Pavement surface materials used in urban areas

-The range of urban materials-



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Introduction

In urban areas

- wide variety of pavement materials is used
- In old days available local materials were used, like cobble stones



Around 1900

gravel bitumen bound cement bound





wood

rubber





Nowadays

a broad scale of materials is available

- Functional requirements are important for choice
- In urban areas aesthetical aspects are key item
- The final choice based on rational and irrational arguments



Here in Krakow

Pavement users and usage

Difference urban and non-urban Users: pedestrians up to heavy trucks

 Pavement: footpaths up to urban highways



- Pavements used for different functions
- In urban areas the traffic speed is low
- Roads often designed to reduce speed



Functional requirements

Choice of pavement surface material for urban areas

depends on the (functional) requirements

- general requirements (all types of roads) like highways
- additional requirements, depending on local situation / conditions



Requirements

User demand	Surface characteristic
Safety	Texture
	Horizontal (hydraulic)
	drainability
	Photometry
	Evenness
Comfort	Texture
	Horizontal drainability
	Photometry
	Evenness
Durability	Integrity
Environment	Recyclability
	Leaching / emissions
Construction -	Construction time
maintenance	Maintenance time

Performance Requirements for Pavemen

Additional requirements for urban areas

In urban areas people live, work, recreate, meet, relax and shop

 Pavement should be nice and attractive



 In urban areas also utility infrastructures as water, gas, electricity, telephone, tv-cable, internet, etc.



Additional requirements (2)

Live-ableness and perception value

- preserve the aesthetical and historical and/or architectural identity (in historical centres)
- specific design with a variety in pavement types, element shapes and colours
- a certain surface texture or colour for a certain image
- quality of the outside environment



Additional requirements (3)

- Additional comfort requirements
- Smooth to avoid vibrations in buildings



- Requirements for trees and plants (water infiltration & air)
- Maintenance utility works
- (Additional) safety issues (high heels)



Materials available



Constructing materials

- Bituminous bound materials
- Cement bound materials
- (Small) paving elements
- Composite pavements
- Unbound granular materials



Bituminous bound materials

- Asphalt concrete
- Coloured asphalt concrete
- Asphalt concrete with a print
- Asphalt concrete with pieces of mirror
- Mastic asphalt
- Coloured mastic asphalt
- Stone Mastic Asphalt
- Thin and Ultra thin asphalt concrete layers
- Double layered porous pavements
- Pervious pavements



Bituminous bound materials





Ultra Thin AC



Cement bound materials

- Concrete slabs
- Reinforced concrete slabs
- Continuously reinforced concrete
- Concrete elements in different sizes
- Concrete with a (street) print
 - Pervious pavements



(Small) paving elements

- Block pavers
- Cobblestones
- Terracotta pavers



- Pavers for porous pavements
- Pre-formed modular pavers of brick
- Pre-formed modular pavers of concrete



(Small) paving elements



Silent Concrete Block Pavers





Selection of pavement type

depends on

- use of the pavement
- number of commercial vehicles per day
- comfort and safety
- noise reduction
- aesthetic arguments
- pavement thickness constraints
- impact of utilities below the pavement
- impact of road closures in construction phase
- budgetary issues and initial costs
- impact on maintenance operations
- life-cycle cost analysis



Conclusions

For urban architects a wide variety available Selection can be made based on

- different possible uses
- list of functional requirements
- additional requirement

Choice: rational and irrational arguments

Pavement engineer + urban architect can choose the best solution

