Development of a reference surface for the assessment of pavement skid resistance measurement devices

Peter Sanders
TRL

Stuart McRobbie
TRL

Helen Viner
TRL

Owen Ardill
Highways England

The aim of this work was to assess materials for their applicability for use as reference surfaces for the accreditation of skid resistance testing devices. The properties of a reference surface for this application are defined as either:

- a surface that is used over a long period of time and retains its skid resistance properties through use, weathering and storage, or
- a surface that is used as a disposable system and has the same initial skid resistance properties but does not retain these characteristics through use, weathering or storage.

The identification and testing of suitable materials is described and the results are analysed to identify suitable characteristics. Three materials were found to be potentially suitable for use as reference surfaces and these were then subjected to full-scale testing. Details of the testing are provided and the results presented and discussed.