



HMA is Grand at the State Fair

Prior to Thursday, August 26, the streets are empty at the Minnesota State Fair, however, the work and the excitement to prepare the fairgrounds is in full force! Owners of the fairground and the booths are diligently preparing for fairgoers who will come in search of their favorite food on a stick.



Fairgoers that enter the Grandstand should notice a significant change in the venue. A large portion of the half-mile racetrack that fans watched racecars circle and compete to win on will be replaced with stands where fans will watch many entertaining shows and concerts this season.

The initial phase of removing the front straightaway portion of the racetrack began in the fall of 2002. New "plaza" seating is located between the Grandstand and the stage. The design team selected Mn/DOT Spec 2360 Superpave (Gyratory) mix design for the seating-stage area due to better quality and economical consideration (lower initial and maintenance costs) instead of portland cement concrete (pcc) and are very pleased with the results. Commercial Asphalt Co. of Maple Grove produced the Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) and Northland Paving, LLC based out of Lakeville was the contractor who placed the Gyratory mix.





Aerial Photo of Previous HMA Race Track.

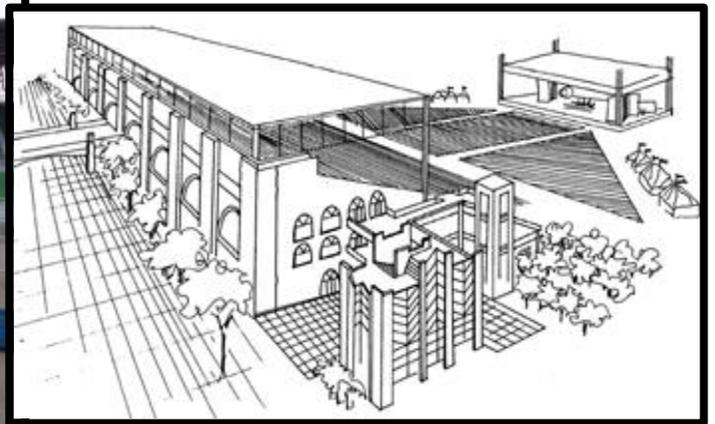


The Previous HMA Race Track in the Distance.

Forty years ago (1964), the original dirt racetrack was paved with HMA by Bituminous Surface Treating Co. (the Superintendent was Lyle Jacoby, Past President [Retired] of Pine Bend Paving). Dust and dirt control and flying stones were a major safety hazard for drivers and fans. Not only did paving with HMA significantly improve the safety of the racetrack, it helped reduce maintenance costs and set new speed records for the racecar drivers over the years.



2004 Construction of the Seating on the New HMA Surface.



Sketch of the New Grandstand.

HOT MIX ASPHALT PAVEMENTS: *A long term construction solution for Minnesota*

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