

Diamond Paving Commendation

A paved road with double yellow lines curves through a vast, dark landscape of jagged, porous volcanic rock. The sky is a clear, pale blue. In the distance, a large, rounded volcanic peak is visible on the horizon.

**NW Pavement Management Association
October 27, 2010**

Topics

- What is the Diamond Commendation?
- How were the criteria developed?
- What are the criteria?

Who is encouraging this?

- The National Asphalt Pavement Association and its affiliated contractors.
- There are currently 3 “Diamond” awards.

The Diamond Series

- Diamond Achievement
 - Environment
 - Community
 - Safety
- Diamond Quality
 - Product Quality
 - Safety
- Diamond Paving
 - Final Product
 - Safety



Goals

- Quality construction.
- Increase competitive advantage.
- Customer assurance of finished product.
- Reward top-tier contractors.

Why 3 commendations for HMA paving contractors?

- Prior commendations
 - **Diamond Achievement Commendation:** Recognizes HMA plants that are good neighbors with environmentally sound practices.
 - **Diamond Quality Commendation:** Best practices to achieve the highest quality in plant produced mixes.
- Newest commendation
 - **Diamond Paving Commendation:** Recognizes companies for excellence in paving operations.

Who can apply?

- All companies in the asphalt pavement industry in the US are eligible.
- The Diamond Paving Commendation is more oriented toward paving crews and their management.
- Must reapply annually.

How were criteria developed?

- Initial – NAPA staff.
- Refinement – Contractors, equipment suppliers, and others.
- Final – NAPA Quality In Construction (QIC) committee, approved by NAPA Board of Directors

Commendation Structure

1. Commendation for a specific company district/regional office based at one location.
2. Basis for commendation
 - Training of crews
 - Paving procedures
 - Compliance (self-assessment)

What is required to apply for Diamond Paving

- Five components are key
 - Work Zone Safety Practices
 - Site Preparation and Planning
 - Paver Operations
 - Compaction Process
 - Quality Control
- Training Requirements

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- **Training Requirements**

Commendation Basis for Training

1. Training must be documented
2. To ensure continuous improvement of crews, an annual minimum amount of training is specified.
 - Supervisors, equipment operators and truck drivers
 - Laborers
 - Min of 80% of paving workforce must be fully trained.

Commendation Basis: Training

1. Supervisors, equipment operators and truck drivers
 - Min of 10 hours of formal training per year.
 - Min of 20 hours per year total which may include paving site training and the formal training.
2. Laborers
 - Min of 5 hours on-the-job training per year.

Commendation Basis: Training

1. Training delivery options

- Classroom
- Online
- Paving site
- Combinations

2. Five training components

- Work zone safety
- Site preparation and planning
- Paver operations
- Compaction process
- Quality control

Commendation Basis: Self-Assessment

1. Submitted by company to NAPA
2. Verifies company is in compliance with Commendation requirements.
3. Must be verified by the company representative and two outside customers.

Scoring

1. Work zone safety: **10** points minimum
2. Site preparation and planning: **14** points minimum
3. Paver operations: **110** points minimum
4. Compaction process: **69** points minimum
5. Quality control: **58** points minimum
6. Training: **2** points

Total minimum points = **263**

Scoring Details (Work Zone Safety)

13 questions/topics—here are 5.

1. Are all traffic control personnel certified by governing agency?
2. Does every crew member wear OSHA approved apparel on the job site?
3. Does all equipment have functioning backup alarms?
4. Does lighting for night paving meet or exceed ATSSA recommendations?
5. Does each crew has one member that has passed a 10 hour OSHA training course.?

Scoring Details

(Site Prep and Planning)

7 questions/topics—here are 3.

1. Is the paving site inspected for elevation and grade, and soft or yielding areas prior to paving? If deficiencies are noticed, corrections are made or the owner notified?
2. Are pavement surfaces clean and free of debris prior to paving?
3. When tack coat is required the pavement surface is sprayed uniformly (no streaks) at the required application rate?

Scoring Details (Paver Operations)

6 questions/topics with subparts.

1. Trucking—General
2. Are end-dump trucks used in the paving operations? If so, there are questions to address.
3. Are live-bottom trucks used in paving operations?
4. Are belly-dump trucks used in paving operations?
5. Are self-propelled material transfer vehicle used in paving operations?
6. Paver operations (26 questions that require responses)

Scoring Details (Compaction)

5 questions/topics with subparts.

1. Are static steel wheel rollers used? If so, then there are questions to address.
2. Are vibratory rollers used?
3. Are oscillatory rollers used?
4. Are pneumatic roller used?
5. General compaction (3 out of 10 topics follow)
 - a) Rollers are never parked on a hot mat.
 - b) Roller patterns are given to each roller operator for each project and condition (materials, environment).
 - c) Rollers overlap each pass at least 6".

Scoring Details (Quality Control)

8 questions/topics with subpart. Questions/topics are:

1. Do you have a QC/QA master plan governing paving operations?
2. Equipment calibration
3. Record keeping
4. Technician certification
5. Laboratory accreditation
6. Minimum test methods
7. Test strips
8. Safety features/practices

Examples of actual questions

Section I QUALITY CONTROL

1. Do you have a QC/QA master plan governing paving operations?
Yes 1 Point **No** (DISQUALIFIED) 0 Point

- 1a. Are there daily (at a minimum) meetings to discuss QC and paving operations?
Yes 1 Point **No** (DISQUALIFIED) 0 Point

- 1b. Does the QC/QA plan include a troubleshooting guide?
Yes 3 Points **No** 0 Points

- 1c. Is there a continual roadway technician education and training program?
Yes 1 Point **No** (DISQUALIFIED) 0 Point

A Washington Contractor View

- Better educated crew—and the implications associated with improved quality.
- Agencies, someday, will recognize the value of awards such as the Diamond Paving Commendation.



Diamond Quality
Diamond Achievement
Diamond Paving

The End

