

Expansion Phase One Goals Established

A windowless hotel room at the Kansas City Airport on Saturday, June 9, was the site of the first face-to-face meeting of the ISSA Expansion Committee, the mission for which is to develop the best strategy for ISSA to begin representing other preservation applications such as chip seals and crack treatments. Present were chairman Mike Buckingham (Strawser), Gene Allen (Missouri Petroleum), Myles McKemie (Ergon), Rusty Price (Intermountain Slurry Seal), Pierre Peltier (SEM Materials), ISSA President Don Kaiden (Ballou), ISSA Vice President Alan Berger (Valley Slurry Seal), and ISSA Executive Director Mike Krissoff. Lively and intense debate was the order of the day with the focus being to add every thought to a growing number of flipchart pages, the final goal being to decide a course of action to be presented to the ISSA Board during its meeting in the same room on the next day.

All agreed the best course was to start from within the existing organization and to “keep it simple”. It became quickly apparent that ISSA already has plenty of members who perform and/or supply chip sealing and crack treatment operations. It was also noted that some states, such as California and Texas, have very comprehensive chip sealing and crack treatment programs in place, with supporting organizations, and that for now, ISSA might be most successful in seeking “unaffiliated” contractors from states where the programs are not as mature or deep seated.

The main concern to all committee and board members is that it is imperative that ISSA continue to maintain and enhance its services and value to its existing slurry and microsurfacing members as it seeks to expand its scope and attempt to bring the preservation interests together as one organization.

On June 11, the Board approved Phase One of the ISSA Expansion Program as presented by the Expansion Committee:

The new ISSA is an international association representing contractors and their suppliers engaged in slurry systems, chip seals, crack treatments, and other thin bituminous surface treatments.

Phase I – Expansion

- 1) Expand Existing Committees to Cover Chip Sealing and Crack Treatment Interests**
 - Convention Committee
 - Workshop Committee
 - Technical Response Team

- 2) ISSA will now consist of three disciplines and a committee for each will be established:**
 - Slurry/Micro
 - Chip Seal
 - Crack Treatment

It was agreed that everything ISSA has now (publications, convention & workshop topics, website, etc.) falls under the oversight of the Slurry/Micro Committee. The new Chip Seal and Crack Treatment Committees will be charged with developing similar assets (guidelines, promotional brochures, workshop curriculum, convention speakers, industry and application descriptions, and more).

- 3) Identify 25 hot prospective members**

- 4) Change ISSA bylaws & membership application**

The benefits of expansion for ISSA, as presented by the Expansion Committee include better service to the entire industry, better convention and workshop attendance, a stronger political presence, and a stronger association. Benefits to the prospective new members include: the opportunity to develop new guidelines, inspectors' manuals, quality control & quality assurance manuals, other industry publications, and workshop, seminar, and convention programs; education; national and international representation; trade show exposure; and credibility.

Among the issues addressed by both the Expansion Committee and the ISSA Board were:

- 1) Time Line for Immediate Future
- 2) Define goals
- 3) Proposed name change
- 4) Draft bylaws changes, etc.
- 5) Establish policy for accepting new disciplines
- 6) Mission statements
- 7) Publicity of expansion
- 8) Explore & recommend resources
- 9) Consider dues structure based on disciplines represented

President Kaiden will soon appoint the acting chairmen of the three disciplines, most likely Board members for now because they are fully up to speed with how ISSA operates and well aware of ISSA programs, history, policies, and members. The Slurry/Micro chairman will review, summarize, and update ISSA's current assets. The Chip Seal and Crack Treatment chairmen will immediately identify the 25 hot prospective members, assist with the 2008 slurry systems workshop and convention programs, and develop descriptions of their disciplines for the ISSA directory and website. Once operational and with a preliminary plan in motion, new chairmen will be appointed at the 2008 convention in accordance with ISSA's standard operating procedures.

Executive Director Mike Krissoff summarizes the plan by saying, "It's really pretty simple...everything ISSA does now for slurry/micro, it intends to do for chip seal and crack treatments. Wherever the bylaws, directory, membership application, and website refer to *slurry/micro*, they will be changed to refer to *slurry systems, chip seals, crack treatments, and other thin bituminous surface treatments*. We will develop new publications for chip seal and crack treatment very similar to those we already have for slurry/micro, and we will further develop our workshop and convention programs to address the new disciplines. The challenge, of course, will be to maintain and enhance our existing programs and services, and to add new involved members to assist with the goals for our new areas of interest."