AASHTO Product Evaluation List (APEL)
Meeting Agenda
Working Session #5
Tuesday, May 19, 2015 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

Please sign the attendance sheet via the iPad

1) 8:10-8:40 AM: Program Status Update (Ross “Oak” Metcalfe)
   See slideshow for more information
   - APEL is used to post data for innovated products for state usage. Current APEL platform is over 14 years old. A new website is under development. APEL develops and carries out new test evaluations and posts state certifications and evaluations. APEL allows states and vendors to save time and money by having product evaluated just once.
   - APEL Council is made up of the APEL Coordinator, chair, vice chair, and 1 member from each region (minimum of 4 total; currently have 7). The chair and vice chair are currently vacant. We are looking for State Material Engineers to volunteer for these positions. Interested people can also become members at large of the council.
   - The council’s role is to review product applications and decide whether to proceed with testing. They evaluate the product to determine if it fits the scope of APEL before testing. Monthly meetings are conducted to discuss products and issues.
   - Products with existing specs/evaluation protocols are NOT applicable for APEL. Also, products already tested/evaluated by states should be posted in APEL by the testing state.
   - APEL process: initial request, detailed application, scope of work is developed, testing is performed, review and posting of evaluation results. State certifications/evaluations don’t go through much review and can be posted directly onto the APEL website.
   - 7 products are in different phases of evaluation, 1 product completed, 3 products pending evaluation, 2 are going through review. 8 states have listed products on the APEL site with 54 total products tested.
   - APEL is looking to increase state participation. Developing a new, improved web module and seeking to evaluate more products.
   - AASHTO evaluated products are accelerated lab tested only (no field evaluation), with a cap of 12 months of testing timeframe.
   - State submitted products can be lab tested, field tested, or a combination

2) 8:40-9:10 AM: New APEL Module (Riaz Ahmad)
Riaz gave a brief overview of what APEL is. APEL 2.0’s main goal is to simplify every process. New homepage gives summary of number of products currently housed in the APEL website. The website will have 3 separate product areas:
   - AASHTO evaluated products: new products with no testing that have to go through APEL review process before testing
   - DOT evaluated products: products already evaluated by DOT (no login required to post), very quick review process before posting to website by AASHTO
   - State certified products: products certified by states go through simple review process before posting on website, certification wording comes from CFR
   - Website allows any state member to post product information. This is reviewed by AASHTO before going live on the website
- Google search appliance will be utilized to make searching for products much easier.
- APEL website is currently being designed and should go live in summer 2015.

Please scroll down to view attendance and the two presentations.
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National Transportation Product Evaluation Program

AASHTO Product Evaluation List

Ross “Oak” Metcalfe, P.E.
Testing Engineer
Montana Department of Transportation
&
AASHTO Region IV Representative on the APEL Council
What is APEL?

(Before)
What is APEL?

(After – More to come…)

Welcome to the AASHTO Product Evaluation List (APEL) web site. This site provides a repository consisting of findings from the evaluation and testing of new, innovative, and/or proprietary engineered transportation products and materials. The three types of information contained within the site are as follows: AASHTO Evaluated Products, State Evaluated Products, and State Certified Products. It is important to note that APEL is NOT an approved products list; rather it is a source for independent, unbiased data and information from which state product coordinators may determine if new, innovative products are conformance with the Code of Federal Regulations 23 CFR 635.411 (MCI).

AASHTO Evaluated Products

5 Submitted
4 In Progress
0 Published

AASHTO Evaluation Requests: 9
New, innovative products that do not currently have an evaluation protocol can be submitted for accelerated laboratory testing by AASHTO. A protocol will be developed and implemented with a timeframe not to exceed 1 year in duration. At the conclusion of testing a final report will be posted here.

DOT Evaluated Products

Total DOT Evaluated Products: 0
Data and information for products that have previously been evaluated by a state DOT, whether laboratory and/or field tested, may be posted here.

State Certified Products

Total State Certified Products: 58
Patented or proprietary products deemed essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities, or that do not have an existing, equally suitable alternate, may be certified by stateDOTs. The states may post their certifications here.

Submit AASHTO Evaluation Request

Submit DOT Evaluated Products

Submit State Certified Product
APEL’s Mission

• Evaluate innovative and/or proprietary materials, products, and devices of common interest for use in highway and bridge construction
  ▪ Develop and carry out new test evaluations
  ▪ Post state certifications and evaluations
Why use APEL?

• APEL Evaluations
  ▪ Member States save time and money
  ▪ Data from independent and credible source
  ▪ Vendors save time and money by having a product evaluated just once (similar to NTPEP)
Why use APEL?

• State Certifications and Evaluations
  - States can use each others certifications/evaluations
  - Streamline and possibly eliminate the PIF process

23 CFR 635.411
FHWA-HRT-12-009
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/cqit/propriet.cfm
Who is APEL?

- AASHTO
  - APEL Coordinator
  - APEL Council Chair
  - APEL Council Vice Chair
  - APEL Council Members
    - (At least) One from each of the four AASHTO regions
What is AASHTO’s Role?

• Facilitate the Review Process through the APEL Coordinator
  ▪ Communication
  ▪ Organization
  ▪ Coordination of Testing
  ▪ Reviewing Information
  ▪ Posting Test Results
Role of the Council

• The APEL Council makes the decision to proceed with an evaluation based on:
  ▪ Product application information
  ▪ Best and common interests of the States
Product Application

• Standard form designed to capture relevant and important product information to be used as the basis for the Council’s decision.

• Does it fit within the scope of APEL?
Best Interests of the States

- Are the States interested in using the product?
- How would it benefit the States?

Does it increase or provide

Quality

Cost Effectiveness

Sustainability

Etc…
How Often Does the Council Meet?

- Minimum of once per month
- Try to meet the last Wednesday of each month
- Meet in person during the Annual NTPEP meeting
- Communication must go through the APEL Coordinator – no official contact between vendors and the Council or Labs under contract with the Council
What is *NOT* applicable for APEL?

Products with existing specifications or evaluation programs

- AASHTO
- NTPEP
- States

Products currently under research

Products not ready for implementation
APEL Review Process

• Initial request for product evaluation
• Detailed application submittal
• Development of SOW for evaluation
• Review and posting of evaluation results
  o State evaluation or certification
In the Queue…

- 7 products in different phases of evaluation
- 1 complete evaluation
- 3 products pending evaluation
- 2 products going through preliminary review
- 1 product at the initial phase
- 8 States with products listed (AZ, CO, CT, ME, MD, MT, NY, OH)
- 54 products total
Where do we go from here???

- New module under development
- More products are being proposed
- How do we increase State participation?
- Are we serving your needs as Member States?
QUESTIONS????

APEL.TRANSPORTATION.ORG
Outline

- Introduction
- APEL 2.0
- Questions/Feedback
What is APEL?

- The APEL program and its online database module have been designed to be a repository for findings from the evaluation and testing of innovative and/or proprietary engineered transportation products.
- Through APEL, products that do not currently have an evaluation protocol may be submitted to AASHTO for full development, cost analysis, and execution of an evaluation.
What is APEL?

- APEL also provide a listing of new products that have been previously evaluated and certified by the state DOTs through formal laboratory or field test procedures.

- APEL is NOT an approved products list, rather it is a source for independent, unbiased data and information from which state product coordinators may determine to use new, innovative products in conformance with the Code of Federal Regulations 23 CFR 635.411 (a)(2).
Existing APEL Web Site

Developed in 2005
Welcome to the AASHTO Product Evaluation List (APEL) web site. This site provides a repository consisting of findings from the evaluation and testing of new, innovative, and/or proprietary engineered transportation products and materials. The three types of information contained within the site are as follows: AASHTO Evaluated Products, State Evaluated Products, and State Certified Products. It is important to note that APEL is NOT an approved products list, rather it is a source for independent, unbiased data and information from which state product coordinators may determine to use new, innovative products in conformance with the Code of Federal Regulations 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2).

New, innovative products that do not currently have an evaluation protocol can be submitted for accelerated laboratory testing by AASHTO. A protocol will be developed and implemented with a timeframe not to exceed 1 year in duration. At the conclusion of testing a final report will be posted here.

Patented or proprietary products deemed essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities, or that do not have an existing, equally suitable alternate, may be certified by state DOTs. The states may post their certifications here.

Patented or proprietary products deemed essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities, or that do not have an existing, equally suitable alternate, may be certified by state DOTs. The states may post their certifications here.

Data and information for products that have previously been evaluated by a state DOT, whether laboratory and/or field tested, may be posted here.

(Association of American State Highway and Transportation Officials)
APEL 2.0 Features

- AASHTO Evaluated Products
- DOT Evaluated Products
- State Certified Products
AASHTO Evaluated Products

- New, innovative products that do not currently have an evaluation protocol can be submitted for accelerated laboratory testing by AASHTO. A protocol will be developed and implemented with a timeframe not to exceed 1 year in duration. At the conclusion of testing a final report will be posted on the APEL web site.
AASHTO Product Evaluation Process

- Step #1: Any manufacturer/vendor can submit request for product evaluation to AASHTO.
- Step #2: Product evaluation request will be reviewed by AASHTO and APEL Council.
- Step #3: If accepted, AASHTO will contact the manufacturer/vendor to initiate evaluation process.
- Step #4: Evaluation progress and results will be posted on the APEL web site.
DOT Evaluated Products

Data and information for products that have previously been evaluated by a state DOT, whether laboratory and/or field tested, may be posted to APEL by the state DOTs.
DOT Product Evaluation Process

- Step #1: State DOTs can submit product information and evaluation report of any previously evaluated product to the APEL web site.
- Step #2: Product evaluation information will be reviewed by AASHTO.
- Step #3: If accepted, the evaluation will be published on the APEL web site.
State Certified Products

- Patented or proprietary products deemed essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities, or that do not have an existing, equally suitable alternate, may be certified by state DOTs. The states may post their certifications on the APEL web site.
State Product Certification Process

- Step #1: State DOTs can submit product information and evaluation report of any previously certified product to the APEL web site.
- Step #2: Product certification information will be reviewed by AASHTO.
- Step #3: If accepted, the certification will be published on the APEL web site.
Prototype Demonstration

- State Certification Products Process
- Visit NTPEP/APEL booth for more information.
State Certified Products

Global Search

Multi-select Find Attributes

All data columns will be wide enough so that no text is stripped off.
State Certified Product Submission
State Certified Product Submission (Cont.)

Add new Manufacturer

Attaching documents
State Certified Product Information

Manufacturer Name: 3M
Product Name: Canoga
Product Description: Loop amplifiers/detectors
Intended Use:
- Traffic Control Devices
- Loop Detectors
Date Added: 4/30/2014

Certification Status: Product Certified
Tracking Number: MD-2014-0003
Agency: Maryland Department of Transportation
Area: Traffic Safety
Basis of Approval: Synchronization
Extent: Statewide
Submittal Date: 3/15/2013
Approval Date: 3/20/2013
Expiration Date: 3/15/2016
Attachment(s): 3M Canoga.pdf

Comments:
Please refer to attachment provided. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the following: Mr. Michael L. Paylor, P.E., Chief, Traffic Engineering Design Division, SHA at 410-787-7697, toll free 1-888-963-0307 or via email at michael.paylor@sha.state.md.us.
Search will be powered by Google Search Appliance
Schedule

- **Design**: Spring 2015
- **Development**: Summer 2015
- **Testing**: Summer 2015
- **Deployment**: Summer 2015

AASHTO will test APEL website.
Comments and Feedback

For more information/feedback/suggestions, please contact:

- Evan Rothblatt (erothblatt@aashto.org)
- Riaz Ahmad (rahmad@iengineering.com)