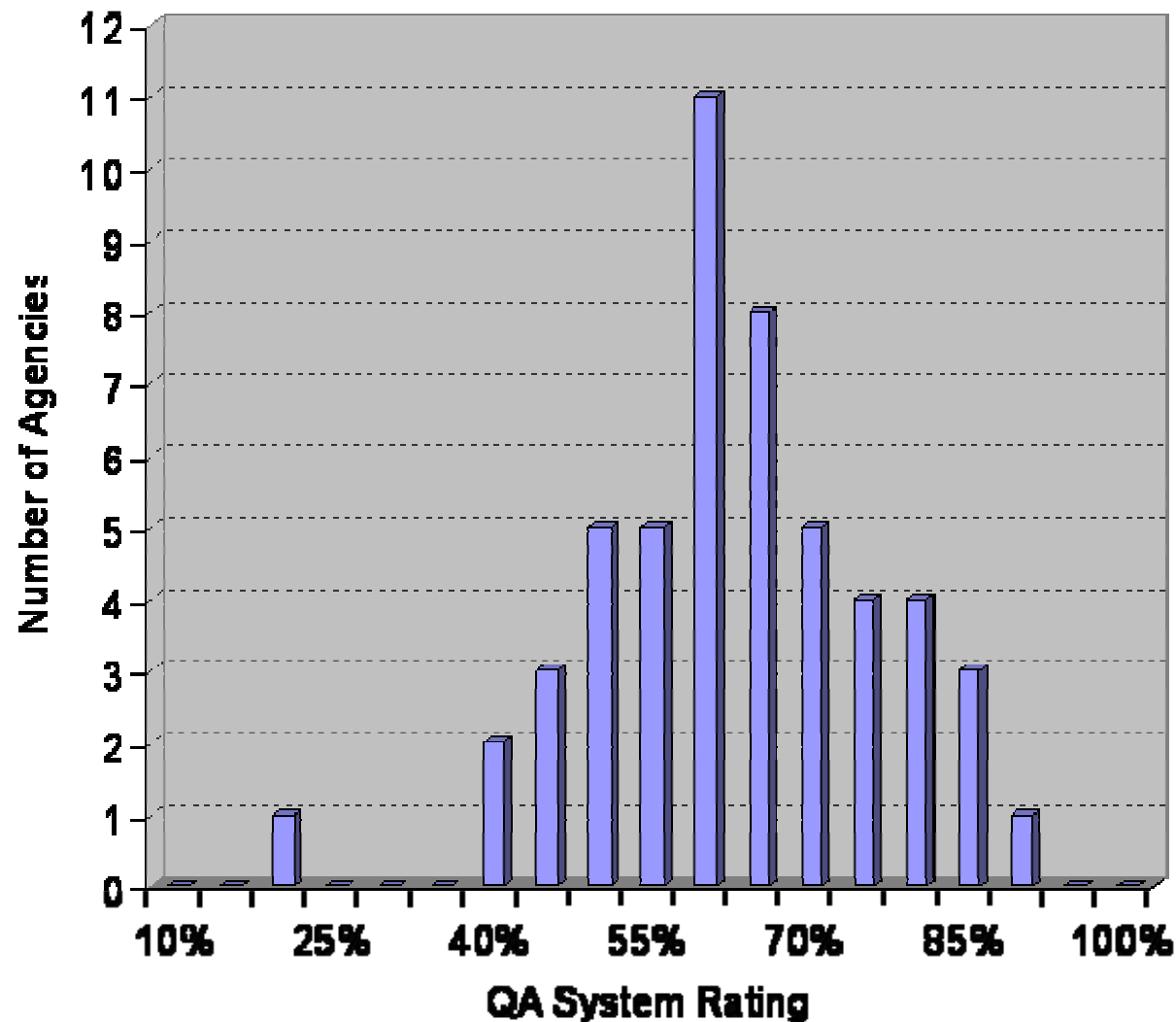
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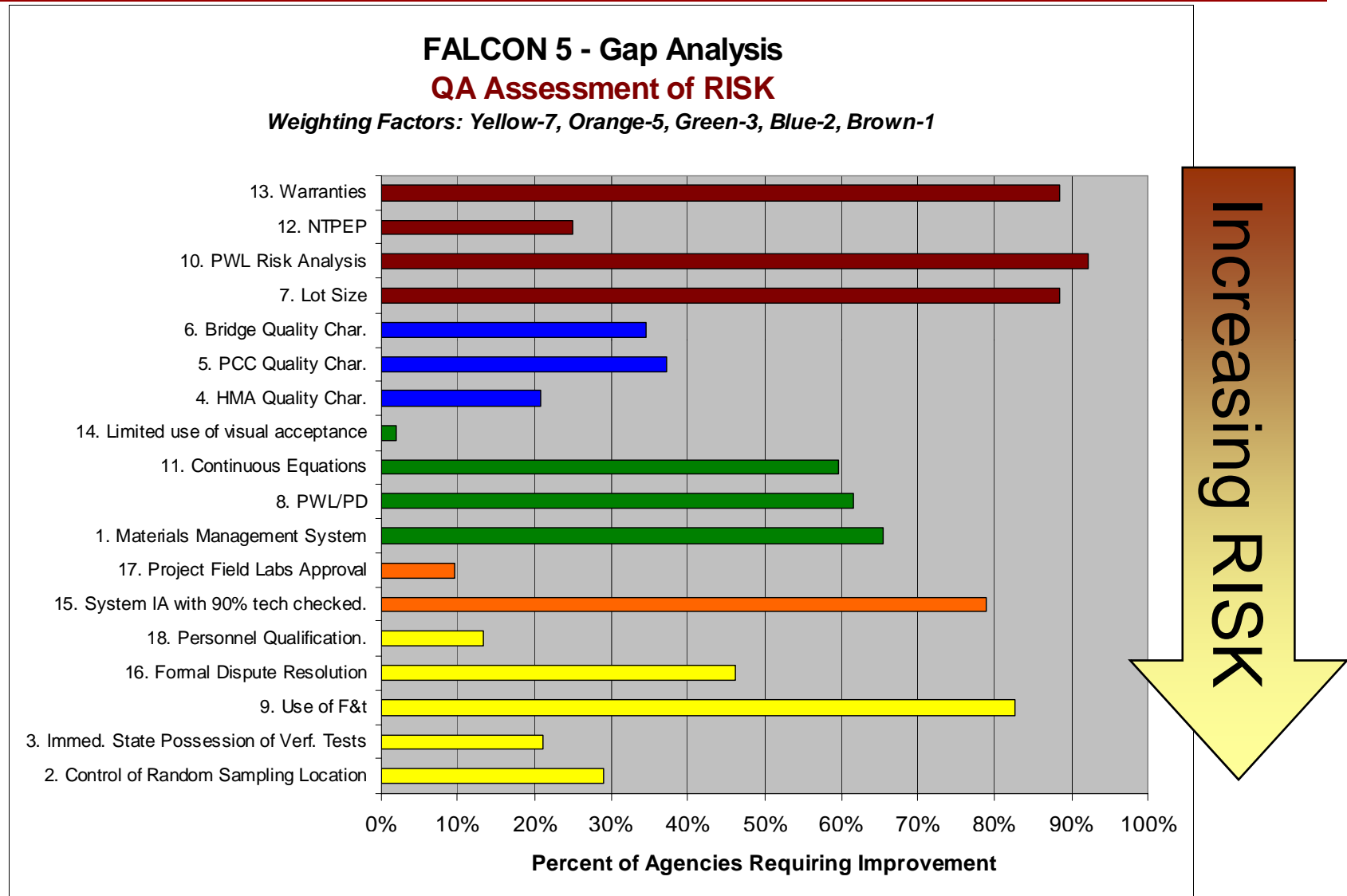
# Distribution of Rating

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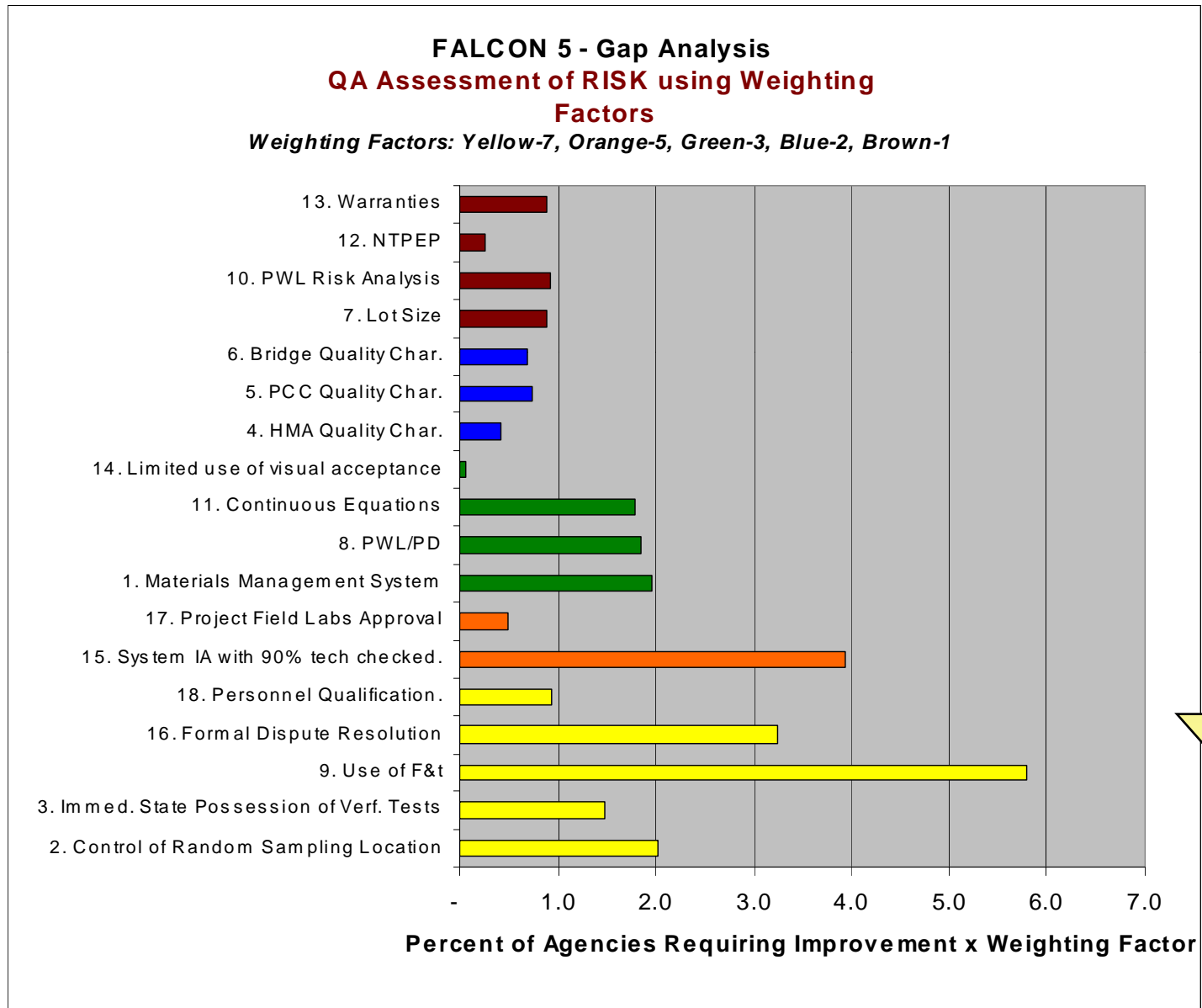
**Histogram of QA System Rating - FY 2008**



# % of Agencies Needing Advancement

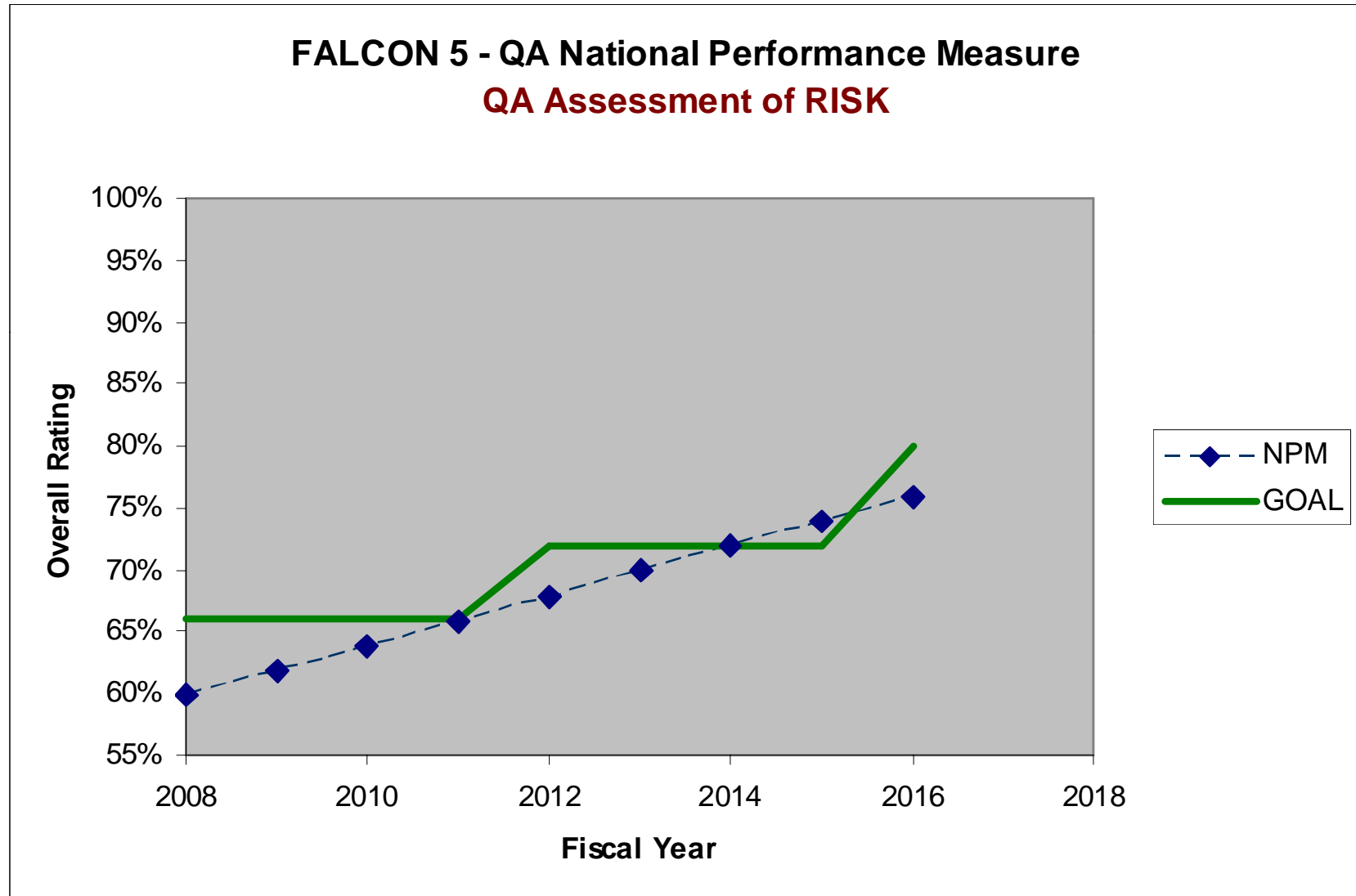


# x Weighting Factor

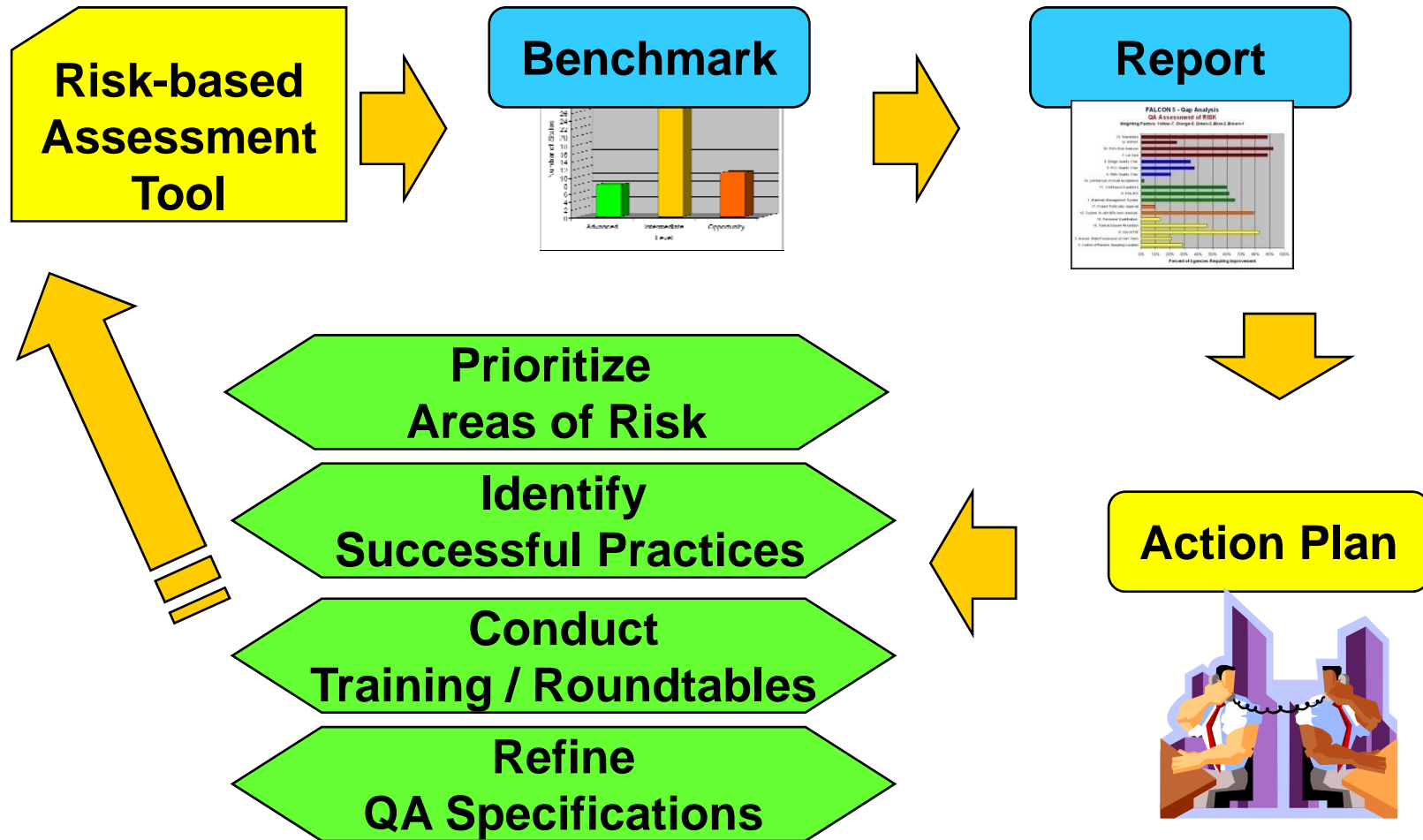


# National Performance Measure (SIP)

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# Risk-based Process





# Intelligent Construction Systems

Reducing Risk  
100% Sampling  
Link to PMS

# Intelligent Compactors

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*(aka Smart Rollers)*

- Soils and Asphalt
- Intelligent
  - Measures a parameter that relates to performance (density/stiffness)
  - Adjusts compaction effort based on measure response
  - Provides real-time graphical information
  - Records response tied to location (GPS)



# HMA Compaction

Good Performing Longitudinal  
Joints are not an “Accident!”

*6 year old pavement*

® Courtesy of A Heritage Group Company

# Low Density Joint



Day after a hard rain –  
Trapped Moisture

*1 year old pavement*

® Courtesy of A Heritage Group Company

# Low Density Joint

**Premature Joint Failure**  
Joint Life = Pavement Life  
(i.e. 10 yrs vs. 15 yrs)

*10 year old pavement*

® Courtesy of A Heritage Group Company

# National RAP Expert Task Group



# HMA Asphalt Pavement Recycling Expert Task Group



Advance the use of RAP in asphalt paving applications by providing highway agencies with critical information regarding the use of RAP, technical guidance on high-RAP projects, and direction on research activities.

The members consist of representatives from highway agencies, industry, and academia.

Website: [www.ncat.us/rap/rap](http://www.ncat.us/rap/rap)

Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance



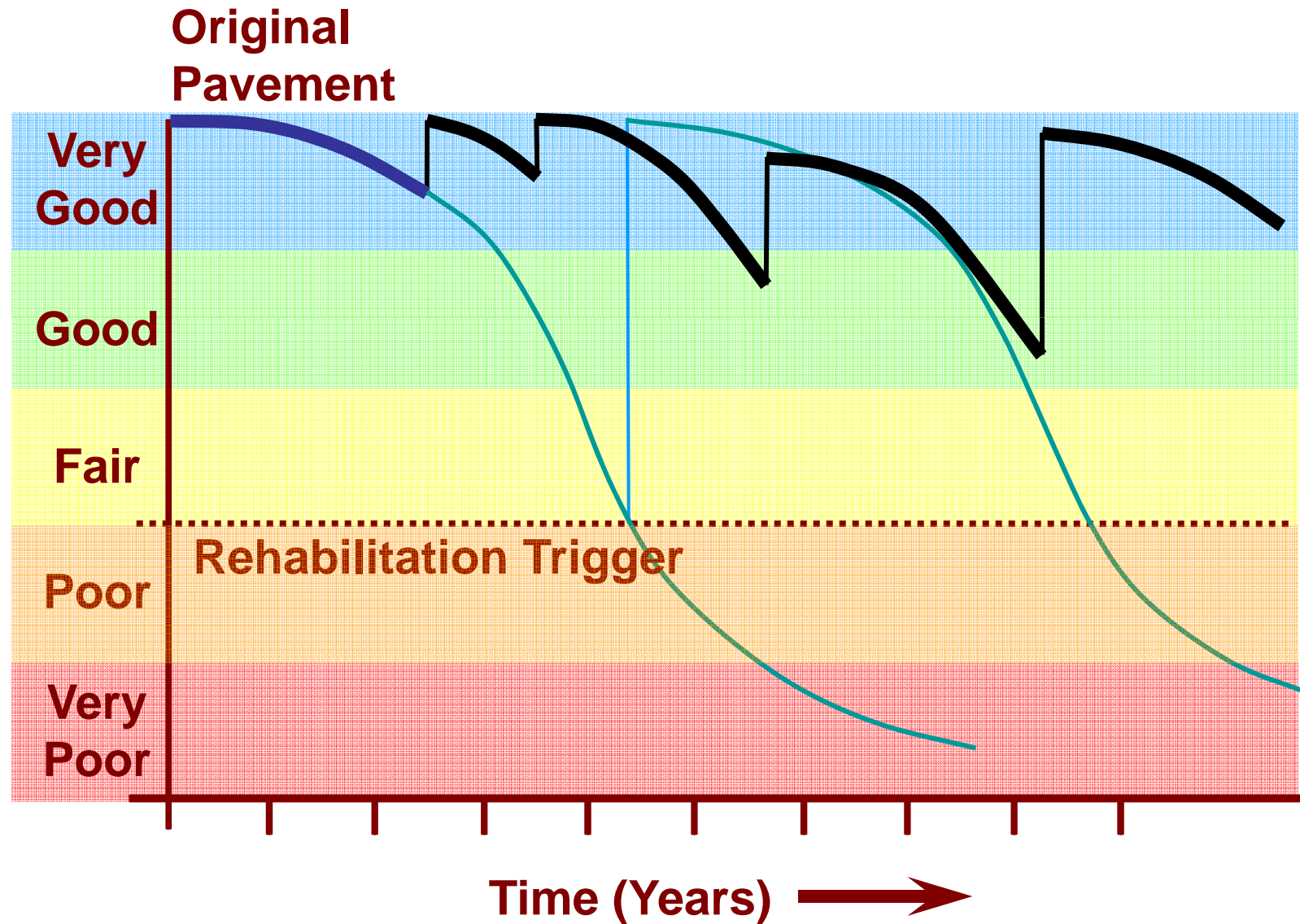
# RAP Resources

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- New Expert Task Group on High RAP
- FHWA
  - [www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/recycling](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/recycling)
- Recycled Materials Resource Center
  - [www.rmrc.unh.edu](http://www.rmrc.unh.edu)
- Green Highways Partnership
  - [www.greenhighways.org](http://www.greenhighways.org)
- FHWA R&D
  - <http://www.tfhrc.gov/hnr20/recycle/waste/index.htm>

# The Pavement Preservation Concept

Thinking about tomorrow to drive today's decisions



# Acceptance & Construction Resources

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- FHWA: Asset Management
  - <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/infrastructure/asstmgmt/index.htm>
- National Asphalt Pavement Association
  - <http://www.hotmix.org/>
- Asphalt Pavement Alliance (APA)
  - <http://www.asphaltalliance.com/index.asp>
- Asphalt Institute
  - <http://www.asphaltinstitute.org/>
- Foundation for Pavement Preservation
  - <http://fp2.org/>

Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Preservation

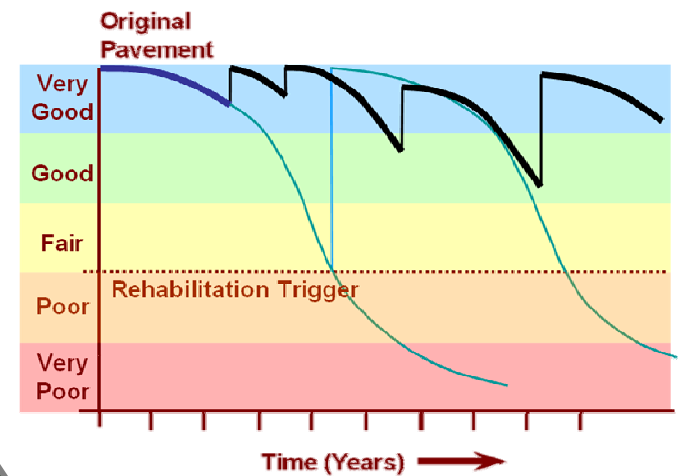
# Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance



Structural

Materials

Construction



15

Need

Structure

Materials

Acceptance

Construction

Preservation

# Risk and Innovation

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- Systems like Superpave reduces the Risk of poor pavement performance, and
- Are adapting to address innovative materials and other evolving technologies.

Balancing Risk & Assuring Performance



# Questions?

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