# The Institute of Asphalt Technology Irish Branch

# Roadstone Innovation Trial High Reclaimed Asphalt Use – 60% RA

William Wilson



## **Objectives of the Trial**



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- Demonstrate that:
  - RA is suitable to be added to new pavements at levels in excess of the current maximum allowable level of 30%
  - Materials incorporating RA can provide equivalent performance to virgin mixes
  - Equivalent compaction levels are achievable when using RA
  - Durability of the materials containing RA is not compromised
  - Demonstrate the environmental benefits of increasing RA in new pavements



## Lab Design



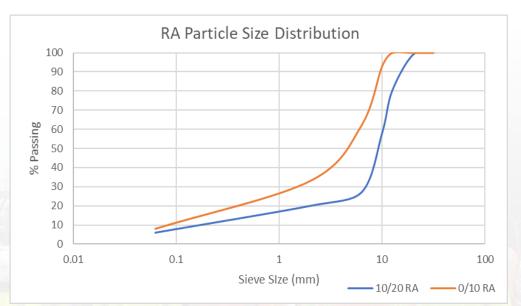




## Analysis of the RA Utilised

Average values for gradation and recovered binder properties were assessed

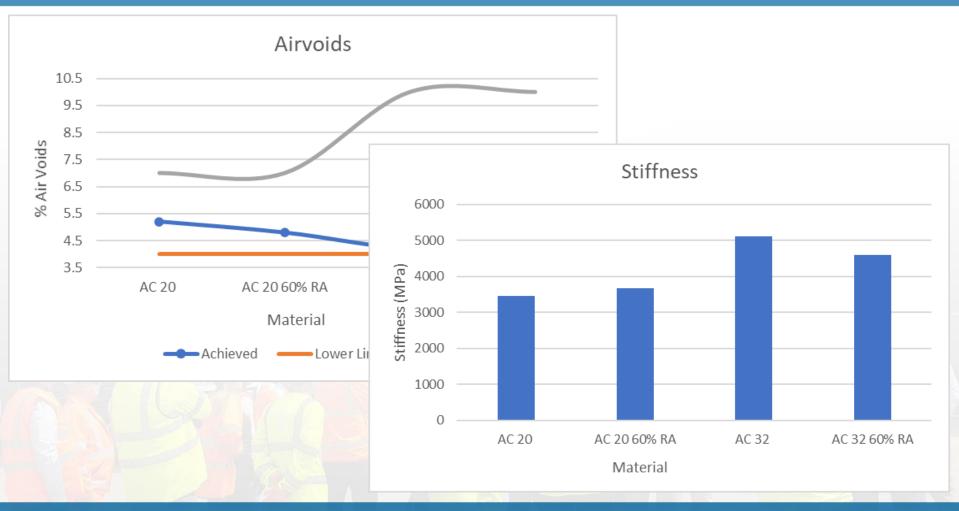
	10/20	0/10
Binder Content (%)	3	5.2
Penetration (dmm)	26	26
Softening Point (°C)	68	65

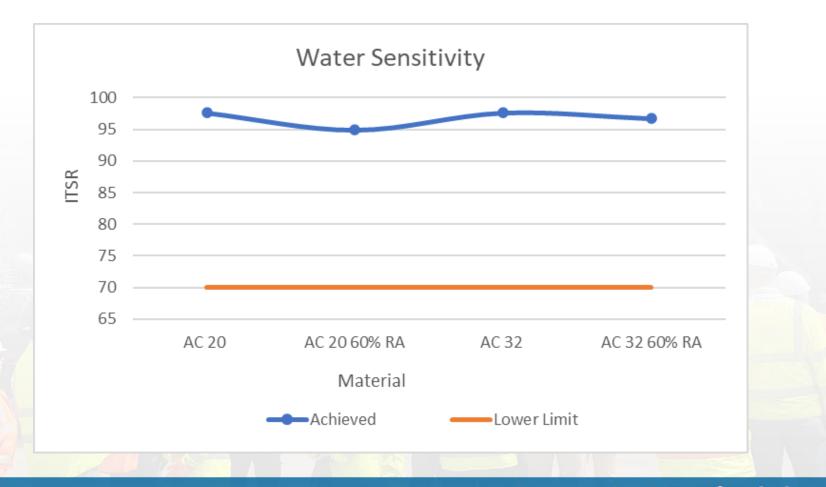


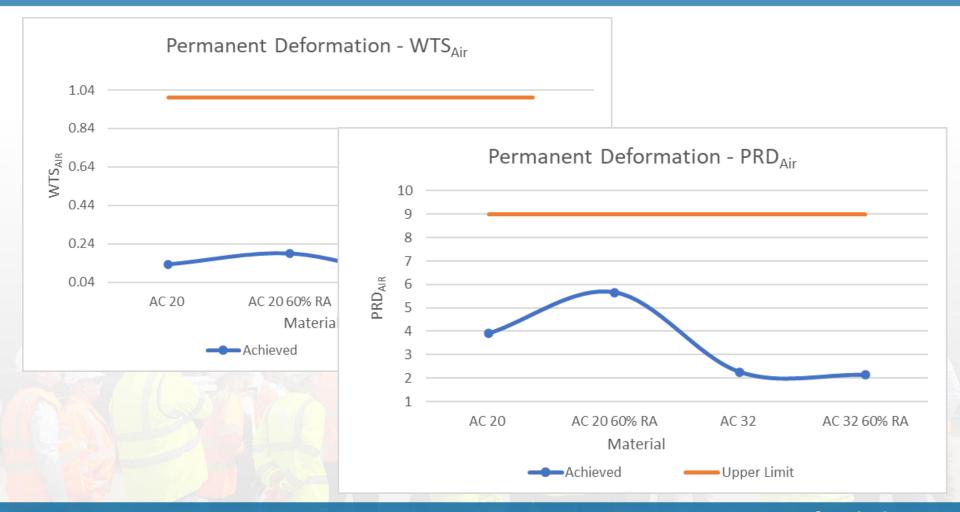
Binder contents and properties are in line with typical values

## Lab Design

- Provide an equivalent performing product to standard virgin materials
- Materials:
- Ac 20 dense bin 40/60 des Cl. 3.1.4
- Ac 32 dense base 40/60 des Cl. 3.1.1
- Design work Completed on Ac 32 and Ac 20 virgin and 60% RA materials
- A Rejuvenator (ReLIXER®) was used to improve the characteristics of the RA
- Performance characteristics examined were
  - Compaction levels
  - Stiffness
  - Water Sensitivity
  - Permanent Deformation were all tested







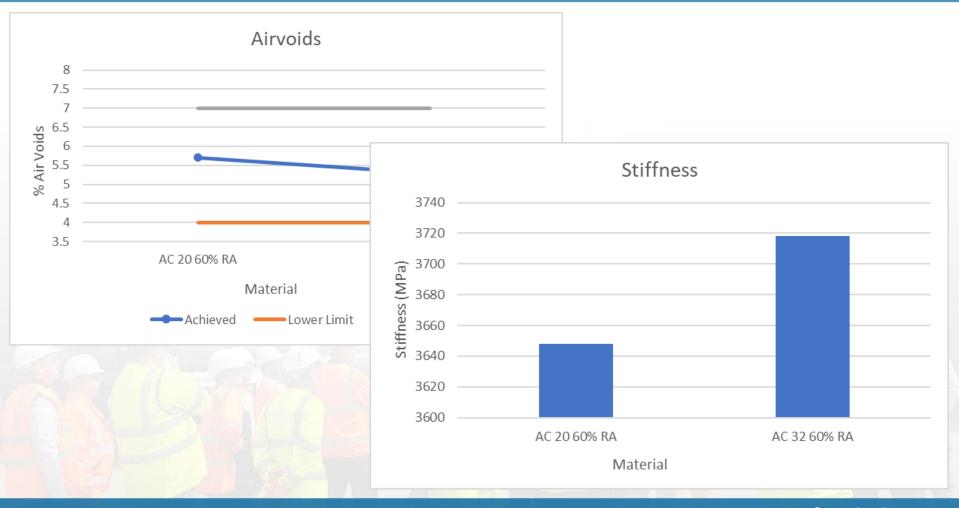


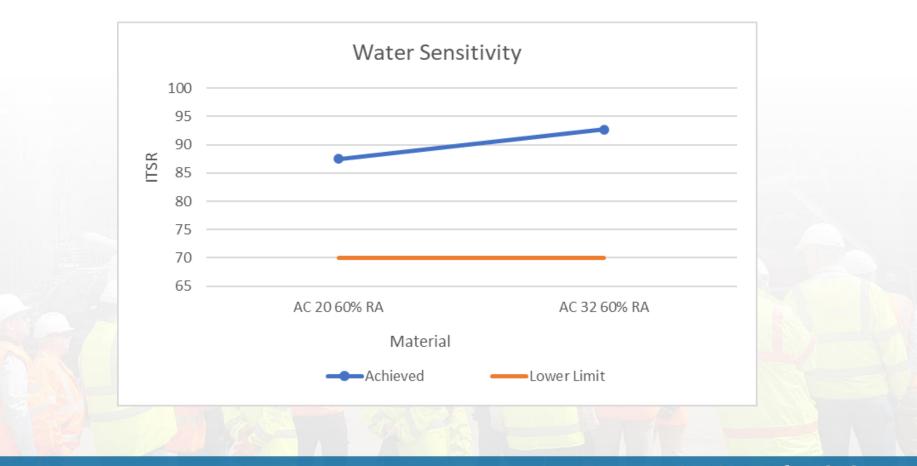
### Plant Trial



## Material Properties of the Plant Trial

- Plant trial was carried out off site, to ensure:
  - The materials performed as expected when produced at plant scale.
  - Material properties are comparable to laboratory prepared material.
  - The plant can produce consistent material with very high percentages of RA which perform as expected.
- 0% RA materials were not required for this trial as they are standard materials produced in the plant.









### Site Trial



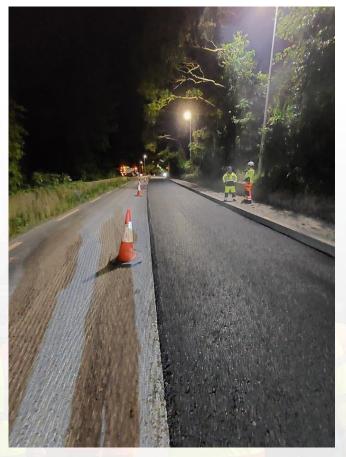




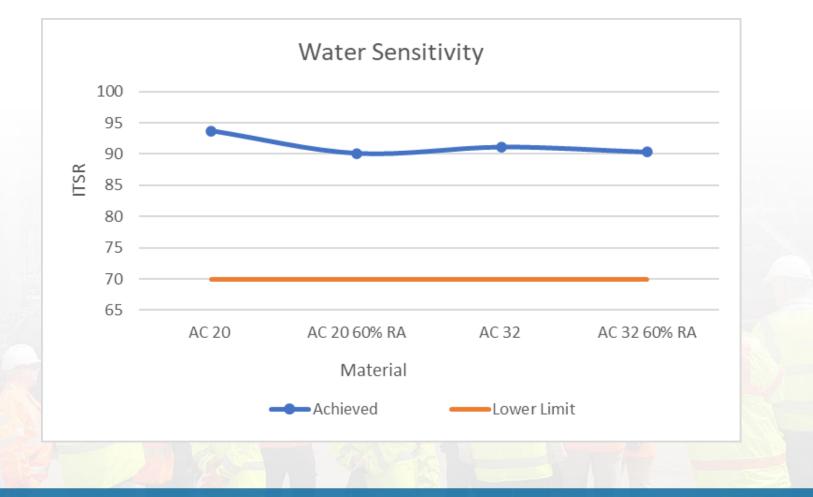
### Site Trial Overview – N81 Plant Trial

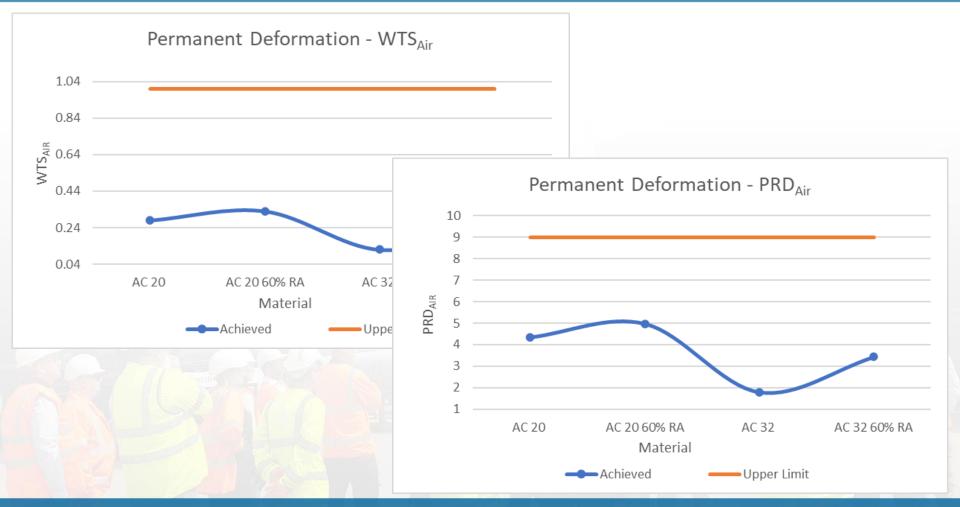












### Site Trial – Summary

- The addition of RA and Rejuvenator to AC 20 and the AC32 improved compaction levels, similar to lab prepared samples.
- All materials gave excellent water sensitivity (<90%), wheel tracking and stiffness results.
- All results meet TII specifications.

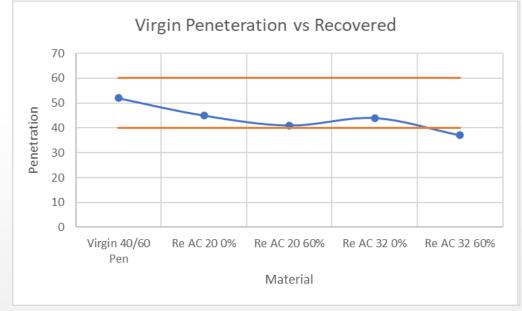


## Summary of Binder Recovery Testing





**Binder Recovery** 



- Addition of RA resulted in an increase in softening point and a corresponding decrease in penetration.
- Recovery process can result in hardening of binder, providing results as seen.



## Material Performance at all Trial Stages

- The performance of all materials at all stages of this investigation meets and exceed all requirements specified by TII.
- As expected, there is some variability in properties going from lab trials to site trials.
- Results for materials containing 60% show good consistency throughout the process.
- The plant is capable of handling high percentages of RA and producing a consistent material.

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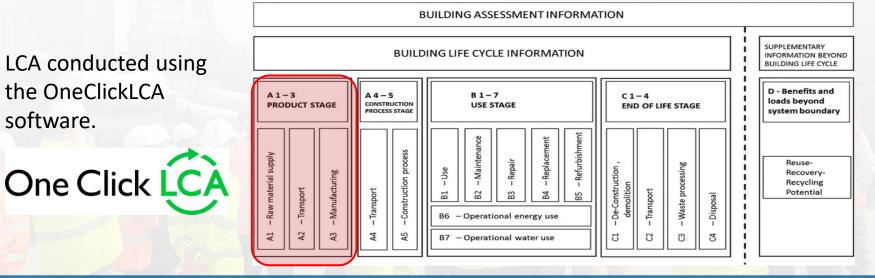
### Life Cycle Assessment



## Life Cycle Assessment Comparison

- Purpose of LCA to determine effect of RA on GWP (CO2e)
- Ecolnvent 3.6 database used for GWP (CO2e) inputs for all materials.
- A1-A3 (Cradle to Gate) Impact Modelled.

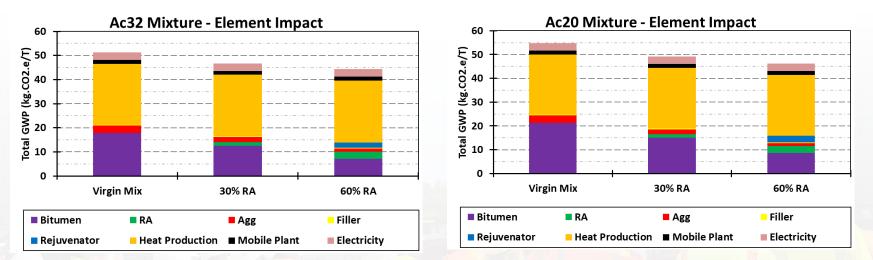
LCA conducted using the OneClickLCA software.



### Life Cycle Assessment Modelling Assumptions

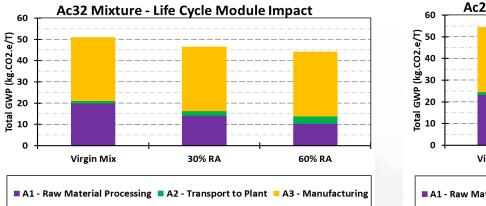
- Bitumen has a GWP of 0.40kg.CO2e/kg & 200km Transport Distance to Plant.
- Batching Plant uses Gas Oil as fuel source.
- Aggregates Produced at Quarry Onsite.
- Road Transport (To Plant) using Diesel.
- Rejuvenator required for 60% RA mixtures 1.20kg.CO2e/kg
- GWP Impact of RA transport to Batching Plant & Crushing Included.
- Transport distance of 50km of RA from Demolition Site to Batching Plant.

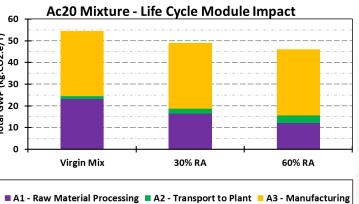
### Mixture Total GWP by Impact Category



- Materials account for 40-45% the total GWP of the Virgin Mixes.
- 30% RA results in total GWP savings of 10% vs the control virgin mix.
- 60% RA results in total GWP savings of 13-16% vs the control virgin mix.
  - Rejuvenator limits savings (Conservative values used for embodied co2 and transport distance)

## Mixture Total GWP by Life Cycle Module





- Transport larger in 60% RA mix due to Rejuvenator and RA Transport
- Considering A1 and A2 only:
  - Using 60% RAP up to 35-40% of the embodied A1-A2 GWP can be recovered.
- Future Potential Savings:
  - With WMA & Alternative Transport Fuels Overall GWP Reduces, and 60% RA could give up to 40% savings vs control virgin mix.
  - Bio Binders Reduce GWP of virgin Bitumen impact.



### Conclusions

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- All materials tested during the different stages of the study were within the specification set out by TII.
- For several of the measured properties the addition of RA resulted in improved performance, such as bulk density and air voids.
- The percentage retained stability after the water sensitivity test was very similar for both RA containing and virgin materials, indicating good binder adhesion.
- A significant reduction in CO2 and GWP can be achieved with the addition of RA, particularly when high RA contents are used.
- RA was managed in line with Article 27 of the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations 2011.
- From results shown a review of current RA use limits is advisable.

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# Thank You

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