

Georgia Statewide Airport Pavement Management System



For over a decade, from 1997 to 2008, Applied Pavement Technology, Inc. (APTech) spearheaded the pavement management efforts of Georgia Aviation Programs. All paved, publicly owned airports in the state (with the exception of Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport) are now included in Georgia's airport pavement management system (APMS). The pavements at these 103 airports consist of than 139.4 million square feet of pavement—enough to construct a two-lane highway stretching from Valdosta, Georgia, to Denver, Colorado!

During the initial APMS implementation and subsequent updates, APTech inspected the pavements using the pavement condition index (PCI) methodology. In addition to assessing pavement conditions throughout the airport system, APTech developed recommendations for the maintenance and rehabilitation (M&R) of the system, provided a schedule for the work, and estimated an M&R budget. These recommendations were integrated into the Georgia System Plan.

The establishment and subsequent updates of the APMS permits Georgia Aviation Programs to proactively manage the pavement system M&R in the most fiscally responsible manner possible. It also provides Aviation Programs with the means to anticipate pavement-related funding needs. Further, it provides the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems airports with the information they need to remain in compliance with Public Law 103-305 regarding pavement maintenance management.

APTech partnered with Aviation Programs to communicate pavement-related needs to stakeholders in the system. APTech used a variety of communication techniques to stress the importance of preserving the pavement infrastructure, including newsletters, presentations, training sessions, and executive summaries designed with the non-technical reader in mind. These efforts have led to increased funding at the state level for pavement maintenance and rehabilitation.

The pavement management efforts of Aviation Programs have definitely paid off, with an area-weighted PCI increased from a score of 71 in 1998 to 79 by APTech's reassessment in 2007. This significant improvement is a testimony to careful management of the pavement infrastructure and the application of pavement management concepts.

