# Solving a "Hard" Problem For The NYC DOT With a High Performance Thin Overlay

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#### CRUDE

Call it what you will — price adjustments, indexing, or escalators. We call it an outdated bidding policy that subsidizes oil-based asphalt. Asphalt's slick deals cost DOTs and taxpayers millions when oil prices rise, even when more durable materials like concrete promise affordability and stable pricing. Learn more about asphalt's raw deals at www.think-harder.org/CRUDE

PCA
Portland Cement Association

think harder. concrete

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in NYC



- 1st Avenue in Manhattan is 30 year old 18" thick PCC pavement
- Pavement was built with huge fanfare in 1983 projecting 40 year life
- Utilities beneath the pavement
  - Gas lines
  - Water lines
  - Sewer lines
  - Steam line

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in NYC



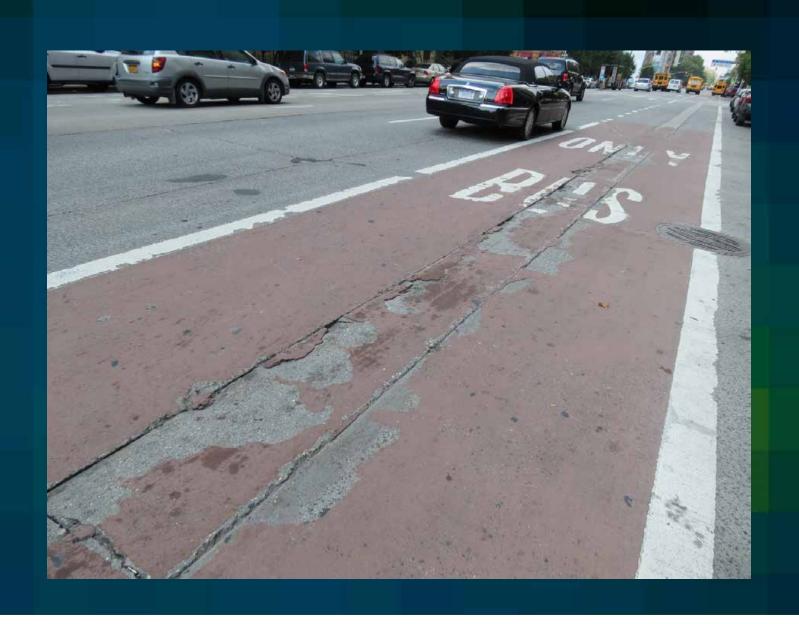
- Removing the PCC would most likely damage the utilities
  - NYC DOT tries not to use compaction with vibration when paving streets
  - After paving projects are completed NYC DOT tests utilities for leaks
- Funding not available to replace PCC pavement and the utilities

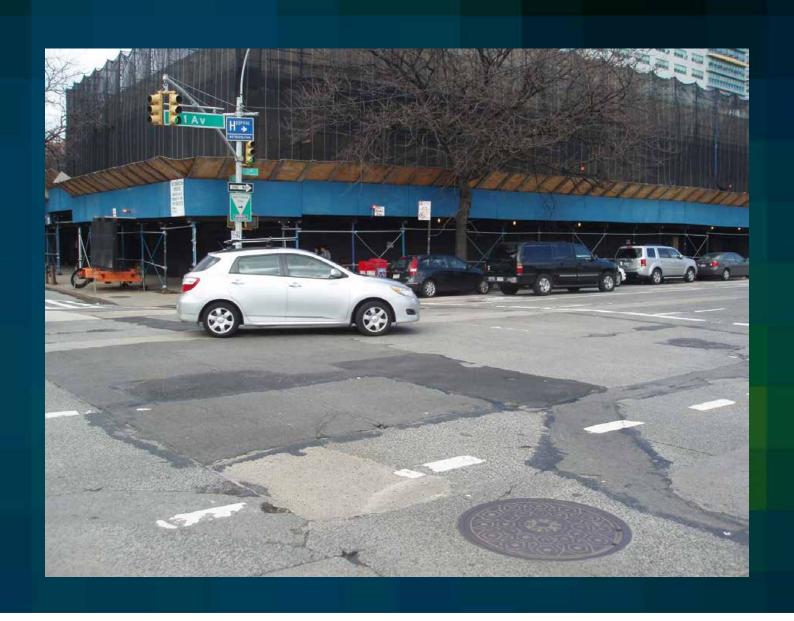


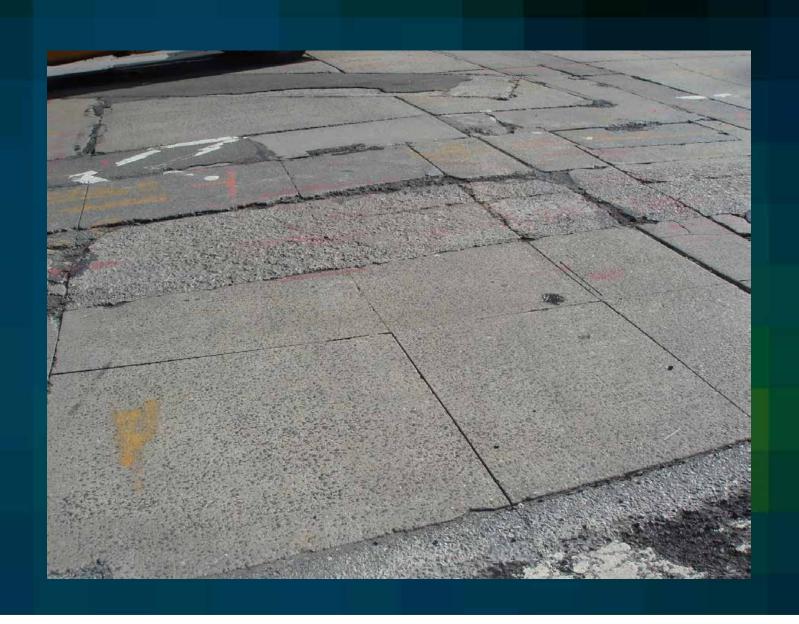
- PCC pavement is in very poor condition
- Curb clearances prevent use of a thick overlay



- NYC is planning to improve bus service with an new bus lane on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue
- Question How to Rehabilitate 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue?
- To come up with an answer you certainly must "Think Harder"









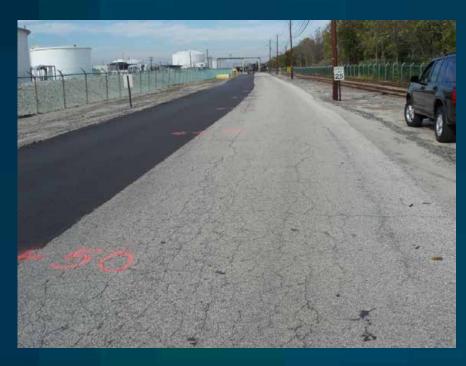


- NYC DOT contacted NuStar Asphalt and asked for suggestions
- Research at Rutgers
   University had developed
   a High Performance Thin
   Overlay (HPTO) Mix

## Paulsboro HPTO – 5 years old

Original

After 5 years

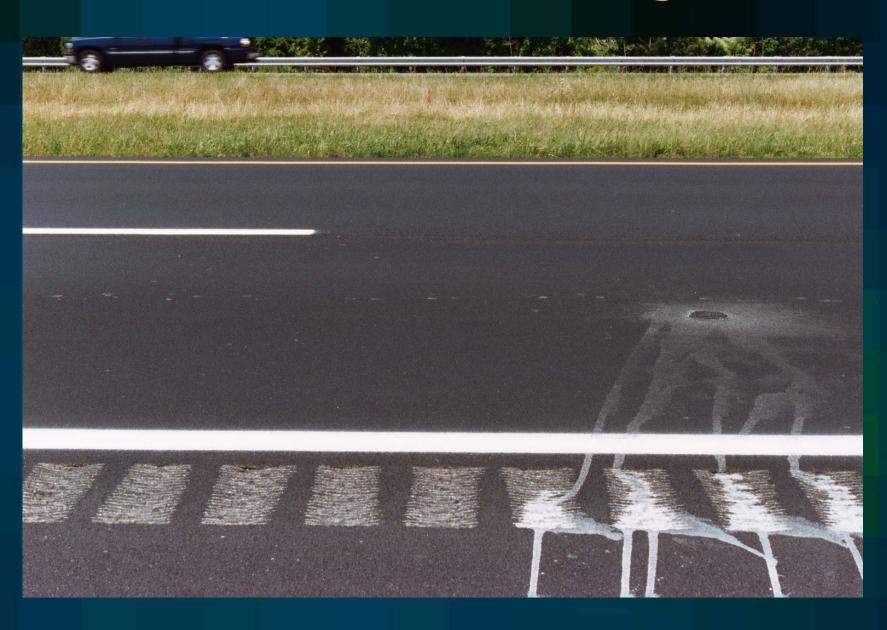




## NJ I-295 HPTO Project



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## **NJ I-295 HPTO Project**





- Search to improve HPTO performance under severe conditions by beefing up the asphalt binder
- Highly Modified Asphalt (HiMA) developed by Kraton Polymers
  - Specialty SBS material with lower viscosity increase
  - Allows up to 7.5% polymer loading with workability

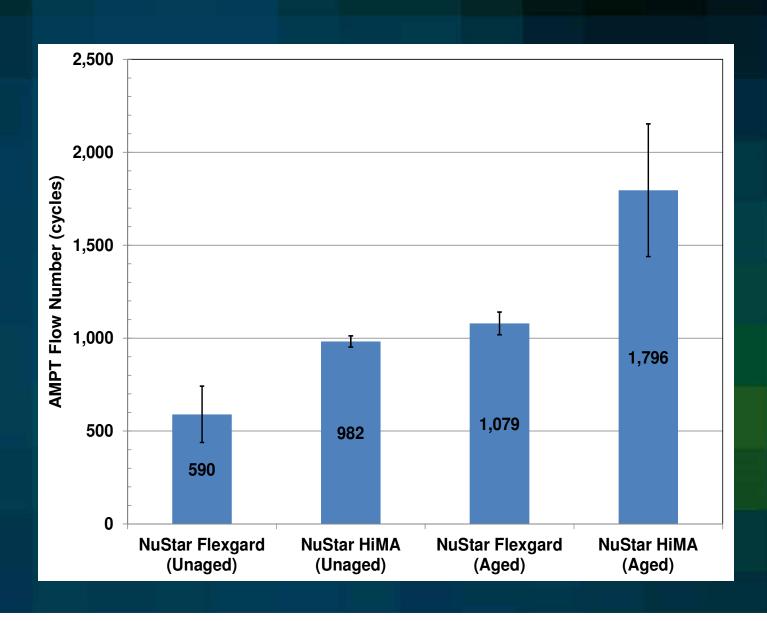


Research at Rutgers
 University comparing
 HPTO mix with
 conventional PMA
 binder and Highly
 Modified Asphalt
 (HiMA)



- Conventional PMA binder had continuous grade of PG 80.4-27.3
- HiMA binder had a continuous grade of PG 95.4-31.03

#### Flow Number

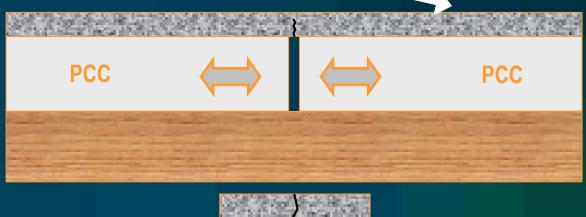


## **Texas Overlay Tester**



#### **Texas Overlay Tester**

Hot Mix Asphalt Overlaid on PCC -

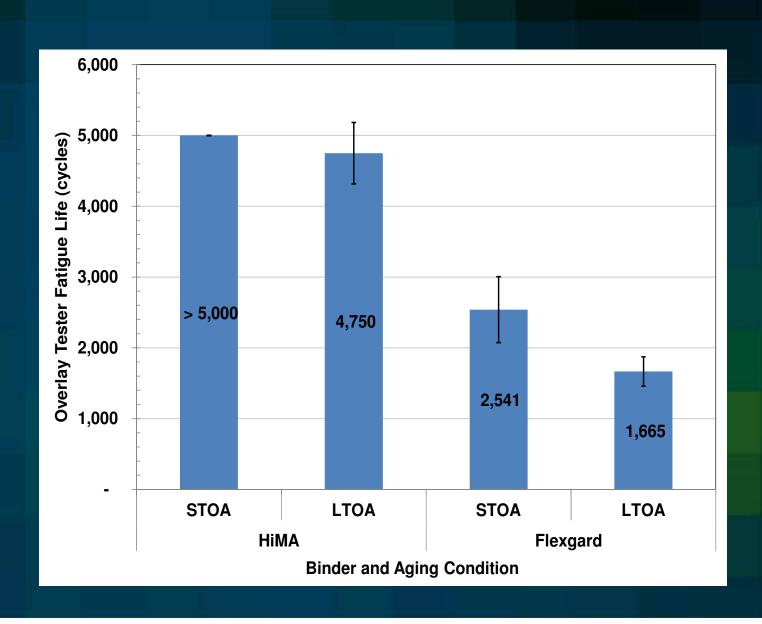




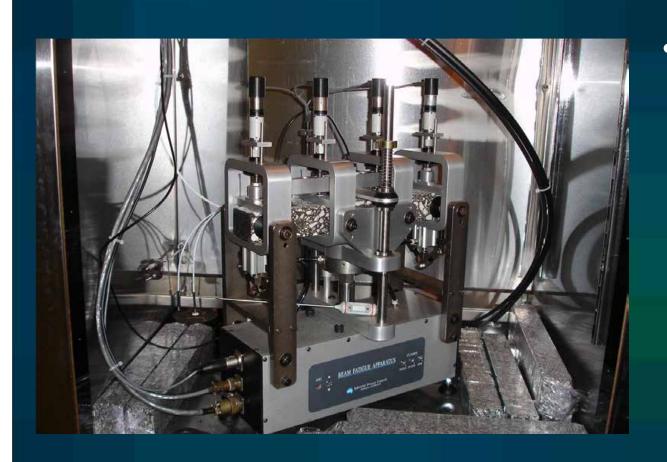
Horizontal Tensile Stress due to Expansion/Contraction of PCC from Temperature

Horizontal Stress/Strain is modeled using Overlay Tester

#### **Texas Overlay Tester**

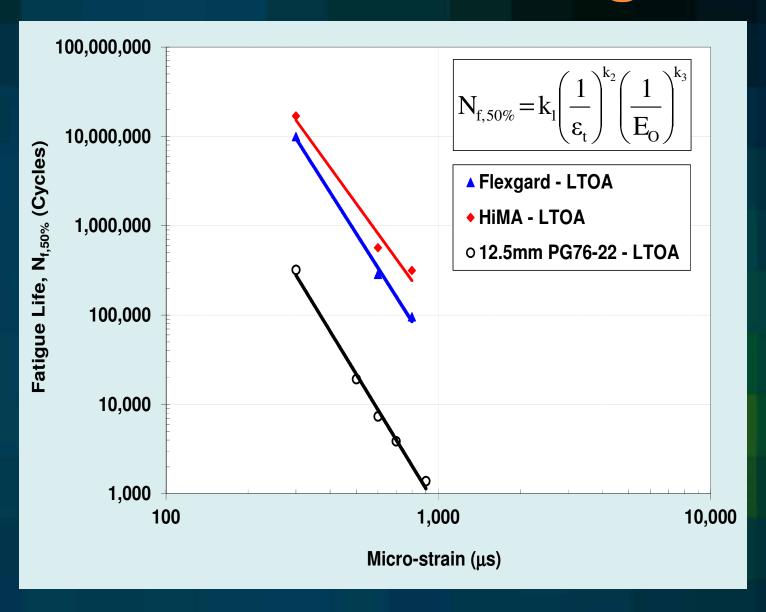


#### Flexural Beam Fatigue



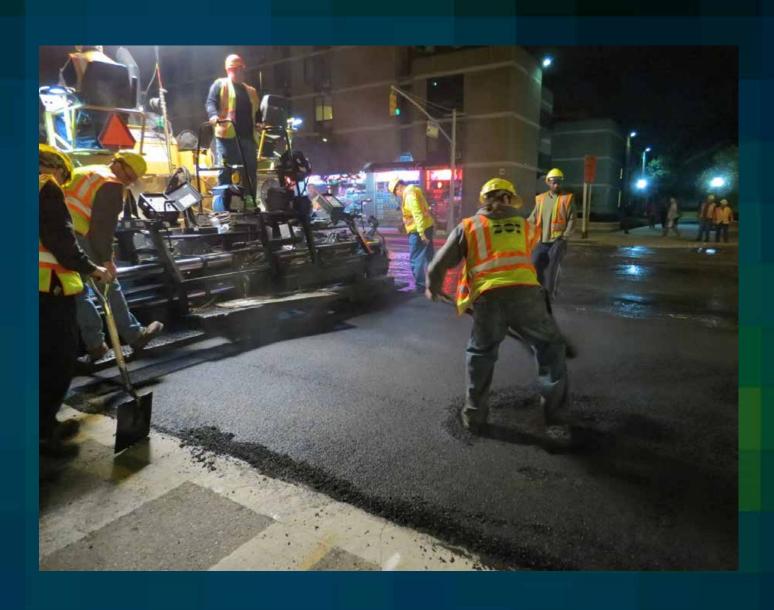
- Flexural Beam Fatigue Testing
  - Measure number of cycles to failure

#### Flexural Beam Fatigue





- HPTO mix containing each binder was placed on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue on September 25, 2012
  - HiMA placed between 100<sup>th</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Street
  - Conventional PMA
     placed between 101<sup>st</sup>
     and 102<sup>nd</sup> Street
- 1 1/2" thick overlay







- Both sections performed well through August 2013
- NYC DOT selected HiMA based on laboratory testing and field performance



- Rehabilitation Design
  - Micro-mill existing PCC pavement
  - Patch areas as required
  - Crack seal as required
  - Place PG 76-22 tack coat and Mirafi PGMG4 fabric
  - Overlay with 1 ½" HPTO mix with HiMA asphalt binder
    - Added Evotherm warm mix additive to lower mix temperatures and improve workability
    - Produced mix at 300°F

## 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Micro-Milling



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## 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Micro-Milling



## 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Crack Sealing and Patching



## 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue Crack Sealing and Patching



## 1st Avenue Tack Coat and Fabric

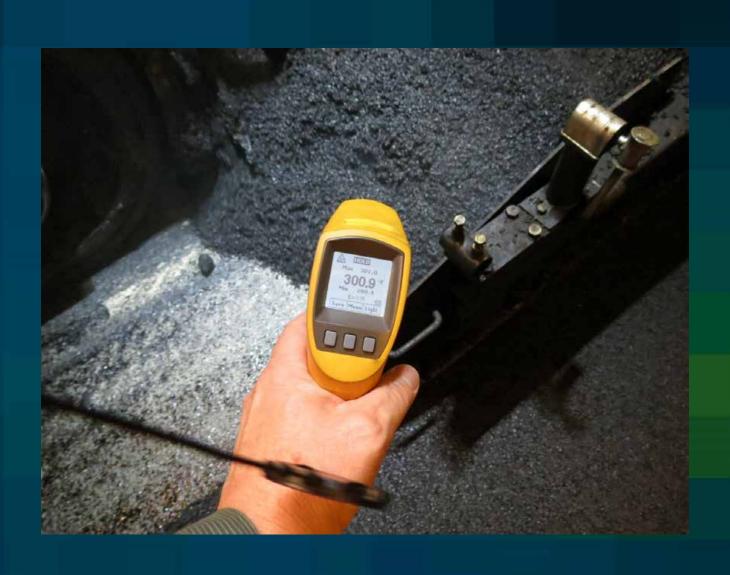


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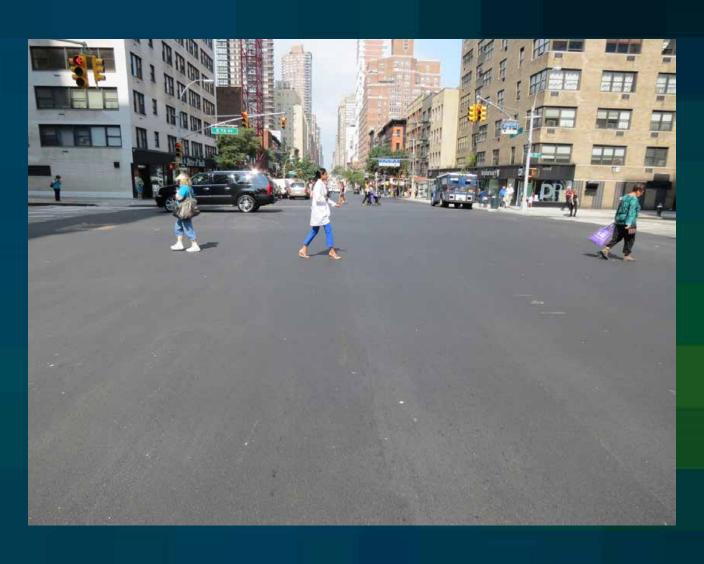








## 1st Avenue Finished Pavement



## 1st Avenue Finished Pavement



## 1st Avenue Finished Pavement



## 1st Avenue Finished Pavement



#### Summary



- Combination of HPTO mix and HiMA gives a thin overlay solution for "hard" pavement rehabilitations
- NYC DOT and NuStar Asphalt will monitor pavement performance

