



The Institute of Quarrying Australia  
50th National Conference



**QUARRYING 2007 – ABSTRACT**  
**ION DUMITRU**

**SAFER ROADS FOR TASMANIA**  
**GUNN'S HILL PROJECT – SKID RESISTANCE**  
**FIELD ASSESSMENT**

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**ABSTRACT:**

Reports published by DIER (Department of Infrastructure Energy & Resources) have shown that there are significant safety issues related to low skid resistance aggregates.

A quote from issue No. 15 of "Zebra (DIER)" mentioned that: "It is estimated that crashes and injuries cost us the people of Tasmania, \$300 million each year"...

The M&R Report 801848 highlights the fact that the useful life of the bitumen component of sprayed seals in Tasmania exceeds 25 years. Therefore there is a need to achieve a balance when the performance of the aggregates matches the bitumen performance.

Reports prepared for DIER (Ref. 983/0010) on the skid resistance issue were aimed at establishing a profile of the polishing resistance of potential aggregates suppliers including and understanding of the variability of products. Furthermore, in 2005 a joint project between DIER, Boral and Roadways started at Gunn's Hill with the aim to determine the benefits of blends of high durability aggregates with high to extreme high skid resistance properties aggregates.

The trialled aggregates were placed in a block pattern across both lanes of the western end of the Contract 1045 in strips, alternating control aggregates with trial blends.

This paper presents the results of skid resistance field assessment after 24 months of traffic using the British Pendulum Friction Test. Also, the SCRIM device has been used to assess the skid resistance performance and a correlation between the two tests has been carried out.

It is concluded that both types of skid resistance are showing the blends performing better than control. Furthermore, after 24 months of traffic the skid resistance value "drop" is lower for all blends sites when compared with the control sites.



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The work carried out in this trial will assist DIER in formulating a strategy to manage high skid resistance/risk areas on the State road networks and have the added benefit of extending the resource of high quality and scarce aggregates.

Safer roads can be built in Tasmania in areas where high skid resistance aggregates are not readily available.