

Use of geofabric to retard reflection cracking in bituminous overlay

Many hot-mix asphalt (HMA) overlays prematurely exhibit a cracking pattern, similar to that which existed in old underlying pavement. Movements concentrated around the pre-existing cracks in underlying pavement and inability of overlay to withstand shear and tensile stresses create cracking in the newly overlaid surface.

This phenomenon can be retarded by placing an interlayer of geofabric, which acts as a stress absorbing membrane. The geofabric used should have high tensile strength so that it can absorb the tensile stresses generated. In India there are limited manufacturing facilities for geofabrics due to which these are costly and also compel us to import large quantity of geofabrics. CRRI has the necessary facilities to evaluate locally available material, which can be manufactured in our country and can be potentially utilized in road applications. CRRI can offer its technical services to evaluate /examine the locally available geofabrics for use in road construction.

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