

SCREENING RAP eight hours a day

IN THE CHICAGO AREA, a lot of roads and streets are being milled and ripped up as contractors are in the process of rebuilding and rehabilitation. As a result, you will see numerous big stockpiles that contain reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) that is just waiting to be processed and put back into new mixes.

“We go through quite a bit of RAP every day,” said Marc Propheter, the plant foreman of the Gallagher Asphalt facility in Joliet, Illinois. “There’s a pretty good supply in our yard, right now. We process whatever we have room for. I have a stacking conveyor so I can make a large stockpile if I need to.”

Propheter said Gallagher Asphalt processes all of that RAP with a Fold ‘n Go® 2612D screening plant from Astec Mobile Screens. “We’ve had the Fold ‘n Go now for three years. First, we break down everything with a small impact crusher and then feed it to the screen on the Fold ‘n Go for processing. Typically, we’re making just one product: 0.5 in. (13 mm) minus, although we have done some fractionating.” He said the crushed and screened RAP then goes into the new mixes that are made in their hot-mix asphalt (HMA) plants.

“We use quite a bit of RAP in our mixes. I’d like to use more, but we are kind of limited, depending on the mix. On surface mixes, we can go up to 15 percent. If we’re doing base-course mixes, we can go up to 40 or 45 percent. It just depends on the customer.”

Gallagher Asphalt is a well-known producer and paving contractor with three HMA plants that are located south of the Chicago area in Thornton, Bourbonnais, and



Gallagher Asphalt is using RAP —from 15 to 45 percent— but before they can use it, it must be processed and sized.

Joliet, Illinois. The company was founded in 1928 and is now under the management of the third generation of the Gallagher family.

The Fold ‘n Go 2612D screening plant at Gallagher Asphalt’s Joliet HMA facility is equipped with a PEP Duo-Vibe double-deck, dual-frequency screen. On the PEP Duo-Vibe, the top deck is a 5 x 10-ft. (1.5 x 3.0-m) conventional scalper deck and the bottom deck is a 6 x 12-ft. (1.8 x 3.6-m) high-frequency deck. The unit is equipped with three stacking conveyors and self-contained diesel power.

Producers can process a wide variety of applications with the Fold ‘n Go 2610D screening plant, including RAP, crushed stone, coal, compost, and sand and gravel.

“How much do we use it here?” said Propheter. “Well, we usually have it working eight to ten hours a day. Most of the time, we are processing the RAP from our stockpiles just to make sure we have enough for our HMA production. We process about 100,000 tons (90,700 tonnes) of RAP annually. Last summer, we also used the Fold ‘n Go screening plant from Astec Mobile Screens when we crushed broken concrete to make three different products. All we had to do was put some different screens on the unit and it worked well.”

Propheter said that the Fold ‘n Go screening plant has been in service at the Joliet facility most of the time over the past three paving

seasons. “We did move it out of here earlier this year and took it down to one of our other plants to crush and screen for awhile. It transported really well.

“Actually, it is maybe the easiest thing in the world to move. You just...fold and go,” he said with a smile. “How long did it take? Well, it only took us a couple of hours to break it down. Then we shipped it out to the other plant location—and that took a few hours. We were up and running by the middle of the next day.”

When asked what kind of plant they are using to make HMA, Propheter responded that it is a 1990 Astec plant.

“But we just bought a new one and it is due to be here in September. It will be a nice plant—with a state-of-the-art Double Barrel Green™ System so we can make warm-mix asphalt (WMA). Everybody here in the Chicago area is convinced about the value of this concept. And with our new plant, we might be the first company in the entire Chicago area to actually be able to produce WMA.

“The new plant will have two RAP bins to better utilize fractionated RAP. We also expect to be able to use a higher percentage of RAP with the Double Barrel Green System.”

When asked what he might tell another producer about the Fold ‘n Go 2612D screening plant from Astec Mobile Screens, Propheter said he would encourage other producers to give it some serious consideration.

“It is very versatile,” Propheter said. “It is also simple to operate. And you can do almost anything you want to with it.” ▼▲▼

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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This Fold 'n Go® 2610D screening plant from Astec Mobile Screens continues to work almost nonstop—from eight to ten hours a day—processing reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) at Gallagher Asphalt's hot-mix asphalt (HMA) facility in Joliet, Illinois. The company has huge stockpiles of RAP ready to be processed and RAP that is ready to be included as a component in the company's new mixes. In the above photo, you can see the processed RAP that has been screened to 0.5 in. (13 mm) minus as it is deposited onto a conveyor for stockpiling in the company's yard. In the background are piles of unprocessed, ripped-up RAP ready for processing.

