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Applying Foamed Bitumen Cold Recycling Technologies, Wastes Gaining a "New Life"

Based on the early research of foamed bitumen cold recycling technology, Hangzhou Highway Administrative Bureau has made key technical breakthroughs in construction application and gained a series of new achievements in the indoor research and engineering application through laboratory tests and outdoor paving practice on trial road sections. These new achievements had been extensively applied in 32 national and provincial roads overhaul projects. According to the statistics, in those construction projects, the total construction mileage is 249km; 480,000 tons of bitumen wastes has been recycled with 90% utility ratio; reduction of construction period reached around 20%; and RMB61.98 million investment was saved. Compared with traditional hot mixed bitumen material, foamed bitumen cold recycled mixed material can save heating energy by more than 60% and reduce 80% of carbon emission in the same condition, enabling great social benefits in energy-saving and emission reduction.

Comments from Experts from Emission Reduction Department of Ministry of Communications of PRC:

Foamed bitumen cold recycling technology will make full use of old materials, reduce energy consumption, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, improving pavement performance, shorten the construction period. Practice shows that the foamed bitumen cold recycling is a mature technology, with good pavement performance, energy saving, lower cost, etc advantages. Recommends foamed asphalt cold recycling technology can be applied in highway, first grade road, second grade road and other different grades of road overhaul and maintenance projects. Recommends "Foamed bitumen cold recycling road design and construction Technical Specification of Zhejiang Province" (DB33 / T 715-2008) can serve as a reference standard of foamed bitumen cold recycling technology promotion in national transportation industry. Proposes implementation of the foamed bitumen cold recycling technical transformation projects should be based on road grades, climate, traffic volume, the old material performance, sub-base strength, mechanical equipment and construction of proficiency and other conditions, a reasonable choice of recycled pavement structure and construction plan.