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RESEARCH UPDATE

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PAVE-MARK HOT TAPE THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARKINGS

HISTORY: Hot Tape, a heat fused, preformed thermoplastic pavement marking, manufactured by PAVE-MARK Corp., was selected for evaluation as an alternative to stencil painted symbols or preformed tape symbols.

Hot Tape is designed for legends, symbols, lane lines, edge lines, channelizing lines, gore markings, cross walks and stop bars. Legends and symbols may be cut from rolls or purchased precut.

On July 25, 1991 Hot Tape was applied on newly installed pavement at the intersection of VT 62 and Fisher Road (leading to Central Vermont Hospital) in Berlin by L & D Pavement Markings of Barre, Vermont. Another application on aged pavement was completed on June 19, 1991 by George Brophy, sales manager for New England Traffic Supply, Inc. of Franklin, Massachusetts, at the intersection of National Life Drive and Memorial Drive in Montpelier, Vermont.

APPLICATION: The applications were similar on both new and old asphalt surfaces. The marking locations were prepared by sweeping with a broom and then laying out the marking location with a chalk line. After the marked locations were preheated with a propane torch, the letters reading "ONLY" were positioned with the beaded side up. Heat was then applied using a circular motion with the torch held at a height of 6"±, bonding the markings to the pavement. During this process, the white markings placed in Berlin turned to a pale yellow, indicating that fusion and bonding were occurring. The yellowing noted in Berlin did not occur in Montpelier. The torch operation was repeated to assure proper bonding. Marking strips were applied on three legs of the intersection in Berlin using the same procedures and sequences previously noted. At the Montpelier location a 24" stop bar, two left arrows, and two "ONLY's" were applied. The markings in Berlin are shown on the following site sketch.

COST: "Hot Tape" prices vary according to the symbol or legend. The following are examples of prices.

8' high letters & numbers (except I, l, T, L & 7)	\$31.00	ea.
I & l	\$10.00	ea.
T, L, & 7	\$16.00	ea.
Straight arrows	\$51.00	ea.
Curved Arrows	\$71.00	ea.

The manufacturer offers discounts based on volume.

FOLLOW UP: The test locations will be observed periodically over the life of the markings to evaluate durability and performance.

BERLIN - "HOT - TAPE" - SITE SKETCH

NOTES:

- 1) All Arrows are hot applied thermoplastic.
- 2) ONLY = Hot-Tape Letters
- 3) ONLY = 3M Preformed pavement markings.

