Designation: D6433 – 23

Standard Practice for Roads and Parking Lots Pavement Condition Index Surveys[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D6433; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This practice covers the determination of roads and parking lots pavement condition through visual surveys using the pavement condition index (PCI) method of quantifying pavement condition.

1.2 The PCI represents the collective judgement of pavement maintenance engineers and is an indirect measurement of pavement structural integrity (not capacity) and pavement functional condition indicators such as roughness. The PCI is not intended to replace the direct measurement of ride, structural capacity, or friction.

1.3 The PCI for roads and parking lots was developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (**1**, **2**).[2] It is further verified and adopted by DOD and APWA.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to inch-pound units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* Specific precautionary statements are given in Section 6.

1.6 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Terminology

2.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

2.1.1 *additional sample*—a sample unit inspected in addition to the random sample units to include nonrepresentative sample units in the determination of the pavement condition. This includes very poor or excellent samples that are not typical of the section and sample units, which contain an unusual distress such as a utility cut. If a sample unit containing an unusual distress is chosen at random it should be counted as an additional sample unit and another random sample unit should be chosen. If every sample unit is surveyed, then there are no additional sample units.

2.1.2 *asphalt concrete (AC) surface*—aggregate mixture with an asphalt cement binder. This term also refers to surfaces constructed of coal tars and natural tars for purposes of this practice.

2.1.3 *pavement branch*—a branch is an identifiable part of the pavement network that is a single entity and has a distinct function. For example, each roadway or parking area is a separate branch.

2.1.4 *pavement condition index (PCI)*—a numerical rating of the pavement condition that ranges from 0 to 100 with 0 being the worst possible condition and 100 being the best possible condition.

2.1.5 *pavement condition rating*—a verbal description of pavement condition as a function of the PCI value that varies from "failed" to "excellent" as shown in Fig. 1.

2.1.6 *pavement distress*—external indicators of pavement deterioration caused by loading, environmental factors, construction deficiencies, or a combination thereof. Typical distresses are cracks, rutting, and weathering of the pavement surface. Distress types and severity levels detailed in Appendix X1 for AC, and Appendix X2 for PCC pavements must be used to obtain an accurate PCI value.

2.1.7 *pavement sample unit*—a subdivision of a pavement section that has a standard size range: 20 contiguous slabs (±8 slabs if the total number of slabs in the section is not evenly divided by 20 or to accommodate specific field condition) for PCC pavement, and 225 ± 90 m^2 (2500 contiguous square feet ± 1000 ft^2), if the pavement is not evenly divided by 225 m^2 or 2500 ft to accommodate specific field condition, for AC pavement.

[1] This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E17 on Vehicle - Pavement Systems and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E17.42 on Pavement Management and Data Needs.

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[2] The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the list of references at the end of this standard.

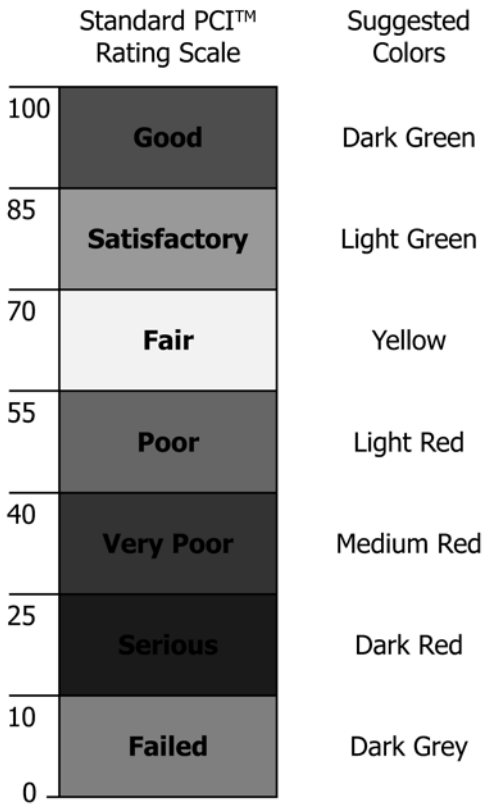

FIG. 1 Pavement Condition Index (PCI), Rating Scale, and Suggested Colors

2.1.8 *pavement section*—a contiguous pavement area having uniform construction, maintenance, usage history, and condition. A section should have the same traffic volume and load intensity.

2.1.9 *portland cement concrete (PCC) pavement*—aggregate mixture with portland cement binder including nonreinforced and reinforced jointed pavement.

2.1.10 *random sample*—a sample unit of the pavement section selected for inspection by random sampling techniques, such as a random number table or systematic random procedure.

3. Summary of Practice

3.1 The pavement is divided into branches that are divided into sections. Each section is divided into sample units. The type and severity of pavement distress is assessed by visual inspection of the pavement sample units. The quantity of the distress is measured as described in Appendix X1 and Appendix X2. The distress data are used to calculate the PCI for each sample unit. The PCI of the pavement section is determined based on the PCI of the inspected sample units within the section.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 The PCI is a numerical indicator that rates the surface condition of the pavement. The PCI provides a measure of the present condition of the pavement based on the distress observed on the surface of the pavement, which also indicates the structural integrity and surface operational condition (localized roughness and safety). The PCI cannot measure structural capacity, nor does it provide direct measurement of skid resistance or roughness. It provides an objective and rational basis for determining maintenance and repair needs and priorities. Continuous monitoring of the PCI is used to establish the rate of pavement deterioration, which permits early identification of major rehabilitation needs. The PCI provides feedback on pavement performance for validation or improvement of current pavement design and maintenance procedures.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Data Sheets,* or other field recording instruments that record at a minimum the following information: date, location, branch, section, sample unit size, slab number and size, distress types, severity levels, quantities, and names of surveyors. Example data sheets for AC and PCC pavements are shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

5.2 *Hand Odometer Wheel,* that reads to the nearest 30 mm (0.1 ft).

5.3 *Straightedge or String Line,* (AC only), 3 m (10 ft).

5.4 *Scale,* 300 mm (12 in.) that reads to 3 mm (⅛ in.) or better. Additional 300 mm (12 in.) ruler or straightedge is needed to measure faulting in PCC pavements.

5.5 *Layout Plan,* for network to be inspected.

6. Hazards

6.1 Traffic is a hazard as inspectors may walk on the pavement to perform the condition survey.

7. Sampling and Sample Units

7.1 Identify branches of the pavement with different uses such as roadways and parking on the network layout plan.

7.2 Divide each branch into sections based on the pavements design, construction history, traffic, and condition.

7.3 Divide the pavement sections into sample units. If the pavement slabs in PCC have joint spacing greater than 8 m (25 ft), subdivide each slab into imaginary slabs. The imaginary slabs all should be less than or equal to 8 m (25 ft) in length, and the imaginary joints dividing the slabs are assumed to be in perfect condition. This is needed because the deduct values developed for jointed concrete slabs are less than or equal to 8 m (25 ft).

7.4 Individual sample units to be inspected should be marked or identified in a manner to allow inspectors and quality control personnel to easily locate them on the pavement surface. Paint marks along the edge and sketches with locations connected to physical pavement features are acceptable. It is necessary to be able to accurately relocate the sample units to allow verification of current distress data, to examine changes in condition with time of a particular sample unit, and to enable future inspections of the same sample unit if desired.

7.5 Select the sample units to be inspected. The number of sample units to be inspected may vary from the following: all of the sample units in the section, a number of sample units that provides a 95 % confidence level, or a lesser number.

ASPHALT SURFACED ROADS AND PARKING LOTS
CONDITION SURVEY DATA SHEET
FOR SAMPLE UNIT

SKETCH:

BRANCH _____ SECTION _____ SAMPLE UNIT _____
SURVEYED BY _____ DATE _____ SAMPLE AREA _____

1. Alligator Cracking
2. Bleeding
3. Block Cracking
4. Bumps and Sags
5. Corrugation
6. Depression
7. Edge Cracking
8. Jt. Reflection Cracking
9. Lane/Shoulder Drop Off
10. Long & Trans Cracking
11. Patching & Util Cut Patching
12. Polished Aggregate
13. Potholes
14. Railroad Crossing
15. Rutting
16. Shoving
17. Slippage Cracking
18. Swell
19. Weathering/Raveling

DISTRESS SEVERITY	QUANTITY									TOTAL	DENSITY %	DEDUCT VALUE

FIG. 2 Flexible Pavement Condition Survey Data Sheet for Sample Unit