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RUBBERISED ROAD: TURNING RUBBER INTO ROAD MATERIALS

Research and field trials on rubberised asphalt have been carried out for decades. Various forms of rubber were investigated for their potential use as road materials including natural rubber. Natural rubber with asphaltic materials is a great invention towards producing a better quality of asphalt paving roads. With its inherent chemical composition as elastomer, this polymer modification could enhance the performance of current conventional asphalt which is susceptible to temperature changes and heavy traffic loading. To overcome the uncertainty of global market price, the government has taken a step to promote the use of 10% of rubber supply in the road construction industry. To date, numerous studies have been carried out on different aspects of performances and compatibility of the asphalt-rubber blend. This presentation provides an overview of natural rubber that has been applied as an additive in asphalt modification.