

# Application Focus

## Road Construction – Milling and Paving Equipment

### **Customer Profile**

Performance Paving is a road construction company that owns and operates heavy-duty construction equipment and trucks in Colorado.

### **Application Environment**

Road construction involves diverse types of equipment operating for long periods, day and night, often far away from the comfort of a repair and maintenance facility. Milling equipment takes the pressure and abuse of tearing up and removing the old road surface while paving equipment processes the hot mixture of sand, gravel, and oils that makes up a future road surface. All of the equipment depends on numerous motors, gears, bearings, augers, conveyers, and rollers functioning properly. The heat, heavy loads, and abrasiveness of the materials make for one of the toughest equipment environments you can find. One key to making it all work is reliable, high performance lubrication.



### **Specific Areas of Interest**

Rick Ertle, Operations Manager for Performance Paving offered the following: "It is a very tough environment. Lubrication is critical because during maintenance and repair down time we don't make money. One of our most demanding applications involves our Blaw Knox pavers. In this machine there is an auger bar that runs all day distributing a heavy mix of tar, sand, and rock at temperatures that can reach 350 degrees F. In the past we had to replace the 4 bearings on this auger, and the bearings on other machines, every year and sometimes more often. When a bearing replacement was needed during the paving season it was two full days without that machine on the job site. That was very costly.

### **The Micro-Armor Solution**

Mr. Ertle continued, "When introduced to the Micro-Armor greases we were very skeptical, but we trusted the person that recommended it so we gave it a try. When it worked on the augers we knew that this grease was something different. The difference has been remarkable. Since switching to Micro-Armor greases on our pavers, trucks, and other equipment, we have just finished our 5<sup>th</sup> season without a bearing failure. The augers in our pavers run continuously without a problem. We are amazed that there can be so much difference between greases. We thought we were using a high performance, heavy-duty grease, but by switching to Micro-Armor we have been able to reduce downtime and make our equipment last longer. That savings go right to the bottom line." Michigan Paving & Materials now uses Micro-Armor 5000 and 6000 Grease in all of their greasing applications. Micro-Armor 1000 Oil Treatment is used to reduce friction and heat in all gear boxes and Micro-Armor 4000 Spray Lubricant is used on hard to reach areas.

Micro-Armor Advanced Technology Lubricants were designed for the toughest, most extreme conditions. The patented Micro-Armor technology not only provides better lubrication but also fills in the scratches of damaged metal surfaces allowing bearings, gears, chains, augers and other metal surfaces to run smoother and last longer.

Rick Ertle, Operations Manager, summed it up by saying, "by switching to Micro-Armor we have been able to reduce downtime and make our equipment last longer. That savings go right to the bottom line."



**Bluewater Technology Solutions**

1816 River Street  
Jackson, MI 49202  
Phone: (800) 531-2920  
Fax: (810) 320-9556