

NZ Transport Agency and Road Marking in NZ



Introduction

- Grant Bosma – Principal Surfacing Engineer
- Six months so far....
- Previously working for contractors
- Current role covers:
 - Spray seal and asphalt surfacings
 - Materials and practice specifications, and...
 - Road marking
- Some learning to be done.



THE POACHER-TURNED-KEEPER.

The New Zealand Process

- The NZ Transport Agency covers the main State Highway network



State Highway Network North Island



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State Highway Network South Island



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Some statistics

Country	Population (M)	Paved Roads (1000 km)	Length/1000 people
UK	66.6	398	6.0
USA	326	4310	13.2
Australia	24.8	353	14.2
New Zealand	4.75	94	19.8

The New Zealand Process

- The NZ Transport Agency covers the main State Highway network
- Urban and rural local authorities manage the rest
- NZTA specifications and processes are the default
- Specifications:
 - Materials covered by NZTA M7 (2017)
 - Paint plant covered by NZTA/NZRF T8 (2008)
 - Long life applicators covered by NZTA/NZRF T12 (2013)
 - Paint application covered by NZTA P22 (2006)
 - Long life application covered by NZTA M24 (2006) and P30 (2009)
 - Other specifications for specialist marking
- M7 governs the approval process for road marking paints
- Applicator plant tested and certified annually to T8



Issues

- Older specifications are in need of update (other than M7)
- M7 paint approval process:
 - The approval process is lengthy and costly, involving both material testing and a road trial
 - Process length and cost creates barriers to new suppliers, but
 - Process length and cost protects NZTA from poor quality materials
 - Provisional approval is available for new materials allowing them to be trialled, but this process could be formalised.
- Old specifications could be creating barriers to innovation.



Good things

- NZTA and NZRF work collaboratively to achieve our common aims
- T8 and T12 are jointly NZTA and NZRF badged
- The T8 and T12 process is managed by industry:
 - Initial certification is carried out by an Issuing Officer recognised and approved by NZTA
 - Testing is carried out by a Testing Officer who has specific delegated authority to do the plant inspections and testing
 - NZRF audit Testing Officers on a three year cycle
 - Compliant plant is listed on a T8 register managed by NZRF.
- A joint NZTA/NZRF Delineation Advisory Group has operated in the past.



Finally....

- The collaborative relationship between NZRF and NZTA is greatly valued by the NZ Transport Agency
- There's some work to be done to update and modernise some of the specifications
- We need to find ways that allow and encourage innovation while protecting quality
- How do Australian SRAs manage and control road marking paint quality?
- Now's a good time to revitalise the Delineation Advisory Group



