CHANGES TO THE SPECIFICATION FOR PERFORMAACE-GRADED ASPHALT BINDERS

The major changes to the specification for performance-graded asphalt binders are:

- The addition of three climate zones for New Zealand, which determine the testing temperature for the performance-graded binders;
- The alignment of traffic categories with M10 specification and Austroads design levels;
- Advice on the binder grade format to use when specifying and ordering the binder;
- Separation of binder grades for surfacing and sub-surface mixes to prevent the unnecessary use of premium binder in structural asphalt layers;
- More explicit requirements for binder sampling and testing;
- Reference to Civil Contractors New Zealand BPG04 Quality Assurance for Bituminous Binders and a requirement to comply with this;
- Removal of Table 2, in favour of using AASHTO M 332 specification;
- Removal of the Payment clause (binders are rarely purchased separately to the asphalt mixes);
- Removal of the table containing temperature correction factors as they are available elsewhere, and are no longer relevant to the asphalt purchaser;
- The addition of a climate zone map to aid identification of the New Zealand climate zones.

CHANGES TO THE NOTES TO M01–A SPECIFICATION FOR PERFORMANCE-GRADED ASPHALT BINDERS

The major changes in this 2019 edition of the Notes to the specification for performance-graded asphalt binders are:

- Discussion on binder grade selection in relation to climate zones and traffic category.
- Table 2 is added that gives a broad contextual relationship between traditional Penetration-graded asphalt binders and the performance-graded binders of M01–A. This is included to aid understanding and uptake of the new performance-graded approach.

There are also minor and editorial changes in this 2019 edition of the Notes.