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A Review Study on The Use of Geosynthetics in Road Constructions

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ABSTRACT

There are typically two main categories of pavement structures: flexible pavements and rigid pavements. Many problems can have an impact on these structures, similar to how they affect other structures. In order to avoid the degradation of pavements, they are reinforced with geosynthetic materials to enhance their durability. Using a variety of geosynthetics on pavement structures has been discovered by numerous researchers to potentially generate more employment opportunities. This article examines the use of geosynthetics for enhancing the performance of flexible pavements. It will talk about some studies that have been done on this topic. We investigate three popular usages of geosynthetics in pavement structures. Their purpose includes hindering the movement of fluids, soaking up stress, and providing additional support to the pavement.

Keywords: Geosynthetics, Pavement, cracks, durability.

INTRODUCTION

The roads are getting busier with more cars and heavier trucks, and it's putting a lot of pressure on the roads we already have. The pressure between layers causes cracks to form in the asphalt. Settlements in certain areas can also cause cracks in the asphalt layer. These stresses cause cracks to form because of forces pushing horizontally and differences in how the ground settles in different places [1]. Adding support to asphalt mixes is one way to make sure the roads last longer and work better. Reinforcement refers to the addition of specific materials to a material lacking particular attributes, with the purpose of granting it those attributes [2]. During the early 1980s, Europe started implementing paving grids and composites, followed by their introduction into North America in the late 1980s. The implementation of grid composite, grid, and fabric in North America involved their combination [3]. The utilization of grids has been gradually growing and has now encompassed millions of square yards. Experiments on paving grids and composites started in the early 1990's, and recently, the results of these experiments have been made accessible [4].

Issues with the road can arise as a result of heavy traffic or shifts in the natural surroundings. Traffic loads occur when wheels pass over a road multiple times, causing damage that can either make the road structurally weak or unable to work well. Climatic conditions like temperature and moisture changes can create environmental loads [6]. These loads can lead to problems like uneven surfaces and damage to structures. Repeatedly getting wet and then drying out (or freezing and then thawing) can cause the base course material to break apart. The way construction is done can also impact how well pavements last [9]. For instance, using too much small particles in road materials can cause roads to wear down quickly. In simple terms, the condition of a road is affected by how well it is taken care of. For instance, if we seal cracks and joints at the right times and take care of the sides of the pavement, it will make the road last longer and work better. The different ways that traffic and environmental pressures can cause damage can be made worse by using geosynthetics [11].

Geosynthetics, which are flat plastic products, are commonly incorporated in construction projects in compliance with ASTM guidelines, along with soil or other materials. The introduction of geosynthetic materials in geotechnical engineering focused on improving soil through geotextile, a specific type of fabric. Presently, these materials are employed in numerous ways and are extensively used in all aspects of civil engineering [13]. The manufacturing process of these polymer-based products is tailored to meet their specific requirements. Their lightweight nature allows for effortless transportation. They are also convenient to use, when compared with other building materials. These attributes contribute to their popularity and usefulness across various domains [14].

Geosynthetics, which are utilized in various civil engineering construction projects, are materials. Geosynthetics incorporate numerous plastics that are comparable to the ones we often encounter in our daily lives. Polyolefins and polyester are the materials that are commonly employed. In certain instances, it is common to use natural materials in addition to rubber and fiberglass [16]. Geosynthetics have the ability to carry out diverse tasks including but not limited to material separation, filtration, drainage, reinforcement, liquid and gas protection, or obstruction. The subsequent part will cover the specific applications of various geosynthetics [18].

The utilization of geosynthetic reinforcements in sections of an earth structure that experience stretching prevents excessive strain on the soil, ultimately bolstering the strength of the entire material. The use of soil-geosynthetic reinforcement is prevalent in the development of roads, retaining walls for soil support, building foundations, and elevated surfaces [19]. This study focuses on the utilization of geosynthetic reinforcement in the foundation layer of flexible pavements in North America, such as asphalt roads. This section provides an explanation as to why the utilization of geosynthetics is crucial in flexible pavements. Within the material, there is an overview of both the design aspects of flexible pavements and the incorporation of geosynthetics in their construction [20].

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

[Sina Mirzapour Mounes, Mohamed Rehan Karim, Abdelaziz Mahrez and Ali Khodaii et. al. (2011)] The focus of this paper pertains to the utilization of geosynthetics in flexible pavements. It will go over the outcomes of a number of research studies related to this issue. This paper focuses on investigating the three primary approaches through which geosynthetics are incorporated into pavement structures: as a means to restrict fluids, to mitigate strain, and as a reinforcing component.

[JORGE G. Zornberg et. al. (2011)] Geosynthetics and their contribution to the improvement of pavement have been the focus of recent investigations. The primary objectives of the research were to comprehend the mechanisms and efficacy of geosynthetics, establish methods to assess these characteristics in laboratory experiments and on actual pavements, and anticipate the influence of various geosynthetic types on pavement performance.

[Oğuzhan Yavuz Bayraktar et al. (2020)] Geosynthetics are typically placed on the soft foundation of roads prior to introducing a layer of geosynthetic granular material. The utilization of geosynthetics ensures the slab's strength and hinders the sandy base from penetrating the vulnerable layer beneath it. The use of geosynthetics aids in maintaining the durability of a weak floor over an extended period.

[Ravindra Kumar, Utsav Singh, Priyanshu Saini, Varun Sharma, Matloob Ali et. al. (2020)] The purpose of this study is to investigate the application of geotextiles in road construction and examine previously published literature on the subject. The findings of this study will offer helpful insights in formulating recommendations on the effective implementation of geotextiles for improving the subgrade beneath airport pavements intended for smaller planes. The guidelines will encompass topics such as pavement design, pavement construction techniques, appropriate material choices, and performance benchmarks. Geotextiles can be utilized in various methods for constructing gravel-surfaced roads and flexible pavements, as indicated by the findings of the study.

[MAGDALENA ZIĘBA, PIOTR KALISZ, MARCIN GRYGIEREK et. al. (2020)] The utilization of geosynthetic reinforcement is effective in minimizing the adverse effects of horizontal stretching. If something is compressed horizontally, it can create a rough and pockmarked surface. Road's experience varying slopes due to subsidence. This article shows two laboratory test results. The primary assessment concerns the relationship between subgrade horizontal strains and the performance of reinforced aggregate layers. The second evaluation aims to assess how the deformation caused by mining activities affects the subgrade of roads. The instances exemplify the effectiveness of geosynthetic reinforcement in increasing the stability of unbound aggregate layers in mining zones.

[José Neves, Helena Lima and Margarida Gonçalves et. al. (2016)] The objective of this paper is to highlight the relationship between utilizing geosynthetics in road foundations and how it can impact their design. A study was conducted by using a computer program called ADINA, to analyze something. This analysis was conducted using a two-dimensional model. The study examined various pavement types and investigated their susceptibility to traffic and the condition of the underlying soil. The study focused on investigating the consequences of reinforcing the pavement on its capability to endure stress and endure wear and tear.

[Jorge G. Zornberg et. al. (2017)] These things can separate, filter, strengthen, stiffen, drain, block, and shield. One or more of these many uses were applied to at least six important road projects. This technology can be used for various purposes like preventing cracks in asphalt overlays, keeping different layers of roads separate, strengthening road bases and subgrades, and improving drainage on roadsides. This paper explains how each of these different uses work and the important progress made in them.

[Vaitkus, A., Cygas, D., Laurinavicius, A. et. al. (2010)] The paper deals with the performance of road pavement structure strengthening with geosynthetics in Lithuania national roads and city streets. There are presented research studies including performance of geotextiles separation function in road pavement structure and geotextile damage from transport loads; rehabilitation of asphalt pavements with new layer of asphalt and geogrid; performance of road pavement structure life time with reinforced and unrein-forced pavement structure layers with geosynthetics.

[S.K. Shukla, J.-H. Yin et. al. (2017)] Drawing upon past experiences, this paper delves into the various applications, design concepts, and installation techniques of paving geosynthetics. There have also been discussions regarding the potential of geosynthetics to be used as a paving material. The effective utilization of paving geosynthetics may require engineers to be particularly diligent in their approach. The subject matter discussed in this paper is of great importance.

[G. S. Ingle, S. S. Bhosale et. al. (2019)] The development of a substantial laboratory setup designed for testing pavement is elucidated in this document. Additionally, the measurement showcasing the weight exerted on the axle is also demonstrated. The arrangement of the laboratory will provide us with the means to evaluate and try out new materials and techniques applicable to road development. Using them will enhance our understanding and boost our self-assurance. This will enable us to acquire knowledge and build confidence in their utilization. Employing these tools will increase our intelligence

and self-assurance. The focus of this paper is to analyze the alteration in stress and deformation occurring at the lower section of the pavement, comparing cases with and without the application of geotextile reinforcement. We will use a special testing facility to do this.

[Mohammad M. Khabiri et. al. (2011)] Information regarding the usage of Geosynthetic Material in construction and operational activities has been revealed in recent studies. The software is employed to determine the optimal thickness for the Geosynthetic layer. By looking at the result, if the Geosynthetic layer is closer to the surface, the depth of rutting will be less. The complete operation of this layer stops it from having this type of problem.

UTILIZED MATERIALS

GEOGRIDS

Strips of plastic are interconnected into a sheet-like structure to compose a Geo-Grid. This material was first used for making roads in the southern US state of South Carolina in 1930. Later, it was also used for preventing erosion in Europe and the United States in 1960 and 1969 respectively [7]. A geogrid is a strong cloth used to make soils and similar materials stronger. Geogrids are often used to strengthen retaining walls, as well as the ground underneath roads or buildings. Soils are pulled apart when there is pressure. Geogrids are stronger than soil when it's under pressure [17-20].

SORTS OF GEOGRIDS

a) Uniaxial geogrids

b) Biaxial Geogrids

UNIAXIAL GEOGRIDS

By introducing rib-like structures, geogrids of this kind are formed, designed for specific purposes. When assessing its length, the material showcases superior malleability without the danger of snapping, unlike when assessed along its width [13-20]. (Shown in fig 1)

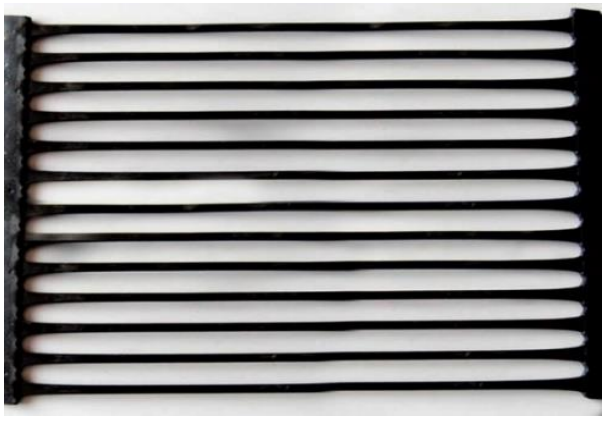

Fig 1 Uniaxial Geogrids

BIAXIAL GEOGRIDS

The act of punching polymer sheets involves stretching them in both horizontal and vertical directions. The work's flexible nature is presented to both the transverse and longitudinal bearings in a similar manner. The Geogrid can be utilized during all weather conditions to complete construction tasks. This makes the task even harder to accomplish. The usage of Biaxial geogrids was done by for this project [20]. (Shown in fig 2)

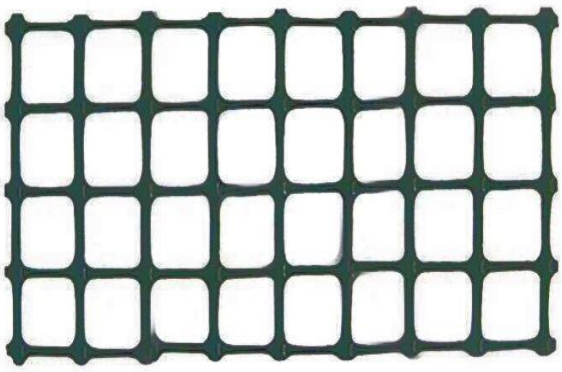

Fig 2 Biaxial Geogrids

BITUMEN EMULSION

Typically, bitumen emulsion consists of water with bitumen droplets dispersed within it. Various combinations are employed for treating the outer layer. If the Emulsion doesn't have a uniform texture upon extraction from hot Bitumen, it will struggle with spreading effectively or providing extensive coverage [16-20]. (Shown in fig 3)

Fig 3 Bitumen Emulsion

CONCLUSIONS

1. Altering the depth of the geo-grid appears to affect the stability of the underlying ground.

2. The exam's findings reveal that the installation of geo-grids at various depths in the soil can effectively homogenize the subbase's characteristics.

3. The rigidity of geogrid sheets contributes to enhancing the resilience of soft soils, particularly in instances where the CBR values are high.

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