VIRGINIA EDUCATION CENTER FOR ASPHALT TECHNOLOGY (VECAT)

A Virginia Asphalt Association, Germanna Community College and Virginia Department of Transportation Partnership

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VECAT
Potential Changes to Asphalt-Related MCS Classes
Materials Certification Schools

- Focused on asphalt-related classes only
- Provide a revised certification program
- Adaptable with changing environments
  - New equipment
  - New processes
  - New materials
- Ability to secure experts for training modules
Which Classes Will Be Revised?

- **Current MCS Classes**
  - Asphalt Field Level 1 and 2
  - Asphalt Plant Level 1 and 2
  - Asphalt Mix Design
  - Slurry Seal and Latex
  - Surface Treatment
How About Future Certifications?

- **Future Classes**
  - Full-Depth Reclamation Mix Design and Construction
  - Cold Central Plant Recycling Mix Design and Construction
  - CIR Mix Design and Construction
Potential Changes to Current Classes

- Restructure Each Class
  - Expand instruction time (up to 50%)
  - Reformat and update existing VDOT training materials
  - Where applicable, use industry subject matter experts to teach modules
  - Add more hands-on instruction
  - Increase rigor of exam where needed
  - Incorporate more technology and adult learning techniques into classes
Instruction Room
Lab and Classroom
Proposed MCS Timeline

- October 2015 – February 2016
  - Develop revised format for Asphalt Plant, Mix Design and Asphalt Field
  - Identify and contract with industry SME’s to deliver portions of the classes (Asphalt Plant 1 and Asphalt Field 1)
  - Update Asphalt Field and Plant Level 2 Classes
Proposed MCS Timeline

February – March 2016

- Pilot Asphalt Field Level 1 and 2 Classes at Culpeper, Locust Grove and Fredericksburg Campuses
- Class presented live at one site and streamed to other two locations
- Electronically record all sessions for future use on Blackboard
- Provide Asphalt Plant Level 1 and 2 at Fredericksburg Campus (Level 2 includes lab instruction and hands-on participation)
Proposed MCS Timeline

March 2016 – January 2017

- Secure lab equipment for Asphalt Mix Design
- Install lab equipment at Germanna’s Fredericksburg Campus
- Revise all class material – textbooks and presentations
- Modify program administration and delivery based on 2016 Pilot Classes
- Identify and contract with industry SME’s for other MCS classes
- Begin development of new Classes (i.e., CCPR and FDR)
- Go Live with new MCS Program in January 2017
Benefits to New Program

• On-line MCS certifications for Asphalt Field 1 and 2, Asphalt Plant 1, Surface Treatment and Slurry Seal will allow for year round certification
• Administering certification exams will be handled by VCCS
• VCCS will be providing facilities and infrastructure
Other Benefits

- Most MCS Students Will Not Have to Travel
  - 22 VCCS Colleges across Virginia
  - Overall cost to agency/company/individual reduced
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- **Time Commitments for VDOT Instructors Greatly Reduced**
  - Instruction from Germanna Fredericksburg campus for live stream and recorded training modules
  - Instruction from Germanna Fredericksburg campus for lab related classes

- **VDOT’s Ownership of Certification Cards, Test Approval, Specification Presentations, etc.**
Final Thoughts

- VDOT, Consultants and Companies can get new employees certified virtually anytime throughout the year.
- Dedicated lab will allow for more Asphalt Plant 2 and Mix Design Schools throughout the year.
- Training materials and presentations can be updated quickly to cover new technologies.