2017: VECAT on the GO!

Carter Iseman
VAA Fall Conference
October 2017

Photo Credit Chemung Contracting Corp
WHAT IS VECAT?

- Virginia Education Center for Asphalt Technology
- Partnership between VDOT, Germanna, Community College, and Virginia Asphalt Association
- Purpose is to provide education and training for Asphalt Technology related curricula
  - Materials Certifications Schools
  - Asphalt Technology Apprenticeship Program
  - Associate’s Degree
Governor’s Competition for Talent Solutions Grant Awarded

November 15, 2015

VECAT is a GO!
January 2016 – June 2016
Let The Fun Begin...

- Pilot Classes for Asphalt Plant Level I and II (classroom)
- Pilot Classes for Asphalt Field Level I and II (classroom)
- Launch of on-line certification classes
  - Asphalt Plant Level I and II
  - Asphalt Field Level I and II
  - Slurry Surfacing
  - Surface Treatment
# 2016 Classroom Registrations/Certifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Total Number Registered</th>
<th>Total Number Certified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field I</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field II</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant I</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant II</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2016 Online Registrations/Certifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Total Number Registered</th>
<th>Total Number Certified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field I</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field II</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant I</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant II</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slurry Surface</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface Treatment</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New website created: WARNING: Construction Zone…

All classroom materials getting a facelift. Some things we changed:

- Updating and revising study notebooks
- Materials branded with similar look
- Increased integration of materials with class presentations
- Better graphics

Picking Up Speed…
July 2016 – December 2016
Moving Faster….

TWG’s for the following existing classes established:

- Slurry Surfacing
- Surface Treatment
- Asphalt Mix Design

TWG’s for pavement recycling established

- Full Depth Reclamation
- Cold Asphalt Recycling Plant and Field

Photo Credit Slurry Pavers
Finalize Spring 2017 schedule and classes
Core presentations developed
Focus on improving quality and rigor of certification exams
Subject Matter Experts invited to present
  - Consultants
  - Equipment Manufacturers
  - Industry Training Experts
RFP for lab equipment released (hands on learning!)
January 2017 – November 2017

- **January – March:** Deploy revised MCS classes and newly created ones
- Live Streaming used to boost program participation in more remote areas
  - Multiple locations
- **June – August:** Hold new MCS classes for Cold Asphalt Recycle Plant, Cold Asphalt Recycle Field and FDR
- Initial Asphalt Technology Classes in VCCS (summer semester)
- Initiate development of standalone classes:
  - Field Density Technician
  - Plant Lab Technician
  - Intro to Asphalt
## Example of New Course Format

### Plant Level I - Day 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>VDOT Welcome, Project Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Asphalt Plant Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Core 1: Stockpiles and Segregation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:40am</td>
<td>Subject Matter Expert Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:25am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40am</td>
<td>Core 2: Plant Basics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Subject Matter Expert Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Subject Matter Expert Presentation cont’d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>AASHTO/VTM Sampling Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>Day 1 Review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Plant Level I - Day 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Review of Day 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Trouble Shooting Plant Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Review Asphalt Plant Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Level 1 Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2018 and Beyond

- Modify recertification requirements
- Pre-requisite courses developed for those new to the industry: math and materials comprehension
- Develop a program to ensure proficiency in the field
- Management and Leadership classes and other soft skill programs
- What do our students NEED…WANT…

Continue pounding the asphalt......
Points to Remember

- VDOT’s “Self-Study” training option is no longer available. Courses are now available online through Germanna’s website.

- Through 2017, recertification will still be done through the VDOTU website per normal process.

- Test results are only available on VDOTU so students must have an account here as well to access grades and certification credentials.

- Courses are no longer located under Industry, Manufacturing and Construction on Germanna Website. Moved to Transportation & Motorcycle.
Signing Up for VECAT Courses

To access VECAT Courses:

- Visit Germanna’s website at www.germanna.edu
- Select Workforce Services / Courses & Registration / Transportation & Motorcycle / Asphalt
- Courses are organized by Classroom and Online
Meanwhile... VECAT is on the GO!

Over the Next Month:

- October 6: Northern Virginia Transportation Career Fair
- October 24-25: FDR Symposium
- November 2: Hampton Roads Transportation Career Expo
- January 2017: Classes!
Questions?

All Questions Are Welcome Anytime!

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