

# **Mat Quality**

Charles Butler
Product Training Manager



### **Constructing Smooth Pavement**

Whether new construction or rehabilitation,

- a. Good planning
- b. Communication
- c. Proper mix production
- d. Delivery
- e. Correct placement techniques

These Key Steps are necessary to ensure a smooth HMA pavement.



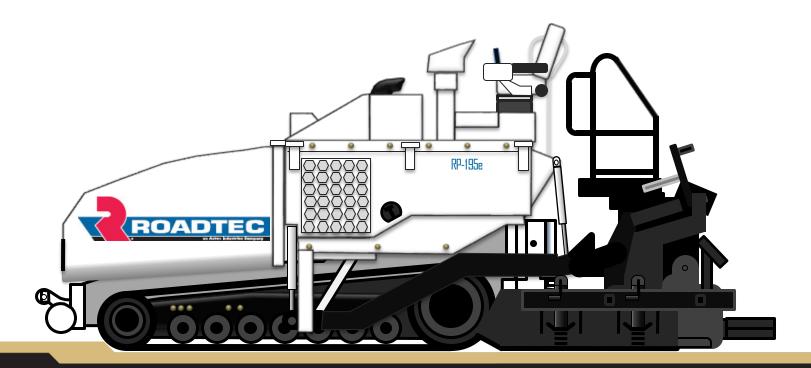


### **Understanding the Asphalt Paver**

#### The two components are:

The Tractor The tractor pushes trucks and tows the screed.

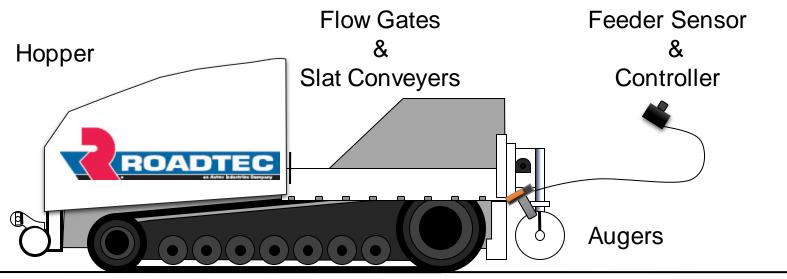
The Screed The screed slopes and lays the desired depth needed per job spec.







### **Feed System Components**



The Hopper is to receive the mix.

Slate conveyors carry it through the paver tunnel.

Flow gates to strike off the mix.

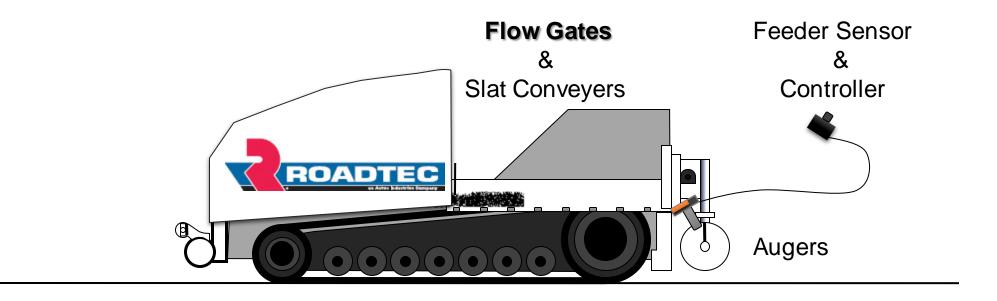
Augers to distribute the mix in front of the screed.

Sensors to control the material level at the outboard edge of the screed.





### **Feed System Components**



Flow gates to strike off the mix.

Augers to distribute the mix in front of the screed.





#### **Rubber Tire**

The tractor's self leveling action is the wheel base of the paver.

From the center line of the gearbox to the centerline of the shaft between the bogies is the internal ski with the paver.

If nobody was on the screed and we paved over an uneven grade, the internal ski of the tractor would try to smooth out the grade changes.

ROADTEC

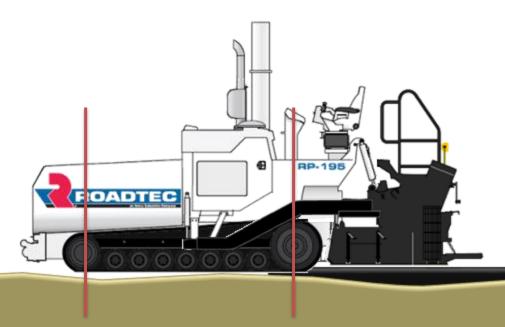




### **Track Paver**

Here, the internal ski is the gear box center line to the idler wheel center line.

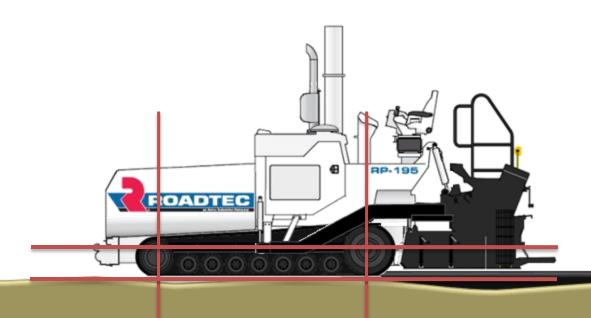
Traditionally, the track paver has a longer wheel base than the rubber tire paver.







Although the tractor is averaging the ride, what's important is to keep a proper Line of Pull between the surface and the screed.







With a high tow-point and a thin lift you would have a line of pull that is always pulling upward.

This upward pull would have an effect that would want to put pressure on the Screed's nose.







With a low tow-point and a thick lift you would have a line of pull that is always pulling downward.

This downward pull would have an effect that would want to put pressure on the screed's tail.



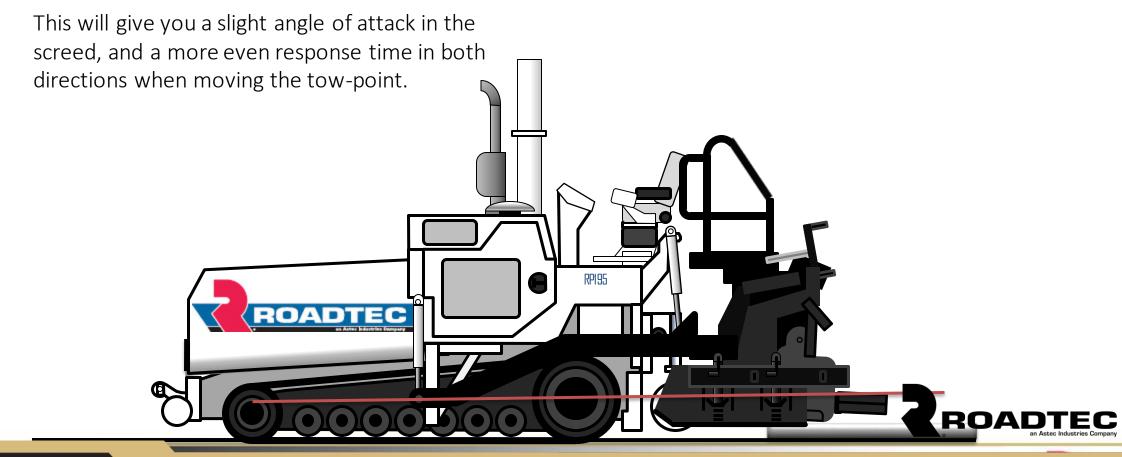








Place the tow-point **1 inch** higher then the loose mat thickness you are laying.





#### It's All Balance

To build quality, smooth riding roads, the paving speed MUST be at a constant rate. **Consistency wins every time!** 

#### **Quality Paving Techniques**

- 1. Uniformed "Head of Material"
- 2. Proper Angle of Attack
- 3. Constant Speed of Paver



# **Paving Principles**

The main purpose of the screed is to:

- 1. Spread the paving material
- 2. Provide initial compaction
- 3. Contour the road surface









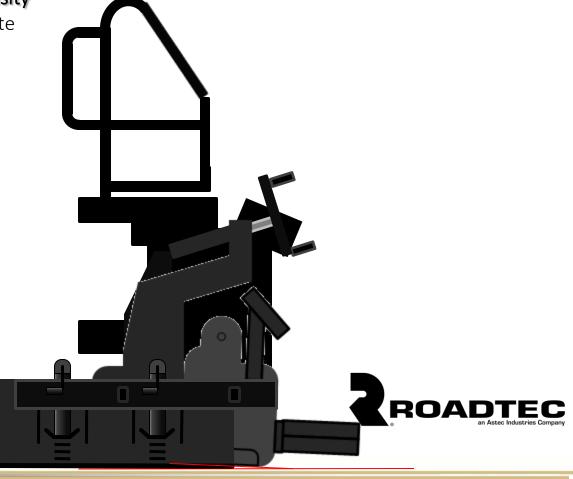
### **Angle of Attack**

In order for a screed to produce a mat that has **consistent density** and texture, the pressure exerted by the rear of the screed plate must be equal along the entire plate.

A normal angle of attack is set on the rear extension to 3/16 (4.5mm).

As the angle of attack is changed on the main screed then it will effect the vertical on the rear extension.

Adjusting the angle of attack on some screeds is done on the screed plate itself and not through a single adjustment.





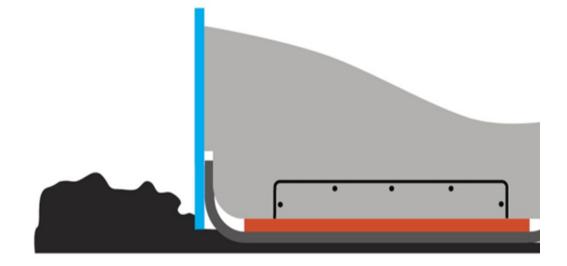
#### **Pre Strike-off**

The Main Strike Off meters the flow of material under the screed.

Its adjustment directly affects the balance angle of attack.

The bottom of the strike off is set ½ in. above the screed bottom and is adjustable from the top of the screed.(12.5mm)

The screed must maintain the correct attitude for the screed plate to keep full contact with the mix.

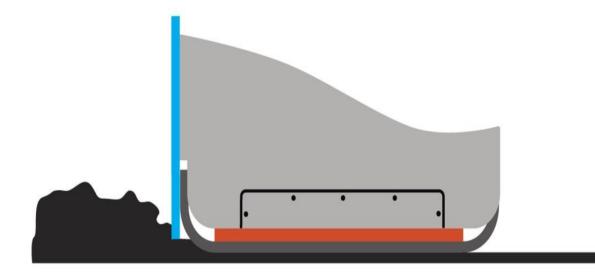






#### **Pre Strike-off**

Due to the number of mix designs, it may be necessary to adjust the pre strike-off plates to force the screed to ride correctly over the mat being laid.







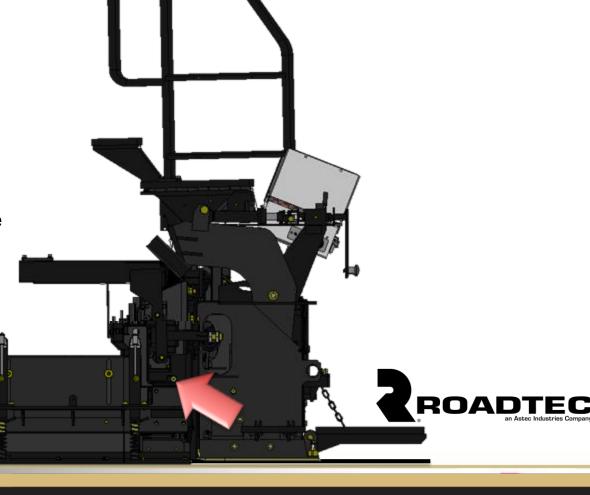
**Angle of Attack** 

On a screed with front extensions, the angle of attack on the extensions is adjustable.

As the angle of attack is changed on the main screed you have to watch the vertical adjustment of the extension.

A level should be flat along the main, and the tail of the extension should touch the level.

You should then see a 3/16 (4.5mm) air-gap at the front of the extension.





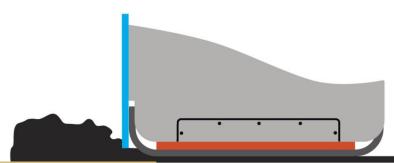
#### **Pre Strike-off**

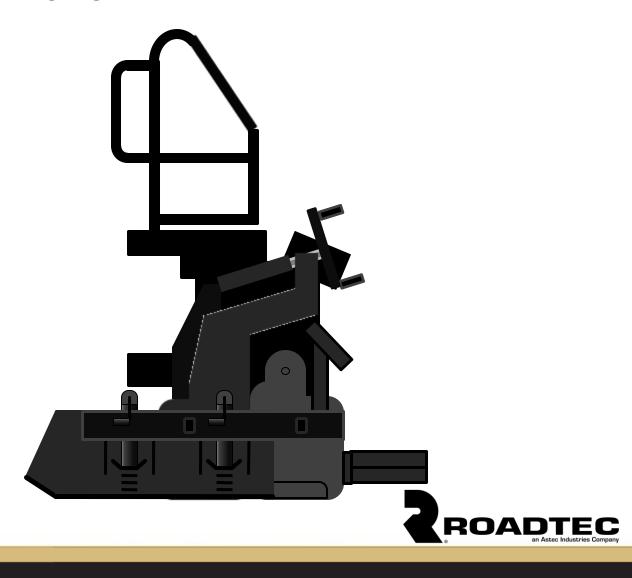
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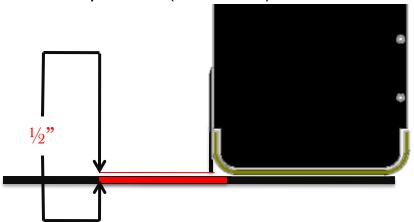


#### **Pre Strike-off**

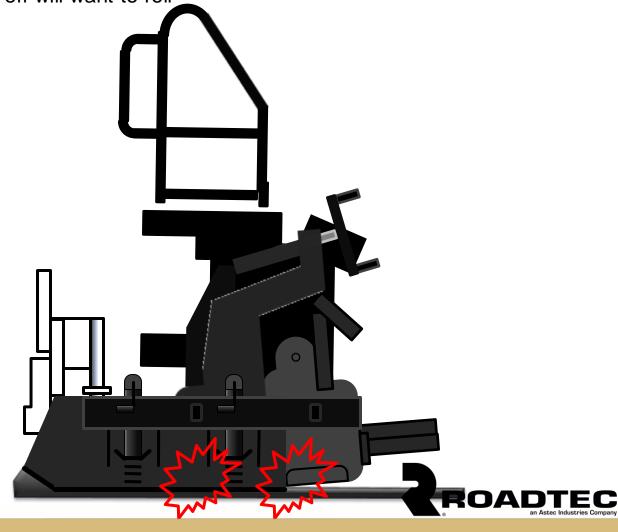
The force of the head of material against the strike-off will want to roll the screed in a particular direction.

With a Strike-off that is adjusted too low, you will have a screed that will want to ride on the nose of the screed.

You will see premature wearing of the front of the screed plate or (Bull Nose).



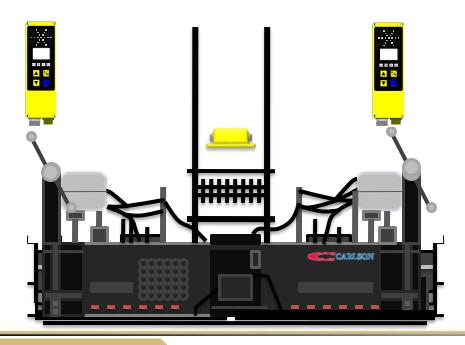
The bottom of the strike off is set  $\frac{1}{2}$ " above the screed bottom and is adjustable from the top of the screed.(12.5mm)





# 4 Ways to Control the Screed

- 1. Manual with the depth screw
- 2. Grade Control & Manual
- 3. Dual Grade Control
- 4. Grade & Slope Control





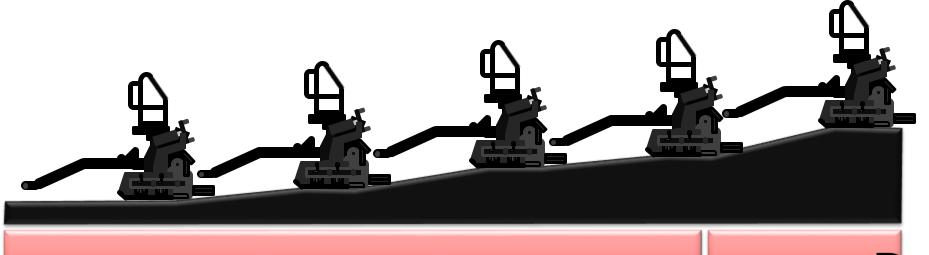




#### **Screed Reaction Time**

For a screed to rebalance, it takes 5 tow arm lengths for the screed to rebalance the forces working against it.

This distance for these forces to balance is 50-60 feet (15-18M) or 1 ½ paver lengths. WE must be patient for the full reaction to take place.

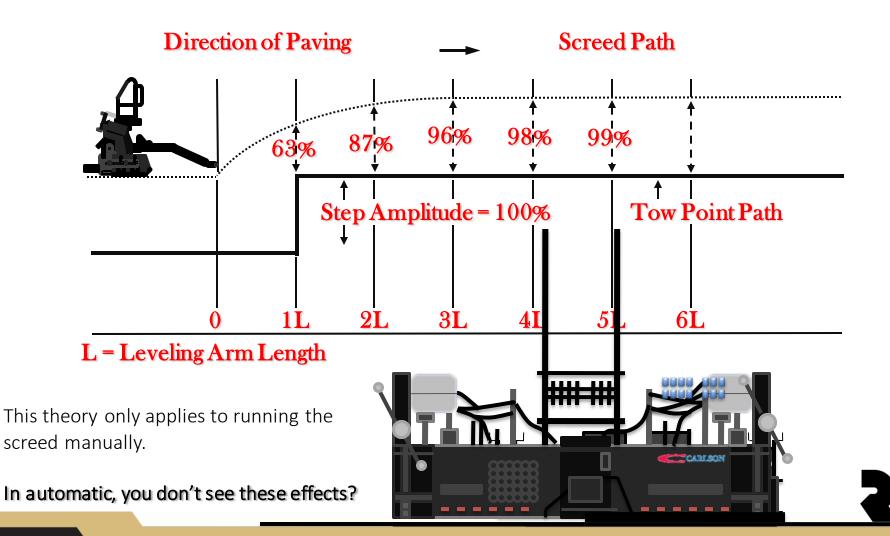


Remaining 30% to 35%



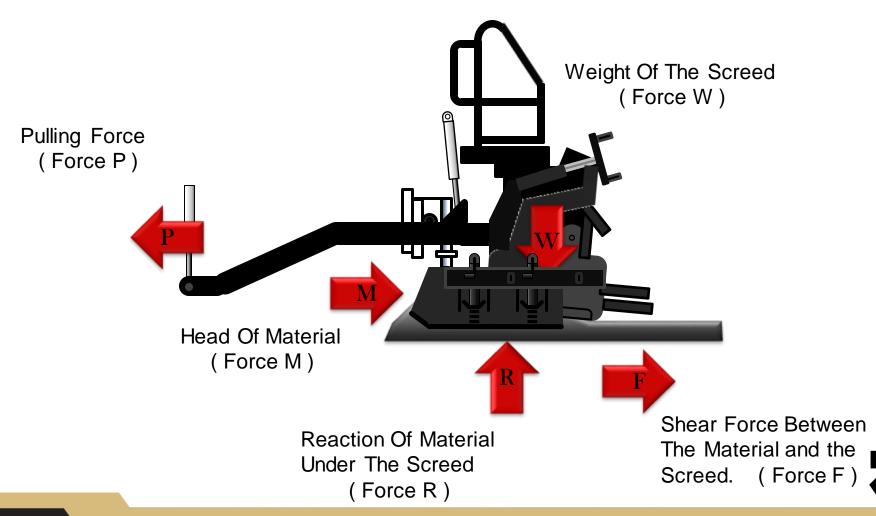


#### **Correction Time of the Screed**





## Forces Acting on the Screed



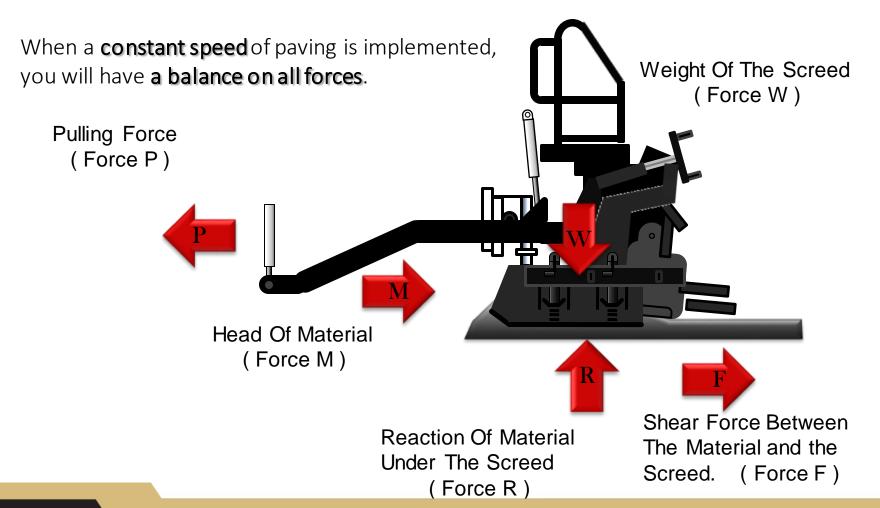


#### **Screed Shear Point**

The **Head of Material** is the mass of material that lies directly in front of, and spans the entire width of the screed. The majority of all Mat flaws originate from paving with an improper head of material. Angle Of Attack Line Of Shear Head Of material



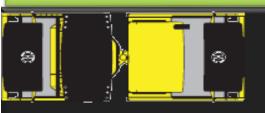
## Forces Acting on the Screed





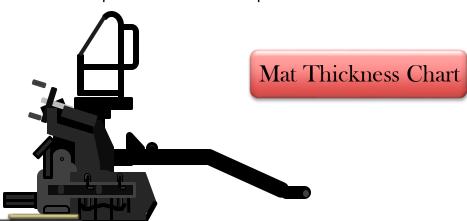


#### **Mat Thickness Chart**



To achieve the proper Mat thickness, you should always allow for roll down.

Roll down is the differential between the non-compacted and compacted material.



To Achieve Final
Mat Thickness:

Requires an Initial
Thickness Of:

1" or 25.4 mm

2" or 50.8 mm

3" or 76.2 mm

4" or 101.6 mm

1.26" or 32.0 mm

2.53" or 64.3 mm

3.79" or 96.3 mm

5.05" or 128.3 mm



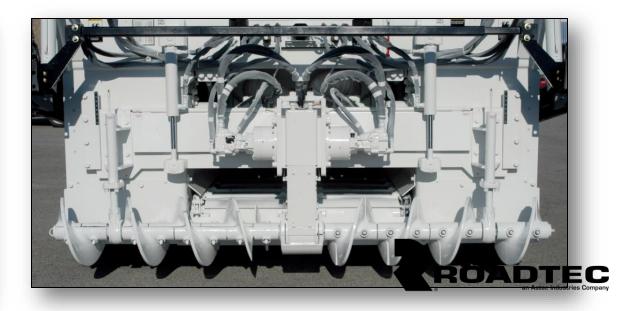


### **Material Management**

Key Points in Prevention of Segregation:

- Keep Material Contained
- Prevent Excessive Rolling of Materials
- •Move Material in a Smooth Uniform Uninterrupted Manner







# Say When!!

What's happening to this screed?

And what if we were going to bring our end-gate in? What would happen?







# What Can We Change?







### **Auger Adjustments**

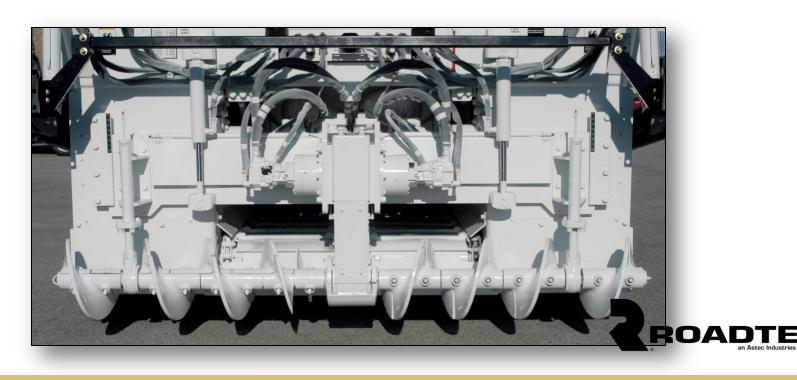
The head of material is the asphalt that is carried in front of the screed

There is no need to carry any more material in front of the screed than is required to feed the entire length of the screed.

Augers break.

Augers get worn out.

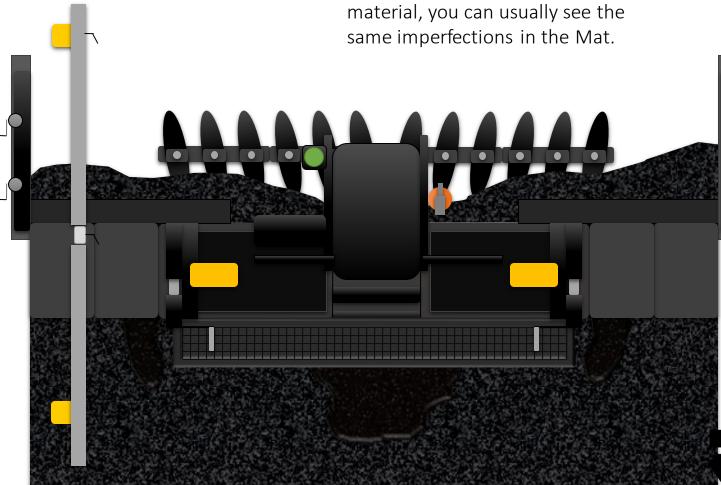
Augers can be changed.





# **Irregular Head of Material**

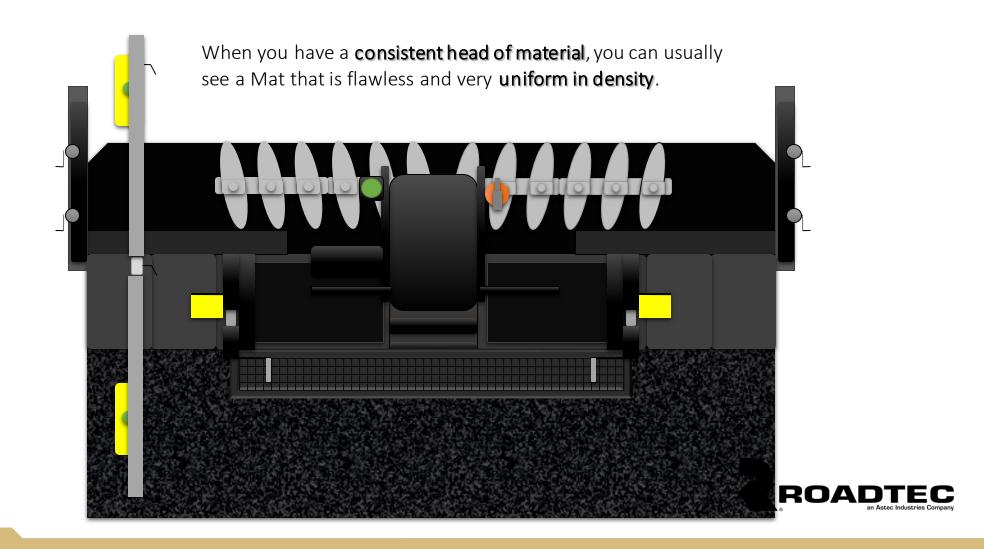
**Gradation changes** in the **mix design** will **affect** how a **screed** reacts.



When you have an irregular head of



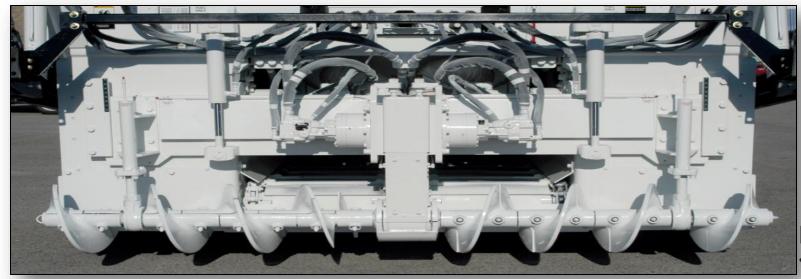
#### **Consistent Head of Material**



## **Auger Height**

Auger height controls the head of material and is determined by mat thickness.

Add 2 inches or 50 mm to loosen the thickness you are laying. Use more for larger aggregates.





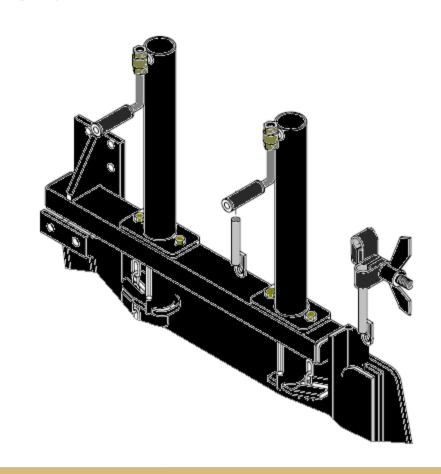


#### **Feeder Placement**

This is one of the major problems in the field hands down!

When should I change my Feeder position?

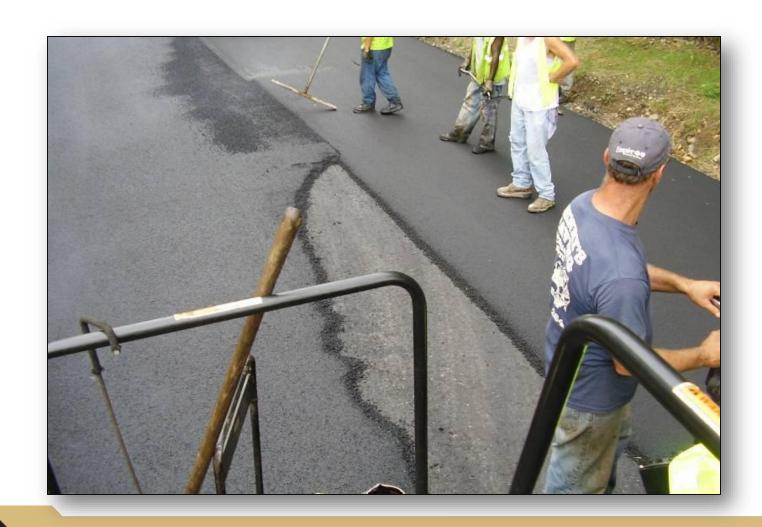
What benefit will I see from a different position?







# **Managing the Feed System**

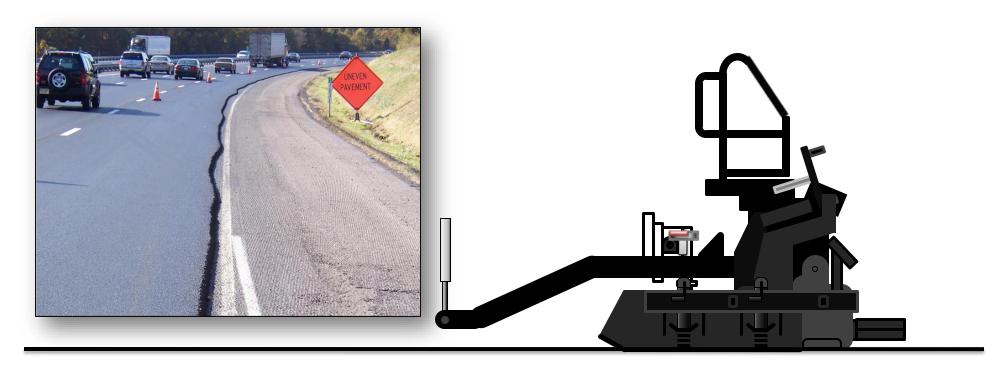






# **Managing the Feed System**

This is an example of a Feeder that is not positioned properly.







## Managing the Feed System

The correct position, as illustrated here, will cure many problems with your paving operation.

Material that is not manageable will make a mat that is unmanageable.

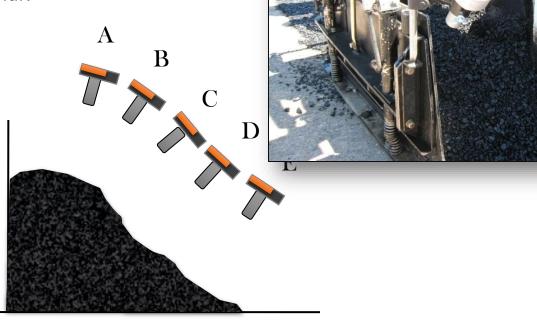
This is easy. Don't make it harder than it has to be.



## Managing the Feed System

TANG CLEAR SELF CLEAR

What is the best position to manage this head of material?

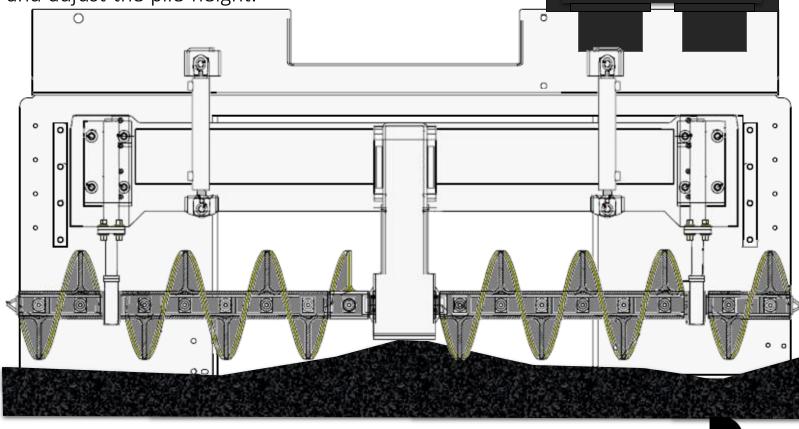




**Adjusting the Head of Material** 

Looking across the tunnel will tell you a lot about the head of material.

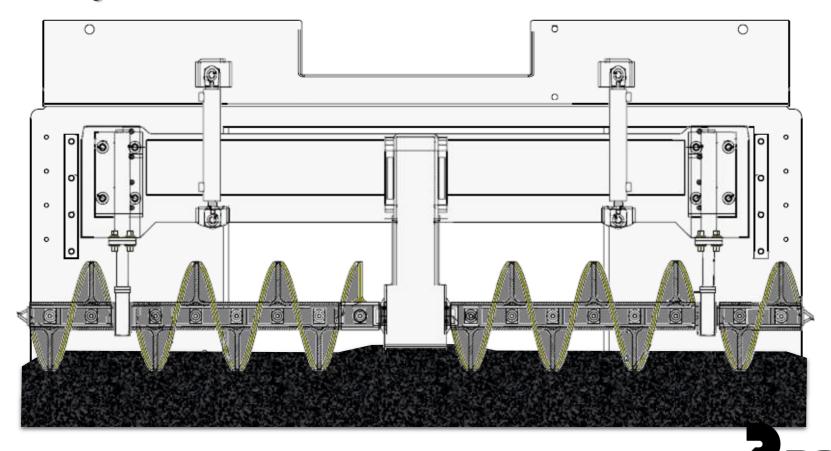
You could resolve this problem by adjusting the flow gates or slow down and adjust the pile height.



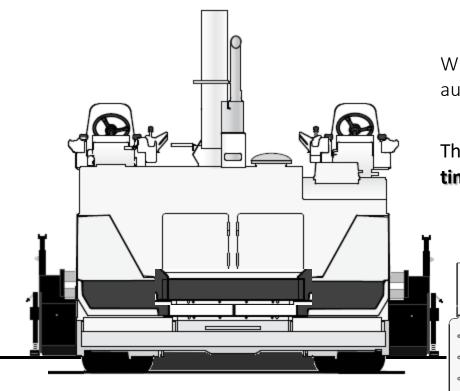
Pile Height

### **Adjusting the Proper Head of Material**

You should have an **even amount of material across the auger chamber, and your augers should be running 100% of the time**.

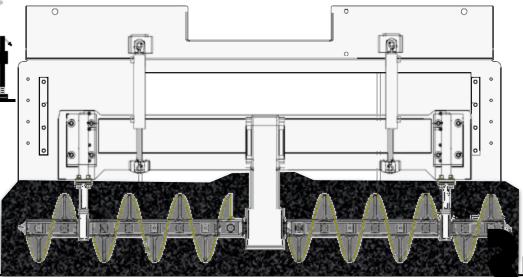


## Improper Pile Height



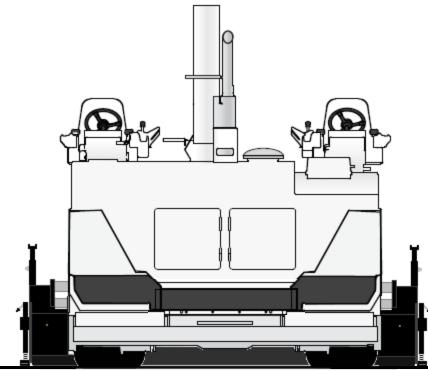
What we see is a flood of material across the auger chamber.

This is a **common problem at the most critical time of the process**, The take off..





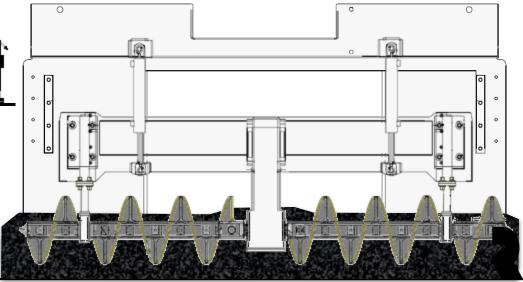
## **Proper Pile Height**



If it needs to be shoveled to make it to the end, **then do it!** 

What we see is the correct head of material and an even flow of material across the auger chamber.

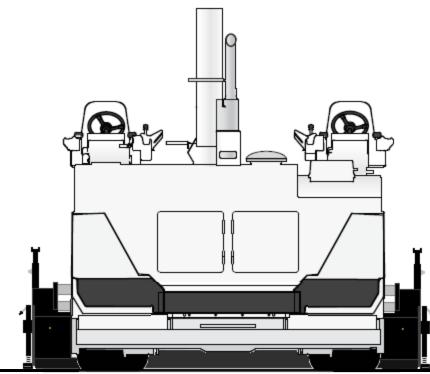
Augers need to **run all the time**... not one faster than the other....**Equal amount flowing in** and **equal amount flowing out..** 







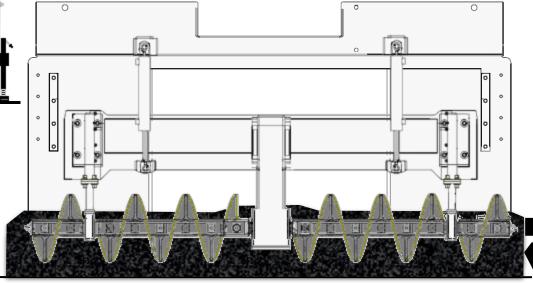
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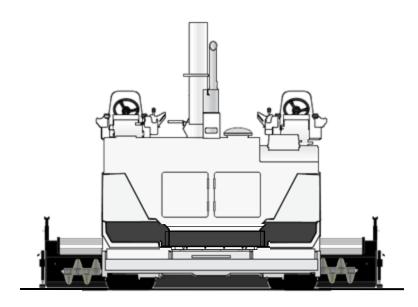




## **Augers Extension**

Auger extensions should always be used when wider paving is done.

Some material designs may require additional auger extensions that would not be required when working with traditional material designs.





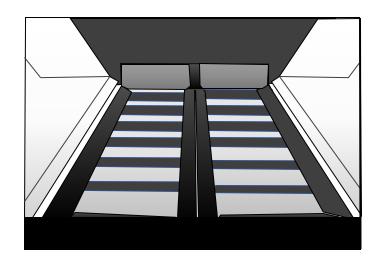
How will material stay **contained, uniform and continuously** move without them?





#### **Flow Gates**

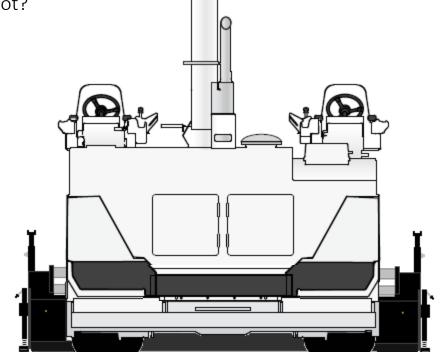
Remember flow gates are designed to meter the amount of material that is delivered to the Auger Chamber.



What else could we do to help manage the Material in this application?

With this width, what should we do with the Flow-Gates?

So in this width, we will just move the gates down a little, or a lot?







#### What is the Customer's Demand?

**Long Life** Pavement

Proper Sub-**grade** 

Substantial **Structural life** 

Pavement **Smoothness** 

No Material Segregation

No **Temperature** Segregation

Uniformity of **Density** 

**Speed** of Construction

Minimizing **Traffic** Delays

**Low Price** 

That's It..... Easy Enough!





### **Preparing for the Job**

What does the job consist of?

If crews are informed of the job and every person involved is on the same page, the crew will be more productive.

A crew that is frustrated will:

- a. Not produce
- b. Unravel itself
- c. Won't care what the job looks like or rides like.

Be aware of Existing Grade Conditions:

Slope

Low Spots

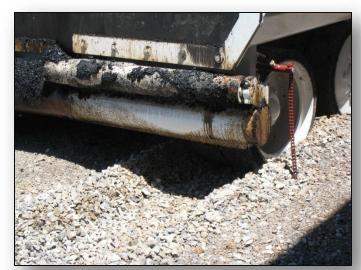
High Spots

HMA Design





# It's OK, It Will Cover



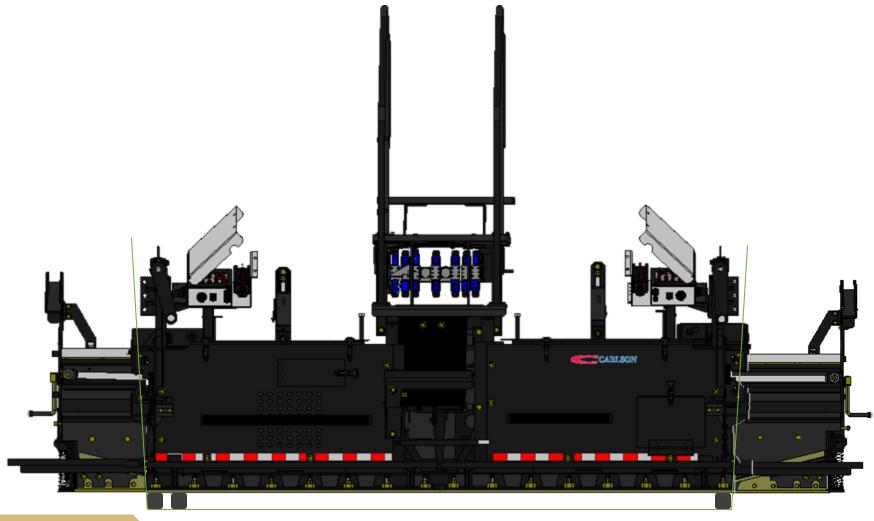


**Cover it, is not the answer here.** Not all jobs are perfect but the customer needs to know **what happens when jobs are rushed.** 





# String Lining the Screed





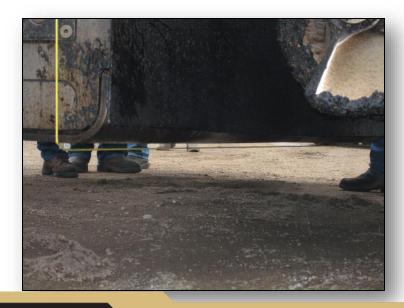


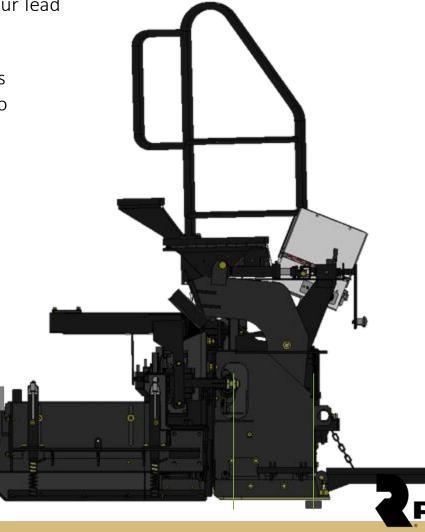
### Setting up the Screed

There is more to checking the Screed than just at the tail. Your lead crown is very important.

By always checking the back and putting it flat first, then this becomes something that is easily controlled. You can now go to the front and set your lead and recheck your work.

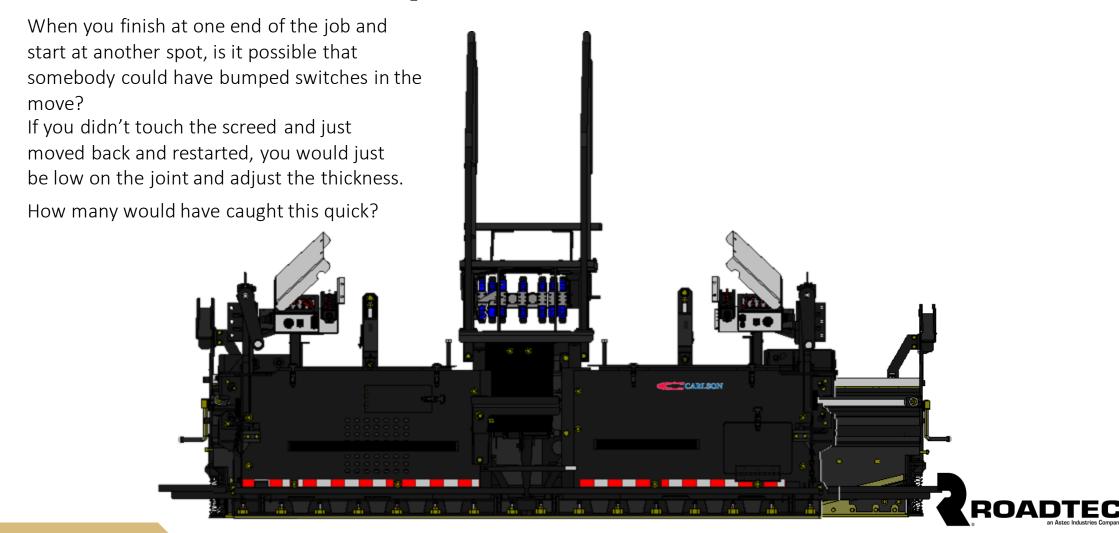
After you have checked the rear of the screed you should check lead crown and set to  $\frac{1}{8}$ <sup>th</sup> of an inch.





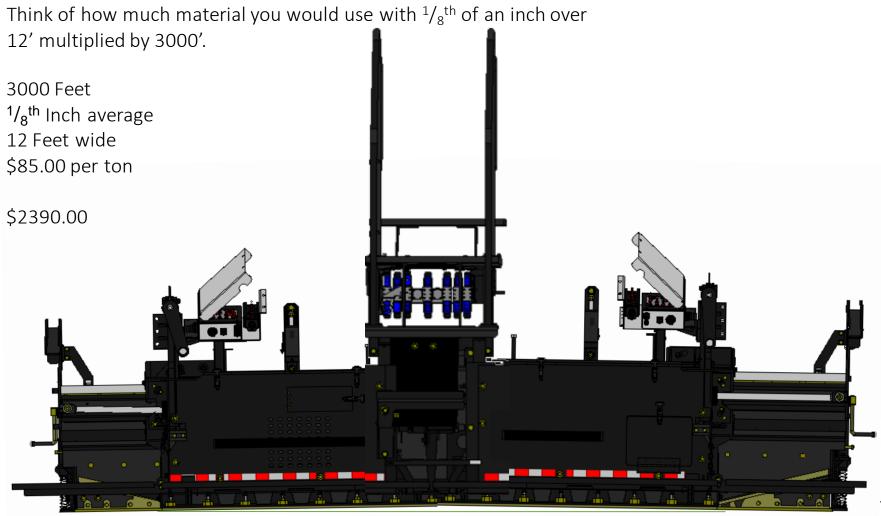


### **Check for Slope in Your Extension**





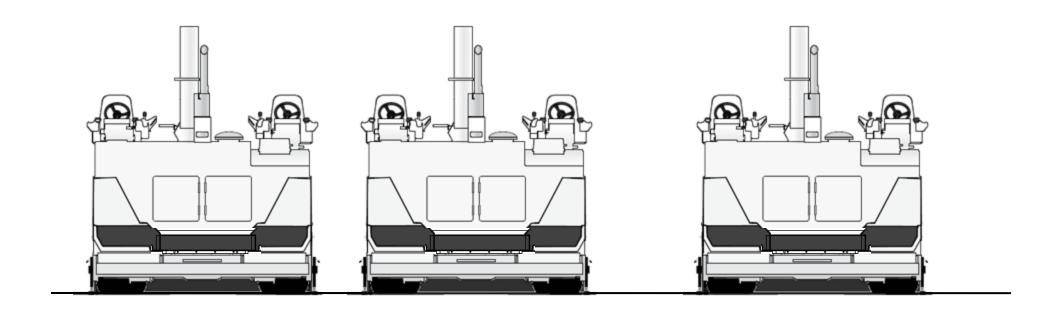
## **Checking the Crown**







## **Paving Width Setup**



An 8 foot paver that is pulling 12 feet. Which of these would be best suited for the pull? (3.65m)

What would be the big deal? 12 foot is 12 foot.

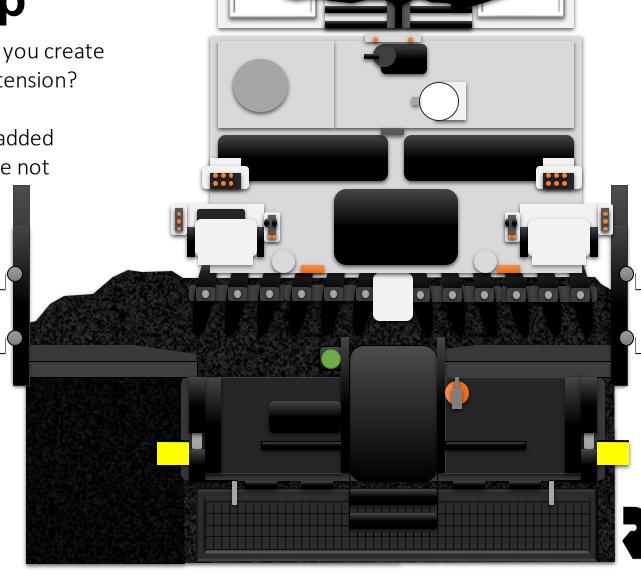




# **Paving Width Setup**

What typically happens is that you create pressure that builds on the extension?

As we said earlier, if you have added pressure on the screed, you are not balanced.





# **Paving Width Setup**

As you can see here, it does happen.

If you were to pave at this width you would see problems with the surface.







# **Pulling Off and Paving**

Producing a mat that has a consistent texture and density requires that all variables stay at a constant.

These variables are simple, and they are:

- A. Proper Angle of Attack
- B. Constant Paver Speed
- C. Consistent Head of Material





#### **Clean Up and Joint Prep**

If we just set down and pull off without any prep then we will go down.

Setting down and getting the following in order will give us a successful takeoff.





### **Use a Straight-Edge**

Most foreman have a straight-edge on a service truck, but for the most part they seldom get used.

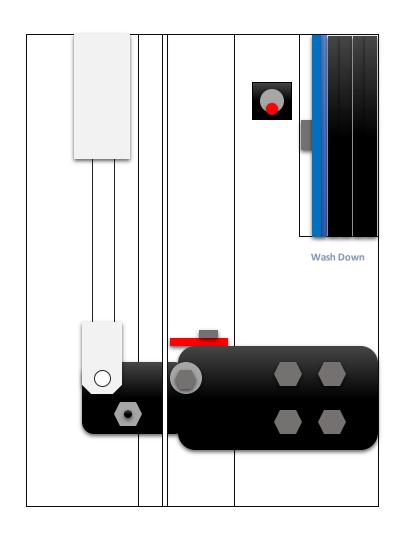
This is a very important tool in the joint construction process.

Using a straight-edge will help increase the quality of the joints, as well as crown adjusting, sloped extensions and vertical.





#### **Set the Tow-Point**

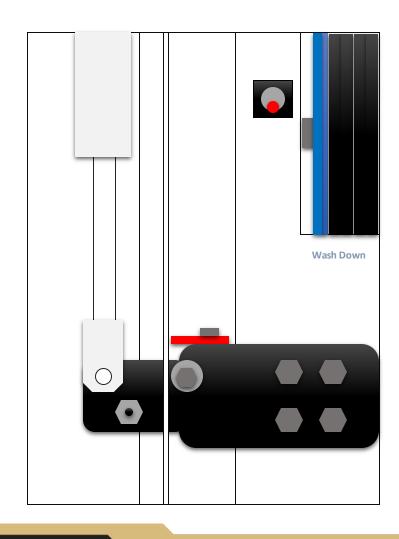




Where should this Tow-Point be set?

There are times that this will depend on the thickness of the mat, but a good rule to follow is **1** inch above the loose mat thickness

#### **Set the Tow-Point**





Where should this Tow-Point be set?

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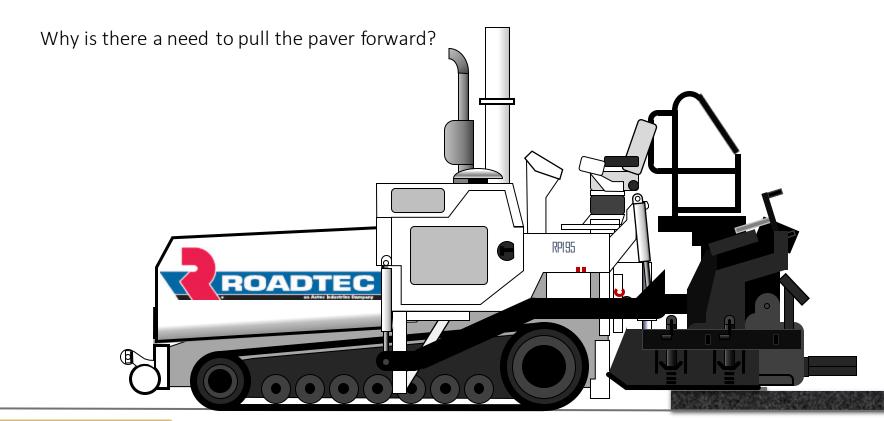




# **Pulling Off**

Allow for your roll down.

Set the screed down and pull the slack out of the tow arm.





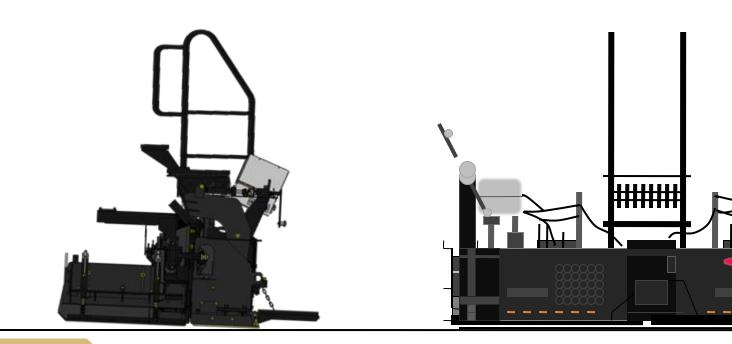


# **Pulling Off**





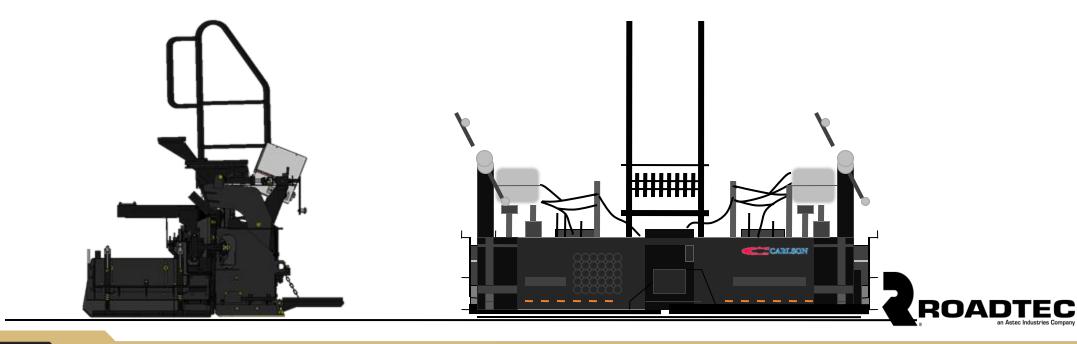
# Null Out the Screed, Using Both Screws Together







# **Add Angle of Attack**





## **Joint Prep**

Good example of taking off on the header, except too much material was brushed up on the mat.

The result is segregation and will change the thickness of the mat. The solution is to remove the larger rock.







# **Joint Prep**







#### **Joint Prep**

Very little has to be done to this joint after pulling off because the setups were done properly.

If you have a joint that is too thick, you have problems. The spreading or broadcasting of material is what will more than likely cause a failed joint.







Poor Joint Prep. Take your time to get it CORRECT, it will make your day go much smoother.





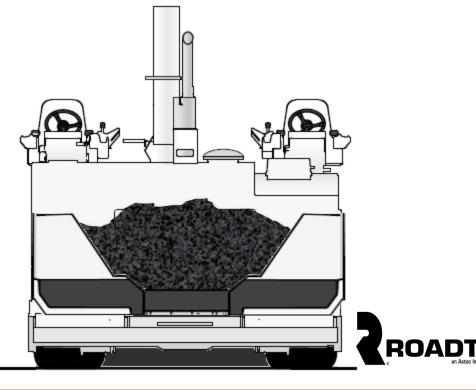


## When Should I Empty the Hopper?

When working with segregating materials, the hopper wings should only be cycled with the hopper relatively full.

This bunches the segregated materials that collect in the hopper wings instead of flipping them into an empty center area.



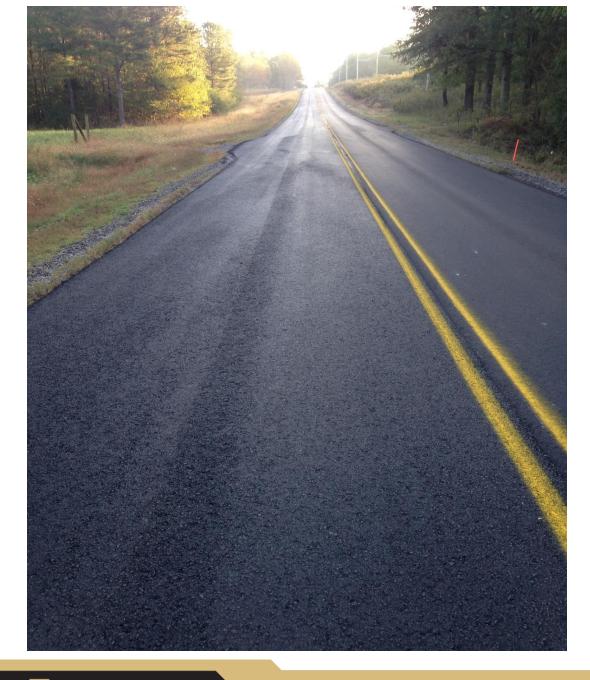






















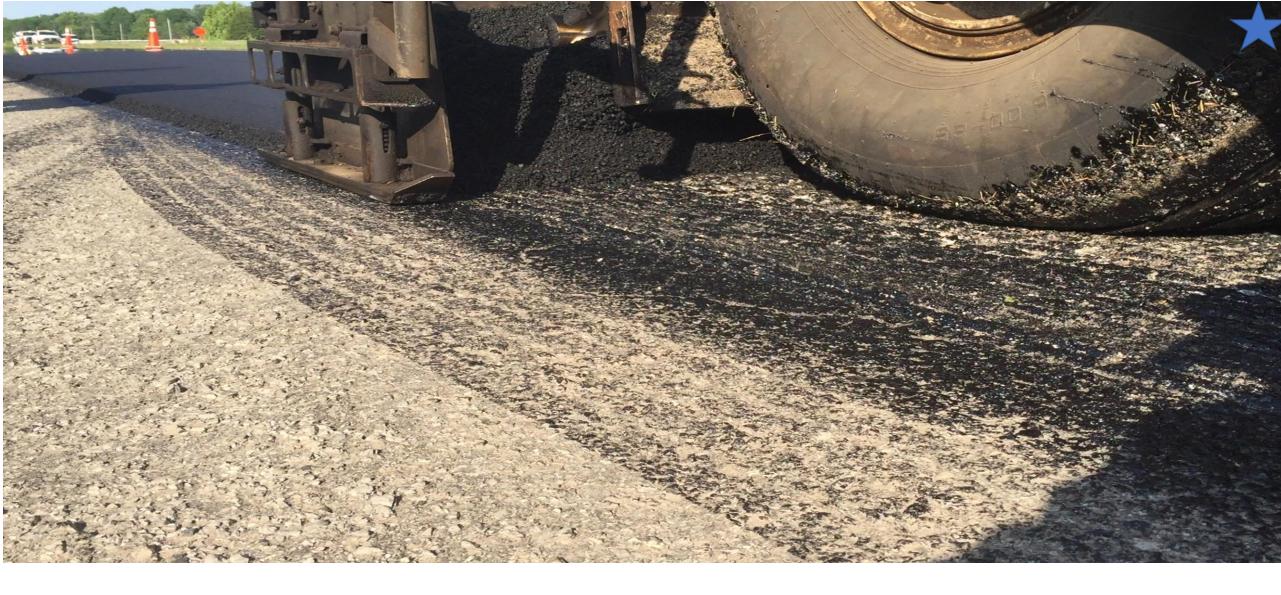
















## A Great Start for a Strong Joint



















## **Paving By The Numbers**

- 1. Heat your screed
- 2. Adjust tow point cylinders
- 3. Set paving width
- 4. Set main screed crown
- 5. Set extension height
- 6. Set extension slope
- 7. Lower the screed
- 8. Move the machine forward
- 9. Null screed
- 10. Set the angle of attack
- 11. Set auger height
- 12. Set the endgates
- 13. Position feeder sensors
- 14. Fill the auger chamber
- 15. Set feeder controls
- 16. Put the machine in motion





# **Any Questions?**





















#### Title of Slide Here, If Needed



#### **SLIDE OPTION #1**

The graphic elements on this slide will appear on **every** slide unless using a full-framed photo. In the case of a full-framed photo please refer to slides 5 and 6 as examples.

Copy and paste elements to each slide.















### **Title of Presentation**

Presenter's Name

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