Short & Sweet Joint Presentation

Garth Bridenbaugh, P.E.
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
BOCM, Quality Assurance Division
Our Constant Battle

- Better densities mean more roller passes

- More roller passes mean more chance to crack the pavement in the area of the joint

- Tender mixes will make this tendency worse. Be on your guard to ensure you are not creating cracking.
Note the overhang… this needs to be on every pass, not just some of them.
What We Don’t Want

Rolling Unsupported Edge
(First Paver Pass)

Edge of drum inside unsupported edge
Can cause cracking near the edge and lateral mix movement at the unsupported edge (especially on tender mixes)
What We Don’t Want

• Note the crack that formed at the unsupported edge.

• This illustrates why rolling just inside of the edge is not desirable.

• This mix had a tender zone and cracks formed at the edge of the roller drum.
Make sure rollers overhang edges
Tack at Unsupported Edges

- Apply tack coat slightly beyond the edge of the lane to be paved
- Tack will help keep the mix from moving laterally

Sufficient Tack Coat Width
Overlap Paver Screed 1” (to 1 ½”)

- Consistent proper overlap is key
- Operate paver so that the edger plate on the screed overlaps the previously placed pavement by 1 inch (to 1 ½ inches)
• We have done well in raising the density at our joints. This will pay off.

• Now let’s focus on making sure we get the density without causing cracking.