

Developments on European Standards for asphalt

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European Standard Specifications for asphalt have recently been published by the British Standards Institution (BSI) as various parts of BS EN 13108. Agreed European Standard Test Methods for asphalt have been published by BSI as parts of BS EN 12697 over the past several years as they were completed.

Before these Standards can be implemented, however, there is a need for National Guidance Documents on both BS EN 13108 and BS EN 12697 to be produced to explain their application in the UK context. There is also need to produce a revision of Parts 2 of BS 4987 (Asphalt Concrete/Coated

Macadam) and BS 594 (Hot Rolled Asphalt) to bring asphalt laying requirements and guidance in line with the European Standards. These various documents are currently being prepared with availability anticipated by the end of 2006 - early 2007.

It has been agreed by the BSI Committee for asphalt (B510/1) that the whole package of European Specifications and Test Methods for asphalt, together with the National Guidance Documents and revised standard for asphalt laying should be implemented on **1 January 2008**, which is the latest permitted date for implementation of the European Standards and withdrawal of conflicting National Standards.

In the interim, the UK asphalt industry and highway authority organisations

will be working hard to ensure that during 2007 all in the UK having dealings with asphalt are brought fully up to speed with the new standards and that all documents that call up asphalt specifications and test methods are amended, as necessary, to ensure the smoothest possible implementation of them on **1 January 2008**.

Meanwhile, readers of this Bulletin are urged to bring the above information to the attention of all in their organisations who need to be aware of it and also to keep their eyes open for further announcements on this important subject. Updates on progress will be given in the Asphalt and Surfacing section of the QPA website (www.qpa.org) and QPA will be leading training seminars during 2007 in the run-up to implementation.



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