

Mn/DOT has National Record of 8 Perpetual Pavement Awards

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) has the record of eight National Perpetual Pavement Awards over the past eight years for the following roadways:

- Interstate 35 near Willow River in 2002,
- USTH 71 south of Park Rapids in 2003,
- USTH 10 in Anoka in 2004,
- TH 18 between Garrison and Brainerd in 2005,
- TH 61 between Wabasha and Kellogg in 2006,
- USTH 71 near New London in 2007,
- TH 36 south of Stillwater in 2008, and
- TH 10 east of Detroit Lakes to Perham.



The criteria for this prestigious national award are pavement sections that are 35 years or older, have not had major structural failure, have on average at least 13 years between overlays, and should demonstrate excellence in design, quality in construction and value to the traveling public. Figure 1 shows the number of Perpetual Pavement Awards per states or province.

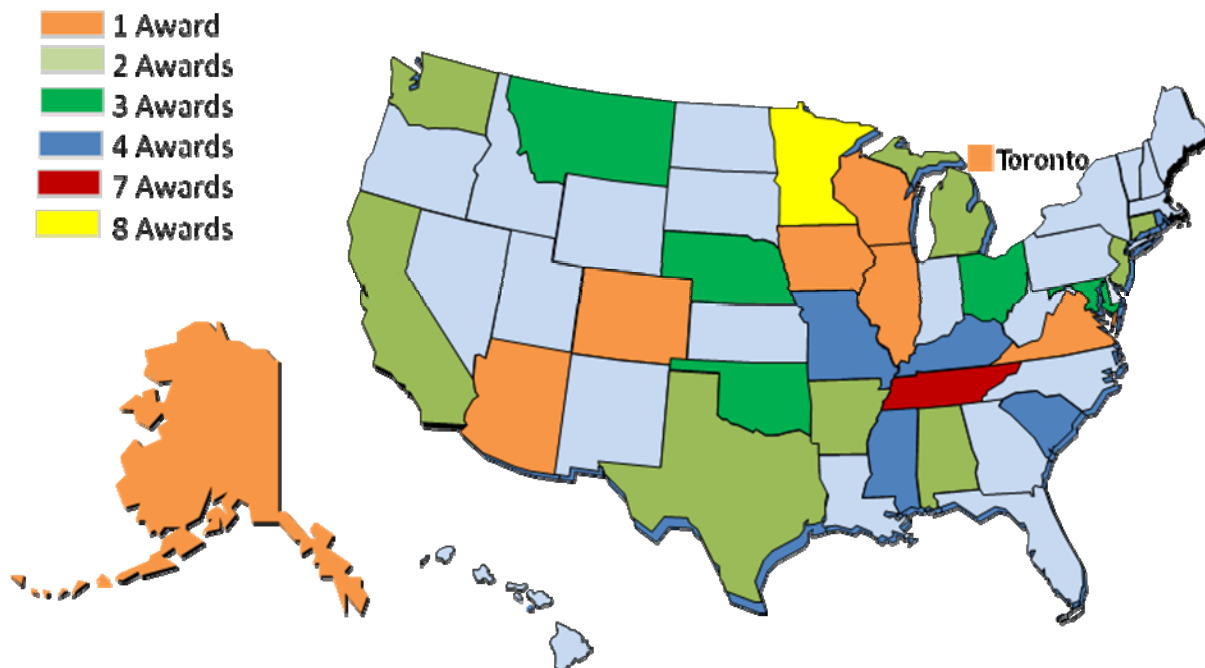


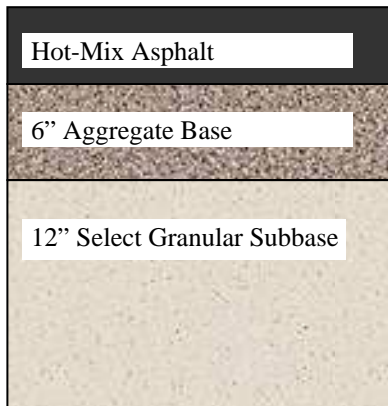
Figure 1. Distribution of Perpetual Pavement Awards.



The 2009 project award (Eastbound USTH 10 east of Detroit Lakes from milepost 56+0.144 to 71+0.741) is another example of design and endorsement of long-life, perpetual hot-mix asphalt (HMA) pavement in Minnesota. The initial construction of the Eastbound lanes of USTH 10 began in 1973. One foot of unsuitable material was excavated to correct for adverse subsoil conditions and for uniformity of compacted material. A select backfill material was used to create a drainable, strong construction platform to pave upon and as a long-lasting foundation. This is critical for perpetual pavement design and also to create a durable pavement structure to withstand the freeze-thaw cycles that occur in Minnesota. While there are signs of thermal cracks, the current ride quality index (RQI) is 3.6, which is very good.

Through projects such as this, Minnesota has played an outstanding role in the history of transportation, technological change, and asphalt construction thanks to the progressive vision and partnering efforts of agency and industry representatives. These award projects have demonstrated outstanding design, construction, and performance value for more than 37 years of service to the traveling public of Minnesota and continue to do so today.

2009 Perpetual Pavement Award
TH 10, East of Detroit Lakes to Perham
MP 56 to MP 71 (Approximately 15.5 miles)
Opened to Traffic in 1973



- 1973** (Initial Construction) 1.5" plant-mixed bituminous wearing course (Spec 2341) on 2" plant-mixed bituminous binder course (Spec 2341)
- 2001** (28 years after initial construction) 2" Mill and 3.5" Overlay (Spec 2360)



Congratulations to the Minnesota Department of Transportation!

