



## FiberMat® Update

September 2013

**Solutions™**

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### *FiberMat® wins head-to-head comparison with Paving Fabric on Michigan Interstate 75*

FiberMat® was recently placed in the State of Michigan on seven miles of Interstate 75 and it all came about because FiberMat® out-performed paving fabric in a head-to-head comparison conducted by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

In 2012 MDOT compared FiberMat® Type B to a paving fabric on a 1 mile section of an HMA overlay project on Interstate I-75 in Chippewa Co. The paving fabric was placed on the north-bound passing lane and the FiberMat® was placed by Strawser Construction and Terry Materials on the south-bound passing lane, just north of the M-28 interchange. According to MDOT personnel, FiberMat® far out-performed the paving fabric in ease of installation and they found that the use of FiberMat® had resulted in little to none of the reflective cracks coming back through the resulting HMA overlay. Due to these results, MDOT let a new project in 2013 for seven miles of FiberMat® Type B on I-75 just north of St. Ignace, MI.



Strawser Construction placing FiberMat® on I-75 in Michigan's Upper Peninsula



FiberMat® visible at center joint was exposed to 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday weekend traffic with no reported issues

Reports indicate that during the 2012 job the competition experienced many of the typical installation issues associated with paving fabrics: crack fill material bleeding through prior to the placement of the HMA and fabric edges lifting when driven on by paving equipment (resulting in the fabric wrapping itself around the tires). Delamination was witnessed between the fabric and existing pavement resulting in movement of the HMA mat during the rolling process, which produced a very irregular centerline. FiberMat® on the other hand did not experience any of these problems and was installed and performed as promised.

MDOT's results confirm that FiberMat® is a cost-effective, easily-installed crack inhibiting membrane which will greatly delay the propagation of reflective cracks. Once again FiberMat® beats the competition from head to toe.

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