FAST FACTS

The Association

- The National Asphalt Pavement Association represents the interests of the asphalt pavement producer and paving contractor on the national level.
- The Association, which counts more than 1,100 companies as its members, was founded in 1955.
- NAPA supports an active research program designed to answer questions about environmental issues and to improve the quality of asphalt pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities.

Asphalt Pavement

- Asphalt pavement refers to any paved road surfaced with asphalt.
- Asphalt pavement material is a combination of approximately 95 percent stone, sand, or gravel bound together by asphalt cement.
- Asphalt pavement material is produced at a mixing facility known as an asphalt plant where the aggregates and asphalt cement are heated, mixed according to precise engineering formulas, and loaded into trucks for transport to the paving site.

Scope and Scale of the Industry

- The U.S. has roughly 3,500 asphalt production sites and produces about 350 million metric tons per year.
- Of the 2.6 million miles of paved roads in the U.S., over 94 percent are surfaced with asphalt.
- There is approximately 18 billion tons of asphalt pavement on America’s roads.
- Between 85 and 90 percent of all runways at the nation’s 3,364 commercial airports are surfaced with asphalt pavement.
- Over 90 percent of the parking areas are surfaced with asphalt pavement.
The Asphalt Pavement Market

- Almost all spending on highway infrastructure projects in the United States is funded publicly. Despite several prominent examples, private spending on highway projects constitutes only a small fraction of the total.

- Almost three-quarters of all public spending on highways is by state and local governments: In 2013, state and local governments spent $110 billion, and the federal government spent $46 billion. Almost all federal highway spending is capital spending, which is used to build and improve highways; by contrast, about 40 percent of the total for state and local governments is capital spending and 60 percent is for operations and maintenance.

- According to the Federal Highway Administration, approximately 50 percent of capital spending on highways is spent for the purchase of materials. Therefore, on an annual basis, the total amount spent for the purchase of materials on publicly funded highways (Federal, state and local) is about $45 billion.

- Publically funded highway programs make up about 65 percent of the asphalt pavement market, with residential and non-residential construction making up the remaining 35 percent.

- Approximately $4 billion per year from all sources (Airport Improvement Program grants and passenger facility charges) is spent on airfield runways, taxiways, and aprons.

- For each $1 billion of federal spending invested in highway construction nationwide nearly 28,000 jobs are sustained annually, including approximately 9,500 in the construction sector, approximately 4,300 jobs in industries supporting the construction sector, and approximately 14,000 additional jobs are sustained in non-construction related sectors of the economy.

Asphalt Pavement Sustainability

- The asphalt pavement industry has an outstanding record of using sustainable practices in the manufacture of asphalt pavements.

- The use of warm-mix asphalt allows the producers of asphalt mixtures to lower temperatures at which the material is mixed and place on the road.

- In 2013, total warm-mix asphalt tonnage increased to over 106 million tons, or nearly a third of all asphalt pavement produced in the United States.

- The use of recycled materials, primarily reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) and reclaimed asphalt shingles (RAS), in asphalt pavements reduces the amount of raw materials required to produce asphalt mixes and materials going to landfills.

- In 2013, 67.8 million tons of asphalt pavement material was reclaimed, and nearly 100% was reused.

- In 2013, use of both manufacturers scrap and post-consumer shingles totaled 1.7 million tons, conserving 380,000 tons (2.2 million barrels) of asphalt binder.

- Through the recovery and reuse of asphalt binder from asphalt pavement and asphalt roofing shingles, the industry saved customers $2.27 billion in 2013.