

## **DURABILITY OF THIN SURFACING SYSTEMS AFTER NINE YEARS MONITORING**

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### *ABSTRACT*

Thin surfacing systems, as the term is currently understood, were introduced into the UK in 1991. Many sites with thin surfacing systems have reached or are approaching the end of their assumed lives so that a review of the service that can be expected from such surfacings can now be made with some confidence. The information collected from a selection of sites with thin surfacing systems has been evaluated in order to establish their serviceable life. In this report, the results from visual condition, SCRIMtex and recovered binder properties are given for sites monitored over the last three years of this review together with analysis of these data together with the results from preceding years, a total of 137 sites. The findings, now extended by a further three years monitoring since the last published report, indicate that, if a thin surfacing system is in a good condition after its first year in service, it will be serviceable for at least 5 years and the typical life of a thin surfacing system is about ten years, depending on the type of thin surfacing system and the condition of the substrate. The average life of the most commonly used systems (10 mm and 14 mm BBTM and SMA systems) is over 13 years.

*KEY WORDS:* Thin surfacings, durability, visual condition, skid resistance, texture depth