JOBS IN THE ASPHALT PAVEMENT INDUSTRY
A Profile of the Men and Women Who Build Our Nation’s Infrastructure
We — the asphalt pavement industry — are leaders in the construction and maintenance of America’s road and highway transportation network. While asphalt pavements serve a national market, they are built by people who live and work in the areas that they serve. Asphalt jobs truly are Main Street jobs that cannot be outsourced overseas. Asphalt jobs are also green jobs; asphalt is reused and recycled at a greater rate than any other material, and virtually every worker in the industry is involved in reuse and recycling in some way.

The asphalt pavement industry is proud to support the people who rely on our country’s infrastructure as well as those who have made the industry a career choice.

With more than a third of our nation’s roads and highways in poor or mediocre condition and construction unemployment above the national average, there has been much debate about highway funding as a stimulus for job creation. Like all economic debates, this involves many variables and dynamic assumptions that make it difficult to accurately measure the true impacts. This paper breaks down the industry by the numbers, to show who we are and the important role workers in the asphalt and contributing industries play in the lives of all Americans.

Who We Are

The asphalt industry workforce includes asphalt plant managers, administrators, road crews, researchers, engineers, and support personnel, all of whom play critical roles in building and maintaining the roads we use every day. Careers in the asphalt industry are not limited to construction activities. Many civil engineers, technologists, and researchers with advanced degrees are necessary to ensure the quality and safety of our road system.

### ASPHALT JOBS BY THE NUMBERS

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<th>59,388</th>
<th>107,800</th>
<th>14,353</th>
<th>251,065</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees who work for refiners producing liquid asphalt.</td>
<td>Total number of employees in the aggregates industry.</td>
<td>Number directly employed in asphalt mix production.</td>
<td>Total number employed in the construction of highways, streets, runways, roads, and bridges.</td>
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<th>72,892</th>
<th>63,094</th>
<th>13,000</th>
<th>$1.8 Billion</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total employees in the manufacture of construction equipment.</td>
<td>Employees in the dealer/wholesale distribution network for construction equipment.</td>
<td>Number of jobs created for every $1 billion of federal investment.</td>
<td>Economic activity generated for every $1 billion invested in federal highways.</td>
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The numbers above represent employment in these industries as of 2012. While there is no way to separate out asphalt-related positions in the aggregates and equipment sectors, these numbers provide the best indicators available on overall employment related to asphalt pavements.
The workers we see on the roads are only one small part of the equation. An asphalt road could not be constructed without many other people, including...

» RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIERS
Provide aggregates (the stone, sand, and gravel that make up about 95 percent of a pavement mix) and liquid asphalt (the glue that holds the pavement together and makes up about 5 percent of the mix)

» ASPHALT MIX PRODUCERS
Combine the aggregates and liquid in some 3,500 asphalt production facilities across the country

» TRUCK DRIVERS
Transport the raw materials to the asphalt production facilities and the pavement mix to job sites

» PAVING AND COMPACTION CREWS
Place and compact the asphalt to make a pavement, along with the workers ensure a safe work zone for paving crews and the driving public

» MANUFACTURING WORKERS
Make the tools and equipment needed for transporting materials, and for producing, paving, and compacting asphalt pavements

» CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTORS, RETAILERS, AND WORKERS
Repair and maintain the equipment

» AND THOUSANDS OF OTHERS
Who provide managerial, administrative, and accounting support to asphalt businesses

Who We Impact
Regardless of whether you drive a car, receive mail at your home, or purchase goods at your local grocery store that were transported via trucks, it is hard to imagine anyone in this nation who is not affected by the condition of our roads. Consider, for example, the ...

» 3.7 million truck drivers and other professional drivers who depend on roads and highways to perform their jobs.
SOURCE: BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

» 126.7 million commuters, including 4 million bus riders, who rely on roads and highways to get to work every day.

» 21,000 individuals who die each year as a result of roadway conditions. The percentage of fatalities where roadway condition is a contributing factor is higher than those attributed to speeding, alcohol, and non-use of seat belts.

The asphalt pavement industry is paving the way forward, with long-lasting, well-paid American jobs, serving the American people, enabling a higher standard of living for all, and enhancing economic development in an environmentally sustainable way.

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www.DriveAsphalt.org

Repair and maintenance projects on roads and bridges produce on average 16 percent more jobs than new highway construction per dollar spent, in part because a greater share of project costs go directly into workers’ pockets and less to right-of-way purchase, engineering, and impact studies.