

Control vs. Fiber

Ozaukee County recently was introduced to the idea of using FORTA-FI to reduce common distresses in their roadways, extending the life of the roads, and reducing the overall maintenance schedule. After seeing all the successful side by side trials FORTA has completed over the last ten years, Ozaukee County decided to do a test of their own. County Road KW was the road selected to complete the side-by-side comparison. While both mixes were placed side by side, we also alternated which side each mix was on to ensure both mixes were placed over similar bases. The fiber was easily added to the asphalt at the plant via automated machine and does not change the mix design or the paving process.



Over the years, asphalt pavement projects reinforced with FORTA-FI[®] have been put to the test in real-world head-to-head Control vs. Fiber trial projects around the country. In these projects, asphalt mixtures reinforced with FORTA-FI[®] have been placed in direct competition with traditional asphalt mixtures that are not reinforced with fiber in order to accurately compare the performance results.

NY District 4 wanted to find a substitute for their costly, deep mill repair, used to fix transverse reflective cracking problems caused by an old (1930s) concrete base. FORTA-FI[®] was placed in the driving lane of Route 383 – a section of highway that experiences heavy truck traffic, 70% of which is in the driving lane. Traditional construction required a 6" deep joint repair followed by a 2" mill to be filled with polymerized asphalt. The fiber side was simply a 2" mill/fill and was completed in about 2-3 weeks.

On inspection, there were over 17 locations where the control side cracked, and the fiber side did not. Using FORTA-FI[®] saved the project over 4 weeks of construction time and made this roadway Stronger Lasting[™] for many years to come.

Glen David Drive in O'Hara Township, was a heavily cracked residential cul-de-sac that leads to Chapel Gate Swim Club. The O'Hara Township Engineer was looking to extend the life of the pavement and reduce reflective and alligator cracking. The pilot project using FORTA-FI[®] split the road down the middle. One lane has a 3" leveling course and a 1-1/2" wearing course without fiber, while the other lane uses FORTA[®] asphalt for both layers.

After 4 years, the FORTA[®] asphalt shows minimal signs of cracking compared to the asphalt with no fiber.

