

RAC, Chapter 2

Unidentified Woman: Over the last 40 years, RAC technology has been refined and can be applied in a variety of ways for roadway rehabilitation. It all begins when discarded tires are shredded and reduced to crumb rubber. There are two processes used to make RAC.

Theron J. Roschen: One is a *field blend* and the other is a *terminal blend*. The *field blend* has a mobile blender unit that comes to the area hot plant and melts the crumb tire with hot liquid asphalt at high temperature for a period of time and then is processed with the aggregate and placed on the pavement. The *terminal blend* occurs at the refinery where a finer buffing of recycled tires is placed in the oil at the refinery, and then delivered to the hot plant and mixed with the aggregate, in place.

Unidentified Woman: The decision on which one to use must be made by the local agency when plans and specifications are developed.

Gary Hicks: Right now, the predominant use of RAC is in thin overlays to preserve what we have in place. We have a substantial investment of money in our existing infrastructure and what we need to do now is make sure we protect and preserve it, just like we would with your house, where you re-roof your house occasionally or re-paint it... we're trying to do the same thing with roads through pavement preservation, and RAC plays a key role in that process.

Unidentified Woman: For any project involving RAC, contacting CalRecycle is your first step.

Margo Reid Brown: CalRecycle provides a variety of grant programs. One of the most successful is our *rubberized asphalt concrete grants* or *RAC grants*. We work with local jurisdictions to help use these products for the first time and couple that with technical assistance support during the process.

Theron J. Roschen: Through CalRecycle's help, we can assist them in a design of an overlay, the specifications of the overlay, how to inspect it at the hot plant, how to inspect it on the grade, and how to maintain it long term.

Jerry Dankbar: If we can find a way to stretch our dollars that's what we do, and CalRecycle has been a big part of that by giving us the right information to make informed decisions about where to use the product.

Theron J. Roschen : Rubberized asphalt has really achieved an equal status with conventional asphalts where it can be in the maintenance engineer's tool box and be provided as any other product.