

## A38 Bristol Road South, Glasstex<sup>®</sup> overlay reinforcement Birmingham, UK, 1999

**Glasstex<sup>®</sup> was successfully installed directly on to the milled surface minimising construction time and traffic disruption**



### BENEFITS TO CLIENT

Glasstex<sup>®</sup> was successfully installed directly on to the milled surface minimising construction time and traffic disruption. The asphalt overlay life has been extended and 8 years on the pavement shows no sign of distress

### THE PROBLEM

The existing heavily trafficked asphalt road was badly cracked due to movement of the sub strata. The client wished to keep traffic disruption to the minimum and so required a deep plane and resurface solution rather than full-depth reconstruction. This would allow one lane at a time to be closed, planing a section then resurfacing back up to binder level each day in time to reopen for the rush hour period.

### THE SOLUTION

The existing asphalt was planed off and Glasstex was machine installed and covered with binder course and finally surfacing back to the previous finished road level. The Glasstex composite consists of a paving felt that acts as a strain alleviating membrane interlayer (SAMI) which is factory stitched to a grid of high tenacity glass fibre yarns that provide additional tensile strength to the overlay.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The existing asphalt was milled off to a depth of between 150-200 mm at various sections. 200 pen bitumen spray was then applied and Glasstex installed directly on to the planed surface of the old road base. 28,000m<sup>2</sup> of Glasstex was then installed using a purpose built lay-down machine for speed and accuracy by specialist installer AGS Ltd, now operating as Foster Contracting Ltd. An asphalt base was then installed and the traffic flow was then switched to repeat the exercise prior to laying the final surfacing.



Old asphalt is planed off



Cracked asphalt before the repair



Paving directly on to the Glasstex



No sign of cracking after 8 years in service

George Underhill, Birmingham City Resident Engineer reported in 2007, "the Glasstex has been in place for some 8 years on one of the City's busiest arterial routes and is performing well".

## CONTRACT DETAILS

Client: Birmingham City Council

Contractor: Cemex UK Construction Services Ltd (formerly RMC Surfacing Limited)

Asphalt Reinforcement Installer: Foster Contracting Limited

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