

Fact Sheet

POTHOLE PATCHING

PROBLEM

Current pothole repair methods are costly and ineffective. Temporary patching that lasts only days or even hours is not a proper use of resources and can cost up to five times as much annually as one-time permanent patches.

SOLUTION

A CRREL research team has evaluated commercially available equipment that can recycle hot mix asphalt concrete that would otherwise be thrown away after summer maintenance repairs. This equipment can reheat asphalt concrete year-round and can provide hot mix for potholes in the late fall, winter, or spring during "pothole season" when hot mix plants are closed. The equipment also can heat cold patch materials.

RESULTS

By using this equipment and currently available trucks, compactors, and pavement breakers, permanent one-shot repairs are possible, thereby saving time, resources, and money.

The following reports and videotape generated by this project explain proper pothole repairs in detail.

- *Pothole Primer—A Public Administrator's Guide to Understanding and Managing the Pothole Problem*, CRREL Special Report 81-21 (revised December 1989)
- *The Engineer's Pothole Repair Guide*, CRREL Cold Region Technical Digest 84-1
- *Comparison of Three Compactors Used in Pothole Repair*, CRREL Special Report 84-31
- Videotape: *Potholes—Causes, Cures, and Prevention*, 11 minutes

These products are free and may be obtained by writing to this address:

USACRREL
Attention: Publications
72 Lyme Road
Hanover, New Hampshire 03755-1290

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