

http://www.eapa.org "The use of warm mix asphalt, EAPA position paper", published October 2014



#### Warm mix techniques used in Sweden

- ▶ KGO
- Foaming, NCC Green asphalt®





#### Drivers for warm mix in Sweden

- 1) Environmental
- 2) Working Environment
- 3) Cost savings
- 4) Performance
- 5) Benefits in performance
  - a. Less bitumen aging
  - b. Often thicker bitumen coating of aggregates





#### Environmental benefits of Warm mix

#### **Environment**

- Reduced stack emissions during asphalt production (CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, SO<sub>2</sub>, VOC, NOx [1])
- Less fuel consumption



[1] Warm-Mix Asphalt: European Practice; International Technology Scanning Program, FHWA-PL-08-007, February 2008, FHWA-HPIP, U.S. (Department of Transportation, Washington, DC, USA. (www.international.fhwa.dot.gov Fax: 001 202 366 9626)



#### Work environment benefits of Warm mix



#### **Work Environment**

- Reduction of fuming
- Cooler conditions for the asphalt workers
- Minimizes inconvenience to the public near work sites

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#### Performance benefits of Warm mix

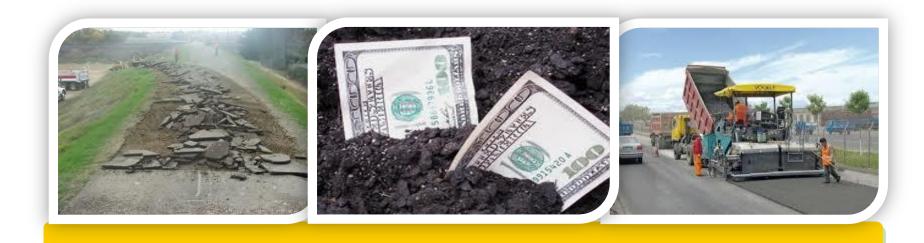


#### **Performance**

- Reduced aging of the binder gives improved thermal and fatigue cracking resistance
- Better workability
- Extending the construction season
- Faster cooling to ambient temperatures => earlier opening of the road
- WMA is fully compatible with the use of RAP.

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## KGO





#### **KGO**

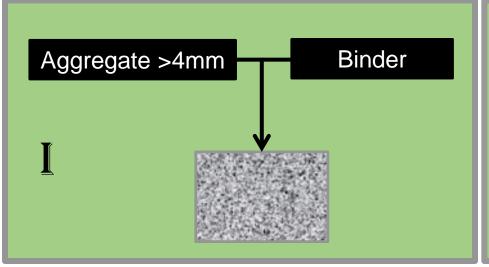
- Patented mixing sequence and procedure (Karl-Gunnar Ohlsson)
- Approximately 10 years of experience in Sweden
- Over 1 million tons of asphalt made
- The fist five years the Swedish road administration gave a bonus for use of the technique

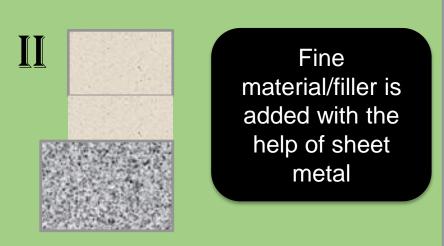
The last three years The Swedish road administration have tendered KGO specifically for many road stretches

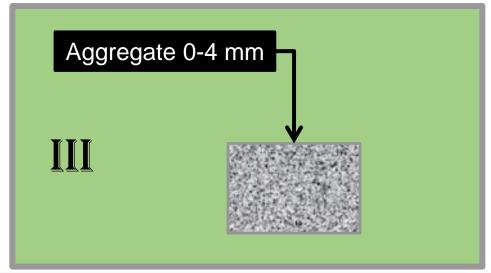




#### How does KGO work?









KGO can not be used in drum mixing plants only in batch mixing plants

The mixing sequence gives a more even mix of fine material and bitumen

in the asphalt

The mixer needs to be modified for KGO (moderate investment)

In some plants the mixing time increases and the capacity is lowered

Results in a lowering of mixing temperature with 15-30 degC without changing compaction properties



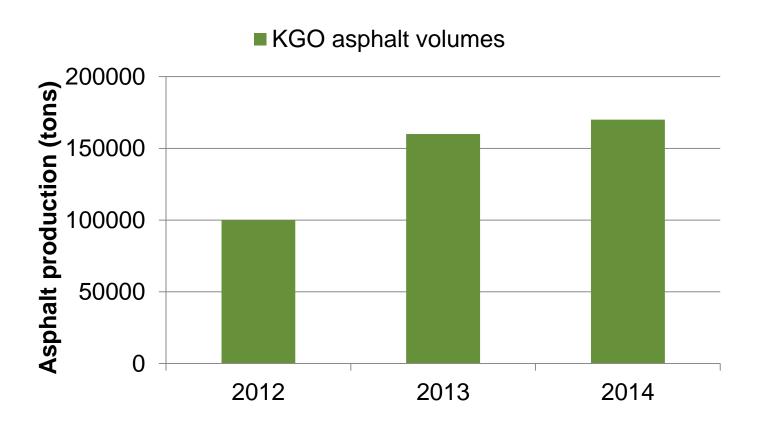
#### KGO has been shown to.....

- Mitigate separations in the asphalt mix
- Increase the thickness of the bitumen films on the course aggregate
- Possibility to lower production temperature by 15-30°C with the same compacting properties
- Lower the amount of fumes and the bitumen aging
- Possibility to lower bitumen content with 0,5 percentage in the wearing course
- Good durability due to the more efficient use of the binder and more homogeneous mix
- Give mixes that is slightly heavier for hand laying

Source: The Swedish Transport Administration, Publication 2008:95



## Volume development KGO



Total yearly production in Sweden is 7 million tons of asphalt





NCC Green Asphalt®



#### NCC Green Asphalt®

- Registered trade mark of a foaming technique used by NCC
- Production temperatures can be lowered from 160°C to 120°C
- Mitigation of heat separation
- More homogeneous mix
- Easy to compact low void content
- Good stability
- Good adhesion properties
- More Reclaimed asphalt can be used
- No fumes and odour









ncc.se/green asphalt



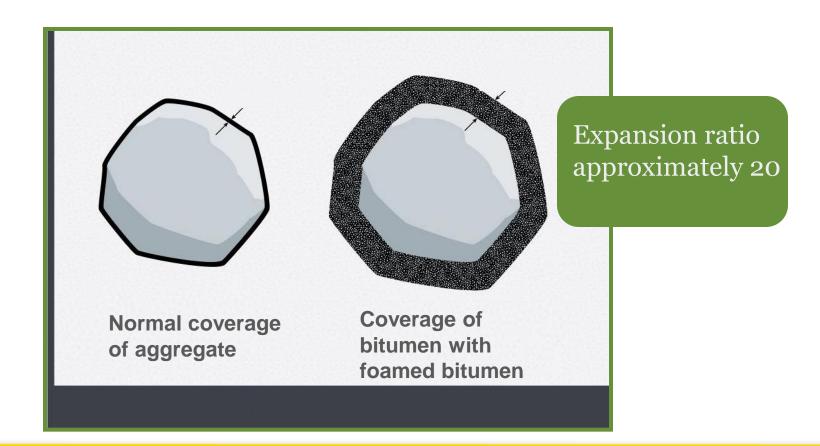
### NCC Green Asphalt

- Definition:
  - New production process
  - Production temperature > 120°C
  - Reduced energy consumption
  - Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - Reduced particle emissions
  - Foamed bitumen
  - 5-40% Reclaimed asphalt depending on mix
  - Same performance as for hot mix
  - Improved working environment



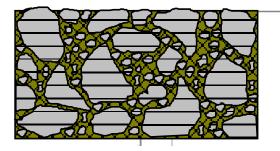
#### NCC Green Asphalt® Production process - foaming





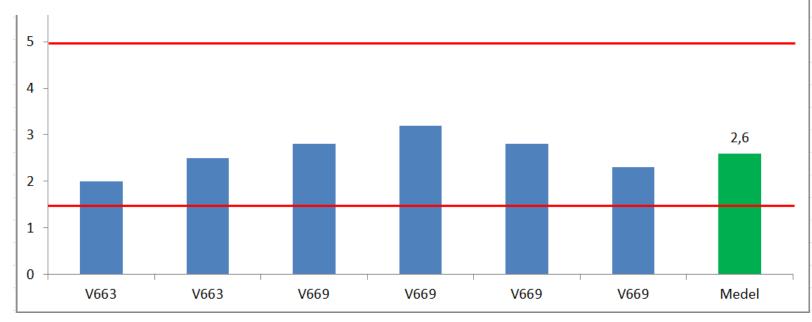


## NCC Green Asphalt® ABT 16



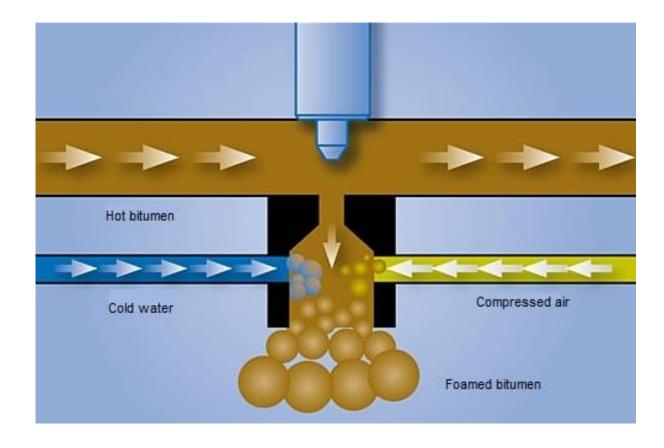
#### Measured void content ABT 16

#### Dense Asphalt Concrete





## How does foaming of bitumen work?





### Foaming characteristics of binders

- Foaming characteristics of bitumen binders changes with
  - Bitumen source and manufacturing
  - Added water content
  - Foaming temperature
  - PMB harder to foam than Penetration bitumen







#### Expansion ratio and half life

- Expansion ratio
  - The ratio of the maximum volume of the foamed bitumen to the initial volume of the liquid bitumen
    - A high expansion ratio will make coating of aggregates easier and faster
- Half life
  - The time (in seconds) needed by the foam to halve its expansion volume
    - A high half life means that the foam is more stable, also improves the coating of the aggregates





#### Mixing and paving with foamed bitumen

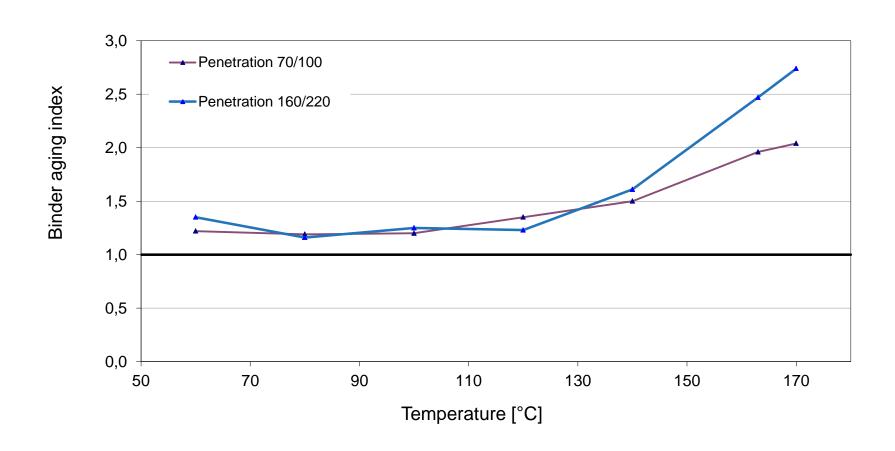
- Foamed bitumen collapses rapidly
- Workability at lower temperature remains in asphalt mix
- Water sensitivity Adhesion agents
- Less short term aging due to the lower production temperature



August 2009, New surface course, Årsunda, Sweden, NCC Roads AB, Green Asphalt



## Aging of the binder



Johansson, L. 1998. Bitumen ageing and hydrated lime. PhD Thesis, The Royal institute of Technology, Sweden



## Väg E4 Enånger-Hudiksvall 2+2 with NCC Green Asphalt®

Total stretch 24,5 km,

3km done with conventional asphalt as reference

Speed 110km/h Traffic volume 7500 Vehicles per day Heavy vehicles 23% Studded tires 65%

#### **Volymes**

AG 22/32 (30%RAP) ABb16 (20%RAP) ABS11 (5%RAP) 76 000 ton 29 000 ton 36 000 ton



## Här produceras NCC Green Asphalt®



#### **Sverige:**

- Piteå
- Skellefteå
- Umeå
- Sundsvall
- Östersund
- Växbo
- Hudiksvall
- Gävle
- Borlänge
- Uddevalla
- Örebro
- Vårby (Stockholm)
- Skälunda (Norrköping)
- Six Pack Mobilt (NCC Roads Nord)
- Göteborg (Hisings Kärra)
- Södra Sanby
- Arlanda
- Biskopstorp
- Kvidinge
- Karlstad

#### Danmark:

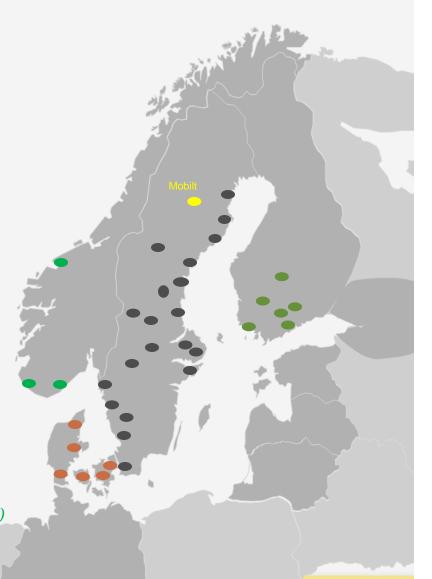
- Hjallerup
- Ejby (Köpenhamn)
- •Herlev
- •Odense
- •Trige
- •Kolding

#### Finland:

- Lahti
- •Vantaa
- •Riihimäki
- •Tampere
- Jyväskylä
- •Turku

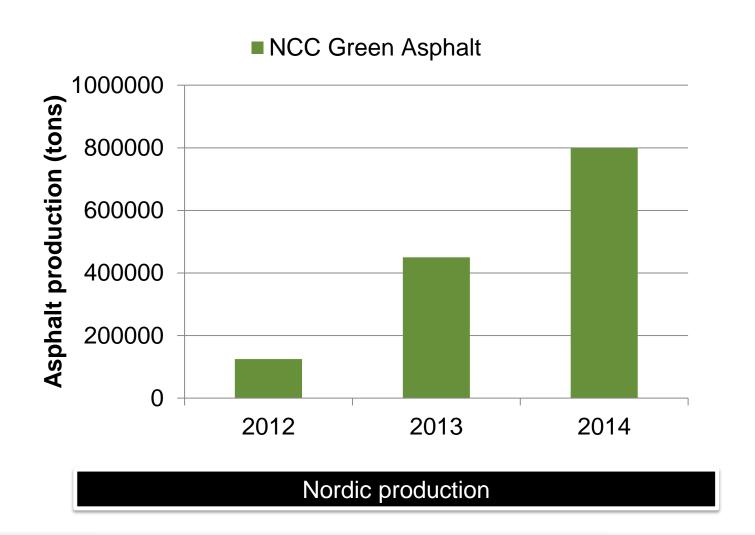
#### Norge:

- Ålesund
- Rugsland (Kristiansand)
- Rekefjord

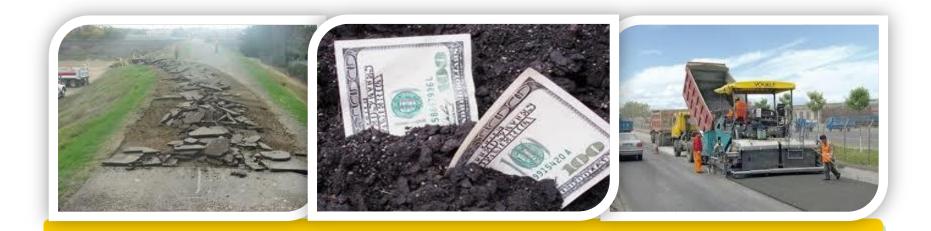




#### Volume development NCC Green Asphalt®







Warm mix bitumen - Nytherm



#### Warm mix bitumen - use of chemical additives

- Chemical additives do not change the bitumen viscosity.
   They work at the microscopic interface of the aggregates and the bitumen
- They regulate and reduce the frictional forces at that interface
- Additives can result in a thicker bitumen film around the aggregate
- Additives can also improve adhesion behaviour
- With warm mix additives it is possible to mix the bitumen and aggregates and to compact the mixture at a lower temperature

Ready made bitumen for warm mix - Nytherm





Nytherm

Lower production and compaction temperatures

More uniform mixing of bitumen and filler result in improved coating

Normally no requirement for adhesion agent

Limited storage stability (~ 2-3 weeks)



## Lowering of temperatures

With Nytherm mixing, paving and compaction can be made at 20-30°C lower temperature than for conventional asphalt



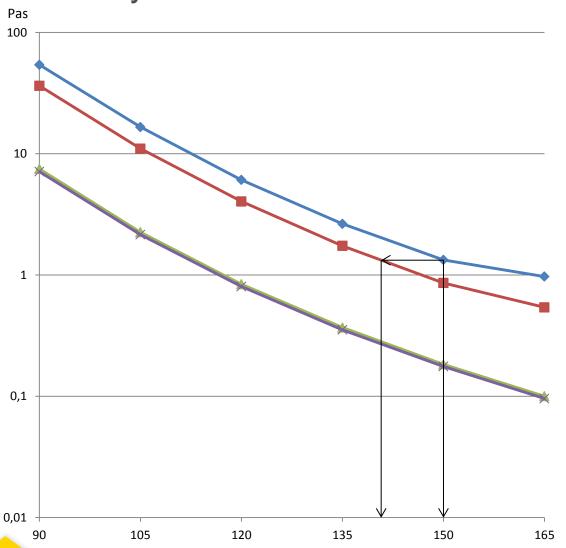


SMA 11, temperature 150°C

SMA 11, temperature 130°C



## Viscosity measurement - DSR



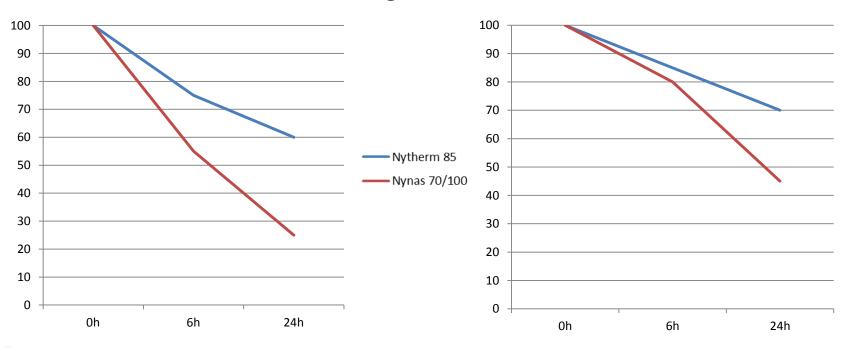
- → Binder with 50 % filler Nynas 70/100
- Binder with 50 % filler Nytherm 85
- → Original Binder Nynas 70/100
- → Original Binder Nytherm 85



#### Adhesion

With Nytherm there is normally no need for additional adhesion agent

#### Rolling bottle test





## Vändskak (turning shaker)



21,9 g\* (lowest value 19,4 g)

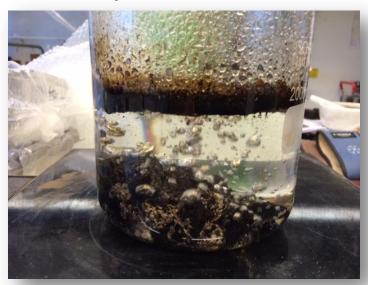
15,9 g\* (highest value16,4 g)

\* Weight loss, mean of six slabs



#### Nytherm can be stored at least two weeks

- Boiling test can be done to check effect
- ▶ Blend 4% bitumen with 300 gram 11/16 aggregate
- Condition the blend for 30 minutes at 160°C
- Boil in salty water for 60 minutes





Nynas 70/100

Nytherm 85



## Nytherm

For virgin aggregate

Nytherm 85

Nytherm 125

Nytherm 190

## Nytherm RX

For maximum 30% RAP

Nytherm RX 85

Nytherm RX 125

Nytherm RX 190

bitumen
delivered
in Sweden



#### Recommendation before use

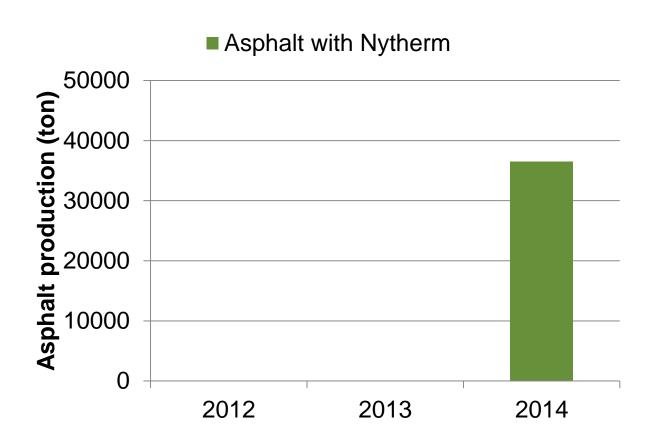
### REDUCE TEMPERATURE



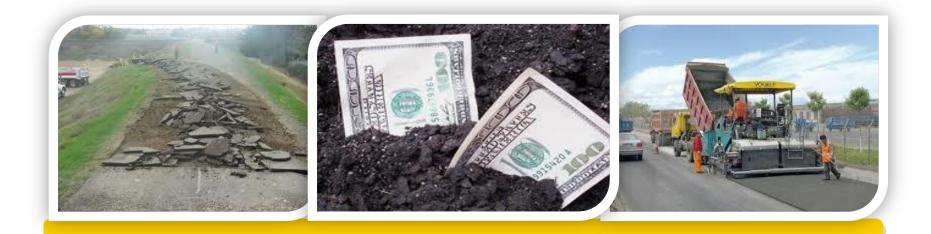
- Conduct a new mix design with the chosen binder to
  - Secure stability
  - Secure adhesion properties
  - Confirm optimum binder content



#### Volume development asphalt with Nytherm







## Summary





Experience show that warm mix asphalt give equal or better performance as hot mix

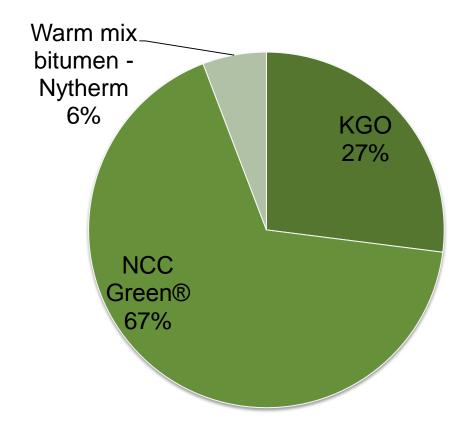
Reduced environmental impact

Improved working environment

Clear trend of increasing warm mix usage in Sweden



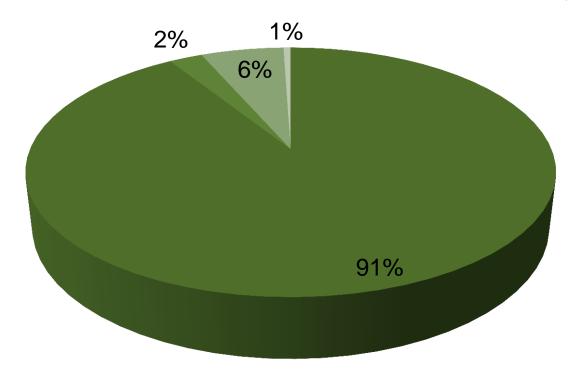
## Warm mix techniques in Sweden 2014





#### Asphalt mix in Sweden 2014

■ Hot mix ■ KGO ■ NCC Green® ■ Warm mix bitumen - Nytherm

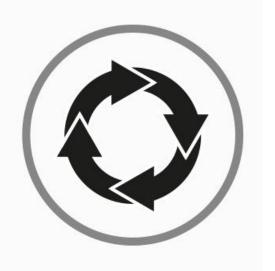


# RESOLUTION

THE ROAD TO SUSTAINABLE PERFORMANCE











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