Special Issue

Asphalt Aging and Durability Research

Message from the Guest Editors

In the last century, asphalt has been used worldwide as the main binder in road construction. The need to work under different climate conditions and the continuous growth of traffic speed and loads pushed the research to develop many formulations and modifiers that considerably improved asphalt performance. Nevertheless, during the in-life service, asphalt is exposed to thermal, oxidative and mechanical stresses that affect its chemical composition and rheological properties. The result is a deterioration of the pavement that may be subjected to rutting, embrittlement, cracking etc. The whole concept is summarized under the word ageing, which is one of the major subjects of the recent scientific and patent literature in this field. Since ageing remains inevitable and irreversible. another very important aspect that has been gaining attention in recent years is the use of rejuvenators to restore the original properties and thus recycle end-oflife binders. Researchers are therefore encouraged to submit their latest findings and results as full-length articles or reviews related to the above-mentioned topics.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 June 2024)



Applied Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5 CiteScore 5.5



mdpi.com/si/160639

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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