

Concrete: The Right Choice



for
Harley Davidson

Harley Davidson is the leader in high quality, American made motorcycles. The concrete pavement chosen for the 2008 Harley Davidson dealership built in Columbia, Tennessee at exit 46 off Interstate 65, between Nashville and Chattanooga offers the same longevity, low maintenance, and strength of a Harley Davidson product.

The owners chose to use concrete for their parking lot. They evaluated pricing and concrete was very close in initial cost when compared to the asphalt alternate consisting of a crushed stone base with 3.5" of asphalt surface mix, having a structural number of 2.38. Mr. Bill Isom, general manager of Harley Davidson in Columbia, Tennessee commented, "The original design called for asphalt but after assessing the maintenance cost of asphalt, such as resealing and/or resurfacing, and knowing that concrete has a

track record of longer life and little maintenance, we determined that concrete was no doubt the cheaper alternative...The initial cost was almost dead even between the two, especially with oil prices and gas prices being so high." The six-inch concrete pavement installed yielded a structural number of 3. The owners received a significant cost savings in addition to a structurally sound pavement lasting 30 years.

The property was situated in a rural area, and adequate lighting was a necessity for the owners. The parking lot will serve a dual role as an entertainment and concert venue. Mr. Isom remarked, "We used the same ... lights that were intended for the original asphalt design, and the lot lights up at least as much at night as it does during the day because of the light [colored] concrete." Ground-granulated blast furnace slag, an industrial by-product, is a recycled material used in

concrete to contribute to higher light reflectivity; therefore, making concrete an environmentally friendly alternative.

Nashville Ready Mix supplied the concrete. Mr. Greg Lunn and ACI Certified Flatwork Finishers with New South Concrete Construction placed, finished, and jointed the concrete for the parking lot and drive areas. The six inch thick concrete pavement comprised 12,000 square yards equaling 2,000 cubic yards of concrete and 450 tons of Portland Cement. The jointing plan recommended 12' x 12' panels for load transfer, crack control, and aesthetic purposes. The integral curb and gutter was installed simultaneously to create a thickened edge and strengthen the concrete pavement. This feature also increased the pavement's

load-carrying capacity. In choosing to place all concrete monolithically, this eliminated the expense of hiring another work crew and significantly lowered the Harley Davidson dealership's installation cost.

Satisfied customers and top-notch quality are priorities of Harley Davidson. Concrete pavement provided by Tennessee's concrete paving industry will give the dealership's owners many years of service with low maintenance and no lost business due to down time for pavement repairs. Providing a lower initial cost, saving on maintenance expenses over the life of the pavement, and giving three times the longevity of alternative pavements, concrete was the right choice for this Harley Davidson dealership.



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