



# Bitumen and the Dark Arts

Thursday 18 October 2012

SCI HQ, London, UK

Organised by SCI's Construction Materials Group in partnership with the Institute of Asphalt Technology & the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation



<b>Programme</b>	09.30	Registration and refreshments
	10.00	<b>Group chairman's welcome</b> Adrian Blacker, SCI's construction materials group
	10.05	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> Cliff Nicholls, TRL
	10.10	<b>Sources, supply and availability</b> Damian Kennaby, IHS
	10.35	<b>An understanding of the uses of rheological properties</b> Ian Lancaster, Nynas
	11.00	Refreshment break
	11.30	<b>Modification and additive updates</b> Jeff Barnes, Nayler Chemicals
	11.55	<b>The place of natural asphalts</b> Adrian Blacker, Asphalt Associates
	12.20	<b>Bitumen requirements for recycling asphalt</b> David Markham, Tarmac
	12.45	Morning discussion
	13.10	Lunch
	14.10	<b>How to specify for your requirements</b> James Grenfell, University of Nottingham
	14.35	<b>Performance related specifications</b> Egbert Beuving, EAPA
	15:00	<b>SHRP and superpave 20 years on</b> François Chaignon, Colas
	15:25	<b>New climates – new designs?</b> Simon Shearwood, Norfolk County Council
	15.50	Afternoon discussion
	16.15	Refreshments on departure

## Organisers

Miles Williamson, Nynas  
Mike Gibb, Atkins  
Cliff Nicholls, TRL  
John Richardson, Colas



## Synopsis

The seminar will examine the issues from the perspectives of clients, contractors, suppliers and network operators and will explore some of the potential responses and the actions being taken both to maintain the highway asset and to sustain the maintenance industry.

Bitumen is a complex visco-elastic material, derived from the hard end of the hydro-carbon spectrum, which is used as the binder in the majority of flexible road pavements since the demise of coal tar in the middle of the last century. The complexity allows for wide variation in properties, both naturally occurring and deliberately engineered, that leaves many engineers who regularly use the product confused about the myths and the truth. The seminar is intended to set out the position of bitumen as a useful engineering material that is key to an efficient road network in this and other countries. Papers will be presented reviewing the history, exploration and manufacture of the material, looking at its chemical and physical properties, its influence within asphalt mixtures and its specification and testing.

## Attendees

The seminar is aimed as an update to practising engineers and technicians in the highway and airfield industry, whether from a bitumen supplier, an asphalt producer, a consultant or a highway authority. In short, anyone who will be designing, specifying, producing or laying asphalt in which bitumen is a major contributor to the performance. It will assist their understanding of how to optimise that performance during construction, on site and for durability.

## Partners



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