

Colorado Statewide Airport Pavement Management System



Applied Pavement Technology, Inc. (APTech) has provided pavement management services for the Colorado Division of Aeronautics (Division) for over a decade, and because of the Division's satisfaction with its services, APTech is currently under contract to continue providing these services into 2011. A key to the success of this long-term relationship has been the partnership between APTech and the Division in this effort to preserve the Colorado airport pavement infrastructure in the most cost-effective manner possible.

Each year, an APTech engineer teams with Division staff members to perform the pavement evaluations at one-third of the sixty-three airports. The Division further assists with the process by obtaining systems inventory information pertaining to pavement maintenance, rehabilitation, and construction at the project airports. This partnership not only reduces costs for the state but also improves the Division's understanding of the airport pavement management system (APMS) process and provides first-hand knowledge of conditions at the airports in Colorado.

To increase efficiency and reduce costs, APTech uses handheld computers during the collection of field condition data. This allows the pavement evaluation data to be entered directly into the pavement management database and analyzed in real-time. This significantly decreases the amount of time it takes to get information on the current condition of the pavements into the hands of those who need it the most, including the individual airports and their consultants, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Division. It also allows APTech to closely monitor the data during the collection process.

In close collaboration with the FAA and the Division of Aeronautics, APTech integrated the recommendations for pavement maintenance and rehabilitation developed during the APMS process into the FAA's Capital Improvement Program. This allows the state and the FAA to direct funds to pavements where they will be most beneficial and to avoid an overlap of work. Updates ensure that the Division's APMS contains current information on the condition of the pavement infrastructure at public-use airports located throughout the state. This information is used to develop statewide maintenance and rehabilitation recommendations.