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**CHARACTERISATION TESTS ON BOND COATS:
WORLDWIDE STUDY, IMPACT, TESTS,
RECOMMENDATIONS**

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ABSTRACT

Following damage that appeared on the surface layers (fatigue cracks, peeling, rapid structural fatigue), the IBEF International Bitumen Emulsion Federation launched a survey in 1998.

The goal of the survey was to assess the current situation of this technique worldwide by studying the practices, proportions and specifications that exist.

The IBEF is an international organisation that includes national associations of bitumen emulsion manufacturers around the world.

The first presentation of the results obtained through this study took place during the November 1999 ISAET (International Symposium on Asphalt Emulsion Technology) congress in Washington.

Design models have in fact shown that the bond between layers plays a predominant role in the long-term structural behaviour of pavement.

However, no tests have been developed to properly evaluate the key criteria of bond coats in situ.

It was decided to continue the study to help finalise tests and methods that make it possible to show the impact of bond coats and the effect of the proportions used.

Our paper will present the results and the tests that are being developed in certain countries to assess the efficiency of bond coats.

KEY WORDS : Emulsion – bond coat – long lasting – control – bonding