Description

FORTA-FI is a high tensile strength synthetic fiber blend formulated to reinforce asphalt mixes. FORTA-FI helps to control and reduce fatigue cracking, thermal cracking, reflective cracking, rutting, and raveling. In new construction or rehab projects, FORTA-FI provides initial cost savings through reduced pavement layer thickness which gives the same durability as conventional mixes, or a life cycle cost reduction when placed at conventional asphalt pavement thickness which extends the pavement life.

Reinforcement Objective

To three-dimensionally reinforce pavements by controlling thermal, reflective, and fatigue cracking as well as reduce rutting and raveling.

Physical Properties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Aramid</th>
<th>Polyolefin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specific Gravity</td>
<td>1.44</td>
<td>0.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density</td>
<td>2,427 lb/cu yd (1,440 kg/cu m)</td>
<td>1,534 lb/cu yd (910 kg/cu m)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tensile Strength</td>
<td>400 ksi (2,758 MPa)</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Temperature</td>
<td>-100 – 800°F (-73 – 427°C)</td>
<td>N/A*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>0.75 in (19 mm)</td>
<td>0.75 in (19 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form</td>
<td>Monofilament</td>
<td>Serrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid/Alkali Resistance</td>
<td>Inert</td>
<td>Inert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fibers will melt or become plastically deformed during asphalt mix production.

Applications

FORTA-FI fiber blend is added directly to the asphalt mix during production creating a three-dimensional material reinforcement throughout the entire pavement layer. This reinforcement helps control thermal, reflective, and fatigue cracking, as well as reduce rutting and raveling. FORTA-FI is a cost effective way to improve the durability and longevity of a variety of transportation applications such as airports, streets, highways, interstates, and industrial parking lots, etc. FORTA-FI is an innovative way to help transportation agencies achieve sustainability objectives by lowering Life Cycle Costs. Additionally, FORTA-FI can be used as a stabilizing agent in SMA’s and OGFC’s.

Performance Benefits

- Extreme durability
- Life cycle cost reduction
- No change to construction process or JMF
- Extend pavement life
- Provide 3-dimensional reinforcement against pavement distresses

Addition & Mixing

FORTA-FI mixes well in batch and drum plants without compromising production. The fibers are added during asphalt production in batch plants either manually using pre-measured bags or with a fiber delivery system. For drum plants, bags can be placed on the RAP conveyor manually or with a modified fiber feeder. FORTA® Delivery Systems, such as the Voyager, The Big Shot and The Little Shot, offer effective delivery methods for a variety of pavement applications. Some feeders automatically track and record the amount of fiber fed into the batch for quality assurance. The fibers are added at a rate of one (1) pound of fibers per one (1) ton of asphalt mix. Add fiber during the production process ensuring minimum mix production temperatures as follows: 220°F minimum for bulk fiber use; or 275°F minimum for pre-measured bags (bags may not fully dissolve below 275°F).
Fiber Vs. Control

This county road suffered severe alligator cracking from years of heavy truck traffic. To repair the road, engineers wanted to explore FORTA-FI as an alternate reinforcement method. They applied a 2 inch overlay directly onto the existing pavement without milling. They used the same base mix for the entire road; however, for one-half of the road, the mix included FORTA-FI, and for the other half, the mix did not.

After 7 months, the side without fiber reinforcement had begun to reflect cracking from the old asphalt layers below. As you can see, the FORTA-FI section outperformed the control section when it came to reducing reflective and alligator cracking, which will directly lead to an extension of life.

Additional Information

Additional information such as the Safety Data Sheet, Certifications, videos and other literature can be found on the forta-fi.com website. The website also features Project Profiles that show the many applications and benefits of FORTA-FI and other fibers for asphalt firsthand.

Warranty

FORTA® products are warranted to be free of defects in material and meet all quality control standards set by the manufacturer. FORTA Corporation specifically disclaims all other warranties, express or implied. The exclusive remedy for defective product shall be to replace the product or refund the purchase price. No agent or employee of this company is authorized to vary the terms of this warranty notice. FORTA Corporation has no control over the design, production, placement, or testing of the asphalt products in which FORTA® products are incorporated, and therefore FORTA Corporation disclaims liability for the end product.

FORTA reserves the right to change the features and specifications of its products without prior notice.

FORTA-FI® can be purchased from FORTA Corporation or an authorized FORTA® products distributor, dealer or representative.