

RECYCLING AND REINSTATEMENT INITIATIVES WORKING GROUP
WEST MIDLANDS HAUC
INFORMATION SHEET

Promoter of trial	Shropshire Recycling Services (SRS), Bridgenorth, Shropshire & Wrekin Construction Ltd, Shifnal, Shropshire
Contact	Charlie Penn (SRS) 01746 766791, 07730 956644 Geoff Martin (Wrekin) 01952 468005
Nature of trial	Trial of Trenchmix by Transco and McNicholas for trench backfill in Tixall Road, Stafford, Summer 2000. Trenchmix is a mixture of recycled fines, pfa and a small amount of lime. More information can be found on Trenchmix on the UKQAA web site.
Trial details	Approximately 5 tonne of Trenchmix was trialed by McNicholas in lieu of foamed concrete. The Trenchmix was supplied by Shropshire Recycling Services from their Bridgenorth depot produced in a mixing plant supplied and operated by Wrekin Construction Ltd. The Trenchmix was used in a trench approximately 0.7m deep and 0.4m wide centrally located in the Stafford bound lane of Tixall Road. The total depth of Trenchmix was brought up in 200/300mm layers and compacted using a Wacker 42Y. During this work, the weather was very warm with the temperature approximately 20 degrees Celsius. The following day, the Trenchmix was covered by 60/40 of conventional BC/WC. Full test results for the trial can be obtained from Engineering Services Laboratory, Staffordshire County Council.
Results	The laying gang found the material very easy to use preferring it to Type1. Such was the finish and stability of the material, the basecourse and wearing course could have been laid the same day as the Trenchmix placement. Some 6 months later, during which time performance had been good with no signs of instability, and following the cold weather and snow between Xmas and New Year 2000, rutting was noted within the Trenchmix section of the trench. Investigation revealed that the top lift of the Trenchmix had failed and was saturated. This was removed and reinstated by McNicholas. Subsequent examination reveals that the Trenchmix did not withstand the frosty conditions through inadequate mixing during the production stage. The problem with the mixing plant has since been rectified.