

A Master United States Catalog of Subgrade Soil-Water Characteristic Curve Default Input Values for the MEPDG

Wednesday, March 17, 2010



Webinar length: 90 minutes

Pavement designers have used default values to analyze the seasonal behavior of project-specific soil layers and their influence on the performance of overlying flexible and rigid pavement structures over time. However, these default values do not always provide accurate information for designers to develop long-lasting pavements.

TRB's National Cooperative Highway Research Program has attempted to address this challenge by developing Project 9-23A-a master catalog of soil properties from which soil-water characteristic curves can be calculated for use as a key input parameter to the Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement Design Guide (MEPDG). The database was derived from suction-moisture content properties measured across the United States for agricultural purposes. The database also includes soil index properties for more than 31,000 soils within United States.

Panelist Claudia Zapata will discuss how pavement designers can use the catalog, and plans for integrating the catalog into future version of the MEPDG. This webinar will be useful for researchers and practitioners who are seeking more accurate readings of soil properties when designing pavements. The catalog will be available in April 2010 in DVD format from NCHRP.

Panelist: Claudia Zapata, Arizona State University

Moderated by: Matthew Witczak, Arizona State University