

# ***GEOTECHNICAL***

## **FABRICS REPORT**

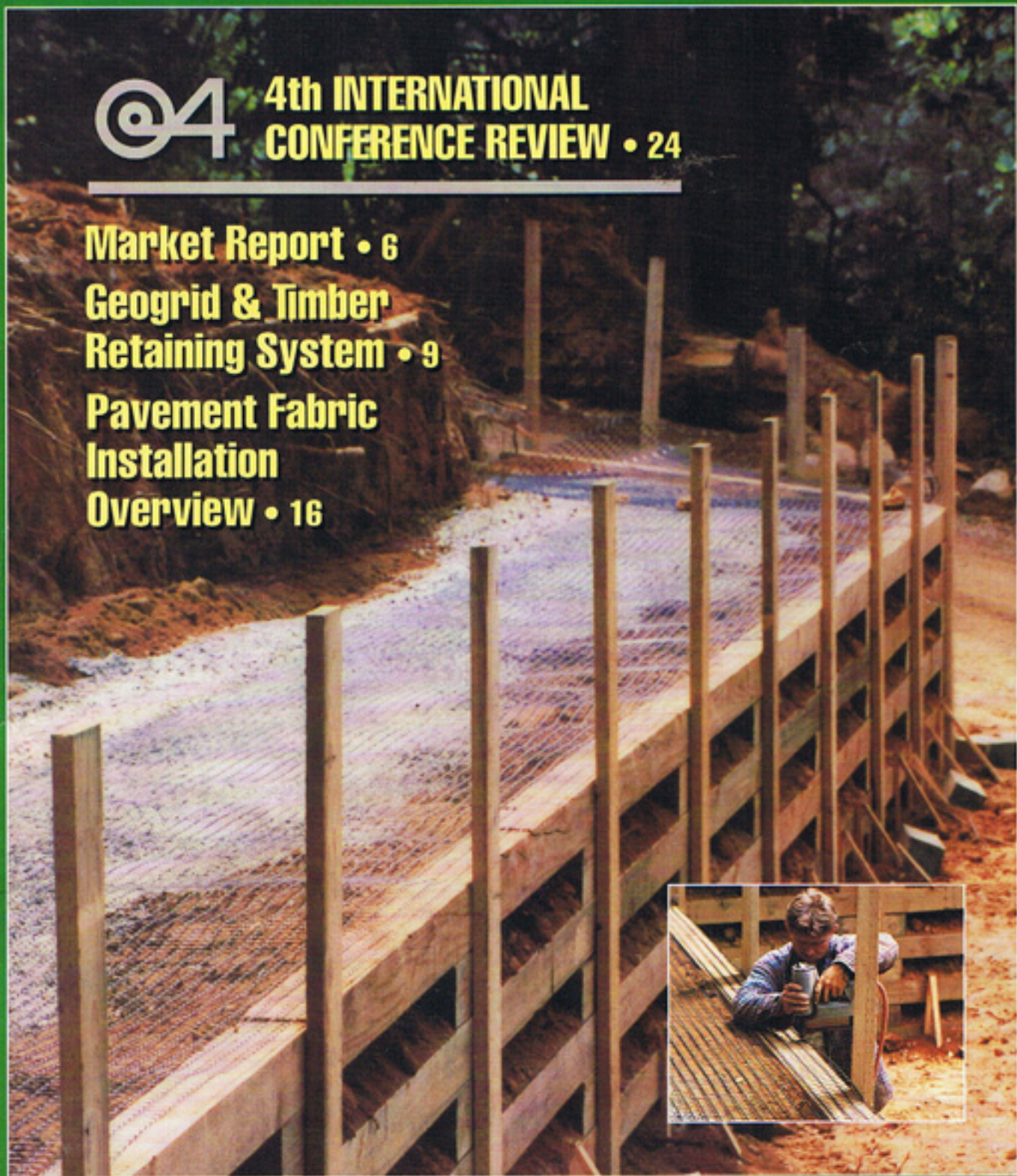
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## Summary

In the past, paving fabric has been controversial as an effective material for asphalt overlays. It has taken nearly 20 years for agencies such as Caltrans and the Texas DOT to evaluate fabric performance. There is no question that fabric improves the performance of overlays and will continue to grow in volume of usage. The fact that paving fabric has been found to be effective in test sections is largely due to tightly controlled, proper installation procedures rigidly adhered to for oil temperature, spread rate, fabric placement, wrinkles and overlaps. To assure the continued excellent performance record for paving fabric the most important factor will be the enforcement of installation specifications and guidelines.

## Conclusions

1. Paving fabric interlayer membrane systems have a 20 year track record of success in the United States in mild climates, with debatable results in cold climates.
2. Paving fabric provides an effective moisture barrier.
3. Paving fabric retards reflection of alligator cracking in new AC overlays.
4. Paving fabric is not effective in reducing transverse (thermal strain) reflective cracking.
5. Paving fabric will lengthen the life of an equivalent thickness overlay or permit the reduction by as much as 0.10 foot (3.0 cm) of the new AC wearing course, but not less than the deflection calculations.
6. Only nonwoven, needlepunched, heatbonded on one side paving fabric should be specified.

7. Both hot asphalt cements and emulsions are effective in the membrane process as an oil.
8. Thicker paving fabrics require more oil. Thinner paving fabrics require less oil.
9. Paving fabric should not be placed into either an emulsion or a hot oil until the emulsion or hot oil is set up or cooled and is ready to accept the fabric.
10. Proper installation procedures are critical for optimum performance.
11. Mechanized fabric placement is faster than hand placement.
12. Minimum asphalt wearing course is 1 1/2 inches - 2 inches (3.81 cm-5.08 cm) in ideal paving temperatures, and should be a minimum of 2 inches in less than ideal temperatures.
13. Paving fabrics are recyclable in both hot and cold milling processes.
14. Paving fabric can save or stretch available construction dollars.

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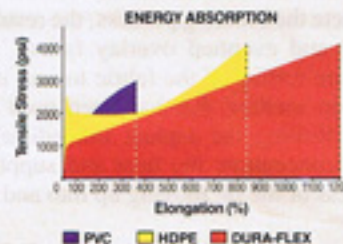
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### About the Author:

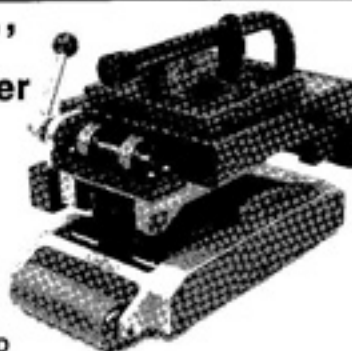
Mouque Barazone is president of Geotextile Apparatus Co. He has been involved in the use, installation, distribution and consulting of geotextiles for 15 years. He is an inventor who holds six U.S. patents with international patents pending on paving fabric installation machines. He has other patents pending for fabric unloading roll pullers.

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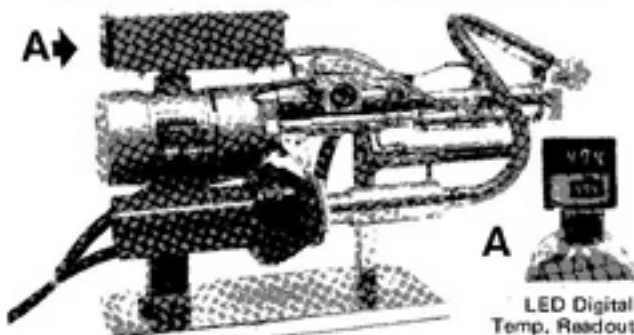


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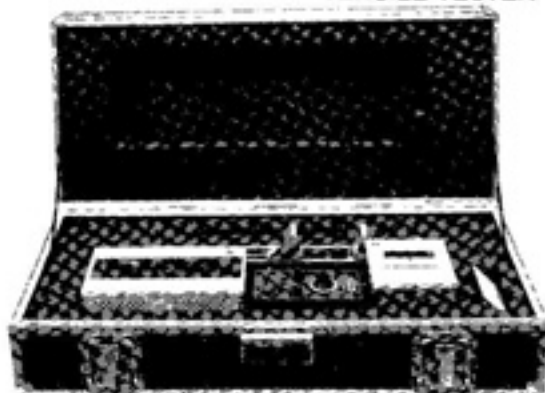
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