FOLLOW-UP OF THE PAVEMENT LEVEL OF SERVICE ON A FRENCH TOLL HIGHWAY NETWORK

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ABSTRACT

Autoroutes du Sud de la France (ASF) is a private firm, which exploits the longest toll motorway network in France (2 566 km). With such a large network, ASF set up a pavement management system. This system is essential to well know and to follow-up the level of service offered to customers, and to anticipate the budget needs.

The management system is built on the intern monitoring policy, which defines the condition survey to do and its periodicity. Condition survey affects more particularly the following characteristics: roughness and skid resistance, rutting, evenness, distresses.

The results of condition survey are entered into a data base, which also contains essential data for good pavement knowledge, as the nature of the different courses, their thickness and building dates. For each characteristic, the measure value is compared to thresholds, in order to obtain a level of service: from A for a good level, to E for a bad level. We obtain in this way the repartition of level of service on the motorway network.

To have a global image of the network, indexes are created by crossing characteristics. We then obtain an index representative of security, of comfort and also a global index which uses all the characteristics. The indexes are used to compare highways between them, and to follow the evolution of the level of service with time.

KEY WORDS: Pavement, highway, asset management, level of service