

Illinois Statewide Airport Pavement Management System



In the mid-1980s, the Illinois Department of Transportation Division of Aeronautics (Division) pioneered the use of pavement management at the state level. In 1999, the Division retained Applied Pavement Technology, Inc. (APTech) to update their system and enhance its usefulness. During that project, APTech worked to develop an innovative approach to maintaining the Division's airport pavement management system (APMS) that would minimize costs and enable the Division to maintain a high level of involvement in the process.

The first step in this process was converting the existing proprietary pavement management system into a MicroPAVER database to enable the rapid communication of information to the staff of individual airports, airport consultants, Division employees, and members of the Federal Aviation Administration. Next, APTech performed airport pavement evaluations using the pavement condition index (PCI) procedure at seventy-four airports to assess current pavement conditions. Finally, APTech established a system that facilitated the effective communication of pavement-related needs. To make the information readily accessible to users with a variety of technical backgrounds, APTech developed an interactive pavement management data access CD to provide instant access to the most commonly requested pavement management information—such as PCI maps, distress photographs, and maintenance and rehabilitation recommendations—without requiring the user to own and operate the pavement management software.

Due to the Division's satisfaction with APTech's work, APTech has been retained several times since that initial project to reevaluate the condition of airport pavements and to update the pavement management system and data access CD. Currently, APTech is under contract to update the APMS from 2009 through 2011. Throughout these projects, APTech maintained a unique teaming relationship with the Division. Each year, the Division assisted with the APMS by obtaining systems inventory information pertaining to the project airports and developing the project base maps.