

Big Award for a Compact Machine

by Michelle Gifford



Terry Hansen, Asphalt Zipper CEO (center), shown receiving NOVA Award from CIF officers

The Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) has chosen Asphalt Zipper as the 2005 winner of the coveted NOVA Award, the “Nobel Prize of the construction industry”, according to CIF Founding Chairman Roger W. Lane.

Asphalt Zipper was presented the award, November 8, 2005, at the awards banquet for the Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) National Conference in Naples, Florida with over 500 leaders of the construction industry in attendance. Asphalt Zipper CEO Terry Hansen and inventor Jim Maxwell were both honored guests at the gala and received the award on behalf of Asphalt Zipper.

Asphalt Zipper reclamation-recycling attachments were chosen because of their unique ability to harness the power and productivity of much larger machines into a portable and affordable attachment.

The Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) is an international, non-profit organization formed in 1987 to recognize and encourage innovation that improves quality and reduces the cost of construction. The CIF has presented NOVA Awards to innovations involving 12

countries that have proven to improve construction quality and cost. Since the award's beginning, there have been more than 500 nominations from more than 20 different countries.



“There is no other award like it,” said Robert I. Carr, Ph.D., PE, Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Michigan, and co-founder of Construction Innovation Forum (CIF) and the NOVA Award. “It isn’t bound by any nation. The key thing is, there is a thorough investigation into each nomination; so winning doesn’t depend on the marketing program of a company.”

Carr was not surprised when he found out that the Asphalt Zipper had won the award.

“The idea that the Asphalt Zipper was in the range of other tools that contractors, utilities and municipalities



Asphalt Zipper model AZ-360 shown recycling in-place, a 200 x12 foot patch. The site was recycled and ready for paving in less than 2 hours.



The Asphalt Zipper can open more trench in 30 minutes than most crews can lay pipe in an eight hour day. Many construction companies use one Zipper to service multiple crews because of its speed and portability.

can specialize with, struck me as something that was very needed," he said. "It's simple to operate and would make a great addition to those who are doing that kind of work. Obviously there are big milling machines and I have seen them operate, but I have always been a proponent as much for a small contractor or municipality as for big projects. There isn't anything that I know of that is quite like it."

Each nominated innovation is judged by a CIF appointed jury on its effect upon the construction process. The innovation must be a proven success. It must have had a positive, important effect on construction or service, to improve quality or reduce cost. The innovation also must be a significant advance, not just a natural evolution of existing methods, common sense or good practice.

One of the jurors who investigated the Asphalt Zipper, Dr. Charles R. Glagola Associate Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Florida and former contractor, reported in his NOVA Award investigative report that the Asphalt Zipper was an answer to the problems of many contractors and municipalities and would have helped him when he was a contractor.

"If I had had a Zipper back in those days, I would have

been able to satisfy these governmental engineering inspectors and also beat the pants off of the competition, hands down," Glagola wrote.

The Asphalt Zipper is a high-powered reclamation/recycling attachment that pulverizes asphalt into one-inch minus material that can be reused as road-base or backfill. It does street patches, full road repairs and utility trenches through asphalt surfaces. The Asphalt Zipper is a portable, affordable alternative to larger, expensive milling machines. It makes full-depth reclamation/recycling accessible to most municipalities, counties, DOT's and contractors at a fraction of the cost.

"It is a great honor to receive this award and have others recognize our efforts to improve the methods of our industry," said Terry Hansen, CEO of Asphalt Zipper.

For more information on the Asphalt Zipper please visit www.asphaltzipper.com or for more information about the CIF and the NOVA Award visit www.cif.org.