

# NAPA NEWS RELEASE

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## **NAPA Launches Online Training in Partnership With Pavia Systems**

Lanham, Md. – The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) announces the launch of a program of online training created in conjunction with Pavia Systems. The offering will make it possible for organizations to conveniently deliver a complete set of high-quality training programs tailored for the asphalt pavement construction industry.

The first learning modules to be made available include “Components of Compaction,” “Cool-Weather Paving,” and “Safety in Confined Spaces.” Additionally, Pavia Systems will be providing a *Hot-Mix Asphalt (HMA) Fundamentals* learning series that includes topics such as “Construction,” “Materials,” and “Mix Design,” among others. Complete course descriptions are available at [www.hotmix.org](http://www.hotmix.org) and at [www.paviasystems.com](http://www.paviasystems.com).

The 30- to 60-minute courses are designed to engage the user in the learning process using compelling interactive media content and researched learning methods. Each course employs sophisticated tools, including video, animation, and intuitive, easy-to-use navigation. A quizzing system which is part of each module is designed to reinforce and validate learning. Where appropriate, voice-over narration is included to guide the user through the lesson. All elements of the training program are integrated to help in the learning process and encourage knowledge retention.

Online delivery of courses gives individuals a personalized training experience which they can access from anywhere at any time. The system allows the user to keep track of his own progress through the material. When the user completes a lesson, the system furnishes a certificate of completion. In addition, the user’s organization, whether a for-profit company or a government agency, can easily track employees’ progress and performance through the learning path.

“Online training truly is the wave of the future,” commented Mike Acott, NAPA President. “One of the most difficult challenges faced by both agencies and the hot-mix asphalt industry today is that of attracting, recruiting, and retaining an excellent work force. Online training is a tool companies and agencies can use to improve workers’ skills. In

addition, research shows that companies that invest in training have better employee retention and lower turnover rates. Online training will help the industry improve the quality of the finished product and the overall performance of both companies and agencies.”

Both NAPA and Pavia work with industry experts to ensure that high-quality, technically accurate course content is produced. Courses are updated and kept fresh to ensure that the best practices of the industry are reflected. “Online training offers many inherent benefits and can be a powerful complement to an organization’s existing training program,” said Pavia Systems President Si Katara. “The courses are available 24 hours a day, from the user’s computer at the office or at home, so no travel is necessary. The learner can revisit courses multiple times to reinforce the concepts being learned. And a learner’s progress and performance are easily tracked and reported through a convenient online interface.”

The new online training modules will be available beginning June 23, 2006. Orders for the modules may be placed through NAPA’s online store at [www.hotmix.org](http://www.hotmix.org) and/or through the Pavia Web site at [www.paviasystems.com](http://www.paviasystems.com). The programs currently available are priced at \$55 to \$149, depending on length and complexity. Discounts are available for bulk purchases and for NAPA members.

*The National Asphalt Pavement Association, based in Lanham, Maryland, is the only association that exclusively represents the interests of the hot-mix asphalt producer/contractor on the national level with Congress, government agencies, and other national trade and business organizations. NAPA supports an active research program designed to improve the quality of HMA pavements and paving techniques used in the construction of roads, streets, highways, parking lots, airports, and environmental and recreational facilities. The association provides technical, educational, and marketing materials and information to its members, as well as product information to users and specifiers of paving materials. The association, whose members number more than 1100 companies, was founded in 1955.*

*Pavia Systems, located in Seattle, Washington, grew out of an initiative led by Professor Joe Mahoney at the University of Washington. With over 35 years of industry experience and a large repository of interactive pavement-related online training materials, Pavia Systems specializes in producing and delivering interactive online training programs to organizations in the asphalt pavement industry.*

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