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Standard Practice for Roads and Parking Lots Pavement Condition Index Surveys[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6433; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the determination of roads and parking lots pavement condition through visual surveys using the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) method of quantifying pavement condition.

1.2 The PCI for roads and parking lots was developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers **(1, 2)**.[2] It is further verified and adopted by DOD and APWA.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The SI units given in parentheses are for information only.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* Specific precautionary statements are given in Section 6.

2. Terminology

2.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

2.1.1 *additional sample*—a sample unit inspected in addition to the random sample units to include nonrepresentative sample units in the determination of the pavement condition. This includes very poor or excellent samples that are not typical of the section and sample units, which contain an unusual distress such as a utility cut. If a sample unit containing an unusual distress is chosen at random it should be counted as an additional sample unit and another random sample unit should be chosen. If every sample unit is surveyed, then there are no additional sample units.

2.1.2 *asphalt concrete (AC) surface*—aggregate mixture with an asphalt cement binder. This term also refers to surfaces constructed of coal tars and natural tars for purposes of this practice.

2.1.3 *pavement branch*—a branch is an identifiable part of the pavement network that is a single entity and has a distinct function. For example, each roadway or parking area is a separate branch.

2.1.4 *pavement condition index (PCI)*—a numerical rating of the pavement condition that ranges from 0 to 100 with 0 being the worst possible condition and 100 being the best possible condition.

2.1.5 *pavement condition rating*—a verbal description of pavement condition as a function of the PCI value that varies from "failed" to "excellent" as shown in Fig. 1.

2.1.6 *pavement distress*—external indicators of pavement deterioration caused by loading, environmental factors, construction deficiencies, or a combination thereof. Typical distresses are cracks, rutting, and weathering of the pavement surface. Distress types and severity levels detailed in Appendix X1 for AC, and Appendix X2 for PCC pavements must be used to obtain an accurate PCI value.

2.1.7 *pavement sample unit*—a subdivision of a pavement section that has a standard size range: 20 contiguous slabs (±8 slabs if the total number of slabs in the section is not evenly divided by 20 or to accommodate specific field condition) for PCC pavement, and 2500 contiguous square feet, ± 1000 ft^2 (225 ± 90 m^2), if the pavement is not evenly divided by 2500 or to accommodate specific field condition, for AC pavement.

2.1.8 *pavement section*—a contiguous pavement area having uniform construction, maintenance, usage history, and condition. A section should have the same traffic volume and load intensity.

2.1.9 *portland cement concrete (PCC) pavement*—aggregate mixture with portland cement binder including nonreinforced and reinforced jointed pavement.

2.1.10 *random sample*—a sample unit of the pavement section selected for inspection by random sampling techniques, such as a random number table or systematic random procedure.

3. Summary of Practice

3.1 The pavement is divided into branches that are divided into sections. Each section is divided into sample units. The type and severity of pavement distress is assessed by visual

[1] This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-04 on Road and Paving Materials and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D04.39 on Nondestructive Testing of Pavement Structures.

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[2] The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the list of references at the end of this standard.

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