

AAPA 2017 WA INNOVATION AWARD WINNER



CONTINUAL INNOVATION FOR A CHANGING MARKET

SAMI has leveraged technology through its parent company, COLAS, to bring innovative products to the WA market, including B380, C600, PMB Emulsions and Ecoprime.

B380 is a new binder designed for airports and resurfacing of airport runways. It uses a composite polymer system to ensure that the stiffness and fatigue properties of the mix are managed. It is easy to lay and provides excellent non-groove closure resistance. The material has long haulage potential because it is more stable and homogenous under prolonged hot storage conditions than traditional PMBs.

C600 delivers better value by delivering a pavement that is cheaper than the equivalent C320 by enabling a reduction in thickness of the asphalt base layer. Class 600 also permits greater axle loading and imparts stiffness to the asphalt mix, resulting in improved rutting resistance.

EME is the next step up from C600. Developed by COLAS, EME reduces pavement thickness, making it the binder of choice for perpetual pavement design. Once the new EME manufacturing facility in Kwinana is commissioned, costs will be cut by reducing overall thickness of asphalt base layers by up to 25 per cent.

PMB (Polymer Modified Bitumen) emulsions are able to be applied all year round, reducing costs.

PMB emulsions are handled at a lower temperature, hence the properties are frozen and the product does not decay at the rate of traditional PMBs. Other advantages include: safer application for the operator through lower temperature application, improved aggregate embedment and adhesion, more environmentally friendly and elimination of fuming.

Ecoprime contains no solvents and uses 100 per cent designed natural oil derivatives, which means a friendlier prime for the environment. It is solventless, not flammable and without volatile organic compounds. With Ecoprime, the prime and seal can be completed in a significantly shorter time than a traditional prime, without the risk of normal primes.

To support these innovations, SAMI has modified production facilities and is investing in a new state of the art facility in Kwinana, due for completion within 18 months.

SAMI provides many services including lab testing prior to work commencing, on-site technical advice, on-site testing and follow-up laboratory work.

By responding to the particular requirements of the WA market, SAMI has leveraged technology through its parent company Colas to engineer better bitumen solutions.