

Recommendations and strategies for using reclaimed asphalt pavement in the Flemish Region based on a first life cycle assessment research

Wim Van den bergh¹, Patricia Kara¹, Joke Anthonissen¹, Alexandros Margaritis¹, Geert Jacobs¹ and Karolien Couscheir¹

¹University of Antwerp, Faculty of Applied Engineering, EMIB research group, Groenenborgerlaan 171, 2020 Antwerp, Belgium

E-mail: wim.vandenbergh@uantwerpen.be

Abstract. In Flanders, using Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP) is allowed in asphalt mixes for base layers. Primary economic and secondary laboratory-measured mechanical properties are given as justification for higher amounts in specific mixes. However, one should evaluate the performance of these mixes on long-term by environmental impact of the production until end-of-life. In this paper recommendations and strategies for using RA, based on current research, are discussed in a broader perspective such as using a carbon-footprint tool and warm-mix asphalt production in the Flemish Region. The paper aims to a wide discussion by reporting several outcomes of laboratory research, statistics and practical application in order to set a general strategy for the road engineering sector in the Flemish Region.