

### Letter from the editor

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*With this second annual issue of **Transportation Infrastructure Engineering**, hosted by the electronic edition of the **Intersection Journal**, our editorial team is continuing to feature articles of innovative and timely research and development activities in all modes of transportation infrastructure. Before entering into the presentation of this number, from behalf of our editorial team, I'd like to express our thanks to the distinguished professionals, who accepted to be present in our Journal with their significant contributions in the challenging field of transportation research.*

*After an usual introductory paper: "**Transportation research and education in the new millennium**", intending to present a comprehensive view and synthesis of transportation research and education, as it exists today and can expect to evolve with the beginning of this new millennium, this issue is opening with a critical and comprehensive view of the actual poor technical condition of Romanian public road network infrastructure viewed in the concept of durable development. In his significant paper-document: "**The Romanian Road Infrastructure in the Concept of Durable Development**, the distinguished author and highway specialist **Neculai Tautu**, the former Director of the Regional Highway Department of Iassy and the actual President of the Moldavian Branch of the Romanian Professional Association for Roads and Bridges is proposing a challenging strategy for the preservation and development of the actual poor national road infrastructure, considered in the context of durable development. At this crucial moment, when our country concentrates its efforts to enter into the European Union, the main objectives of the strategy adopted for the modernization of the road infrastructure has to be undertaken in such a challenging way, in order to meet the requirements adopted by all European countries.*

*In his paper "**Considerations on the Value of Modulus of Subgrade Reaction**", "**The Average Thickness of Bituminous Binder-Criterion for analysis of Performance Behavior of Hot Rolled Road asphalt Pavements**" Consultant Professor **Horia Gh. Zarojanu** and his research team from Technical University "Gh. Asachi" of Iasi, is opening new horizons in the field of structural design and performance behaviour of asphalt pavements. His first paper is proposing specific design values for the modulus of subgrade reaction, based on a comprehensive synthesis of the existing correlations between the K value and other deformability characteristics of the subgrade such as CBR value and dynamic elastic modulus E. Specific design values for the modulus subgrade reaction are recommended to be*



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*used in the frame of the actual method for structural design of rigid pavements, in our country. In his second paper the average thickness of bituminous binder is recommended as a sound criterion for the analysis of performance of hot rolled asphalt pavements.*

*In the series of research dedicated to various asphalt issues Professor Nicolae Vladimir Vlad and his collaborators from Technical University "Gh. Asachi" of Iassy, presents the paper: "The Use of Accelerated Circular Track, for Performance Evaluation and Validation of Technical Specifications for the Asphalt Mixes Stabilized with Fibers, in Romania", describing the research results obtained on the performance of five types of mixes, subjected to intensive accelerating testing, on the accelerated testing facility ALT-LIRA from our University.*

*In parallel with the above mentioned research, mixed road pavement structures are considered in the paper: "The Use of Fly Ash and Volcanic Tuff for the Construction of the Mixed Road Pavements" where Professor Vasile BOBOC and his research team are presenting their research results obtained on experimental sectors equipped with such mixed pavement structures, investigated on the same ALT facility.*

*This issue is ending by a short presentation of the newly established Research Centre for Geotechnics, foundations and Modern Transportation Infrastructure Engineering "Dimitrie Athanasiu" –CCGEOFIMIT, recognized, at national level by our Ministry of Education and Research/ CNCSIS, its Mission Statement, its actual and perspective research objectives.*

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