



Waste Authority

Media Release

Recycled Glass for Roads & Building

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Asphalt Maker Takes a Shine to Recycling

Local roads, road users and the environment are benefiting from a recycling initiative by asphalt manufacturer, Pioneer Road Services.

At its Hazelmere plant, the company is crushing waste glass that would otherwise be consigned to landfill, and reusing it as an asphalt additive that saves energy, reduces our environmental load and improves road safety.

“Glass asphalt surfaces are more reflective than conventional asphalt, significantly improving night-time road visibility,” said Meda Sicoe, Pioneer’s technical manager.

Tests performed with the support of Main Roads WA and the WA Police Department have shown that the skid resistance and braking time on glass asphalt is better than conventional asphalt.

“The recycled glass asphalt surface also dries faster than traditional paving after rain, further improving road safety,” Ms Sicoe said.

The addition of glass to the asphalt mix helps reduce emissions and energy use in manufacture and improves the road construction process.

“Every glass bottle that is recycled can save enough energy to light a 100 watt light bulb for four hours,” said Ms Sicoe.

The successful development of glass asphalt is one of a number of recycling initiatives undertaken by Pioneer Road Services across Australia, including the reprocessing of asphalt and crumbed rubber and the manufacture of low-energy cold and warm asphalt mixes.

The glass asphalt initiative was partly supported by funds from the waste levy paid on all waste that goes to landfill, by the Waste Authority of Western Australia and is designed to help stop recyclable materials being turned into landfill.

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