



I am very excited for the opportunity to be appointed as the next Executive Director for the Lime Association of Texas (LAT). LAT has been a valuable resource to me for the past 30 years or so. As a materials engineer dealing with flexible pavement design, construction and maintenance, I have often reached out to LAT and the member companies (Austin White Lime, Lhoist & Texas Lime) for assistance when I needed answers. I gained a tremendous respect for the previous LAT executive directors that I was able to work with over the years because they always went out of their way to provide me with education and training related to the use of lime in pavement structures. As a young engineer working for TxDOT, my business relationship with LAT started with Charlie Baxter in 1990s. Since then, I have been associated with Charlie's successor Bill Neely, followed by Larry Peirce and for the past 16+ years Kelvin Reinhardt who will continue to work as VP of LAT until his retirement at the end of this year. I am honored to help carry on the legacy that these individuals have established.

Having spent 26+ years working for TxDOT and another 10 years working for Atlas Technical Consultants, I have had the opportunity to work with many people including designers, developers, contractors, material suppliers, producers, local governments and private owners and one thing we all have in common is the desire to see a quality project built. The quality of any successful flexible or rigid pavement starts with a structurally sound foundation and lime has a long and successful history of greatly improving the quality of subgrade and base material when used properly. Having performed many forensic studies on failing pavement structures, I have seen firsthand the importance of getting things right from the subgrade all the way up to the riding surface. Structural failures caused by expansive clays in the subgrade are almost always the most expensive and time consuming to repair.

I have also performed more than 300 HMA mixture designs and seen how lime can greatly improve the rutting resistance and prevents moisture damage in HMA. Much of my time in the 1990s was spent investigating premature HMA failures related to rutting and stripping (moisture damage). At that time, not as much was known about how to prevent the problems. Fortunately, rutting and stripping has been greatly reduced over the past 30 years due to many factors such as better lab testing procedures like the Hamburg Wheel test that can screen out poor performing materials. Lime and other additives have played an important role in improving HMA quality. Lime is certainly not the answer to solving all HMA issues, but it is highly effective at mitigating problems caused by aggregates that are dirty or have clay coating that prevents aggregate to asphalt adhesion.

Our motto at TxDOT's Materials and Test Division was always "One Test is Worth a Thousand Expert Opinions". I go back to that philosophy any time someone asks me what product will work best in a given situation including additives such as lime. Performing the proper tests and gathering the facts is almost always the best route to go when it comes to materials engineering. Lime, like any good product sells itself when opinions are replaced by facts and test results.

Over the past 50 years, there has been a tremendous amount of knowledge gained through research about lime and there have never been more educational materials available than what there are now. At the same time, we are seeing a much younger, less experienced workforce being tasked with taking on great responsibilities due to the rapid construction we see across Texas. As we see the knowledge base shift from government agencies to private industry, I see our biggest challenge as being able to provide the education and training to the designers and engineers that need to acquire information rapidly in order to make informed decisions. My immediate goal will be to carry on Kelvin's legacy of providing these services throughout Texas.

Please contact the LAT for information about our programs or for any questions regarding ***LIME... MAN'S MOST VERSATILE CHEMICAL.***

Sincerely,

Dale A. Rand P.E.

Lime Association of Texas, Executive Director/Vice President

(512) 771-3667 – Phone

[www.limetexas.org](http://www.limetexas.org)

DaleRand@limetexas.org