



**icpi**

Interlocking Concrete  
Pavement Institute

# Interlocking Concrete Pavement: Attractive, Resilient, Economical

**Robert Bowers, P. Eng.**  
Director of Engineering

Introduction to Interlocking Concrete Pavement – Module 1

# About ICPI

# Who is ICPI?

- Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute
- Founded in 1993
- The trade association representing the interlocking concrete paving industry in U.S. and Canada
- Develop and distribute technical information for design professionals and installers
- Over 1,000 members.



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Interlocking Concrete  
Pavement Institute

Pavers in Every Project!

- ICPI engages in a broad range of technical, marketing, educational, government relations and communications activities

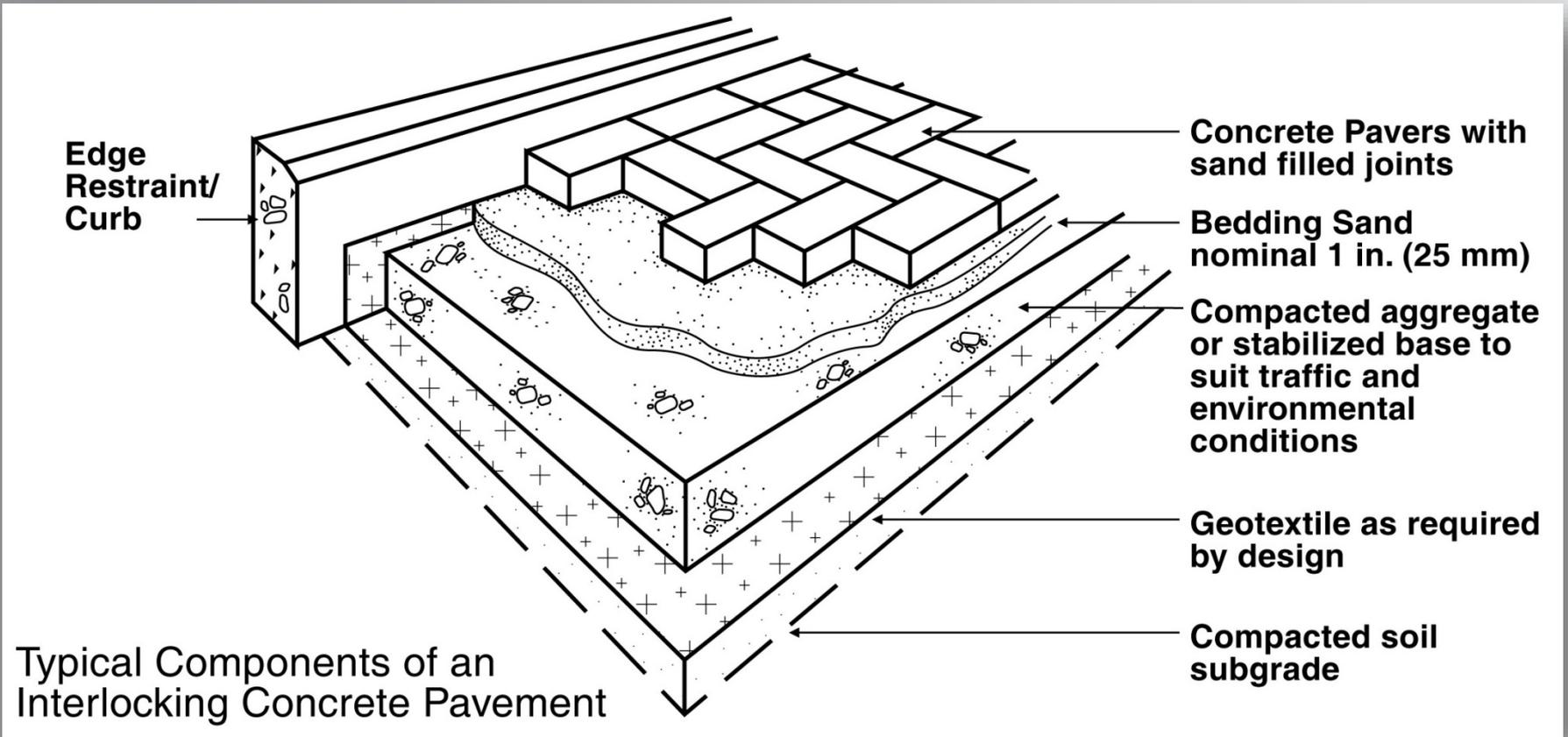
# Our Mission

To deliver education and technical guidance leading to awareness, acceptance and use of segmental concrete pavement systems in the United States and Canada.

Advancing the Urban Surface Evolution

# Interlocking Concrete Pavement

# ICP System Components



# Product Standards

- Canadian Standards Association (CSA)
  - CSA-A231.2 Precast Concrete Pavers
- Test requirements:
  - Compressive strength (Production or Field)
  - Freeze-thaw durability in deicing salt solution
  - Dimensional tolerances



**CSA  
Group**

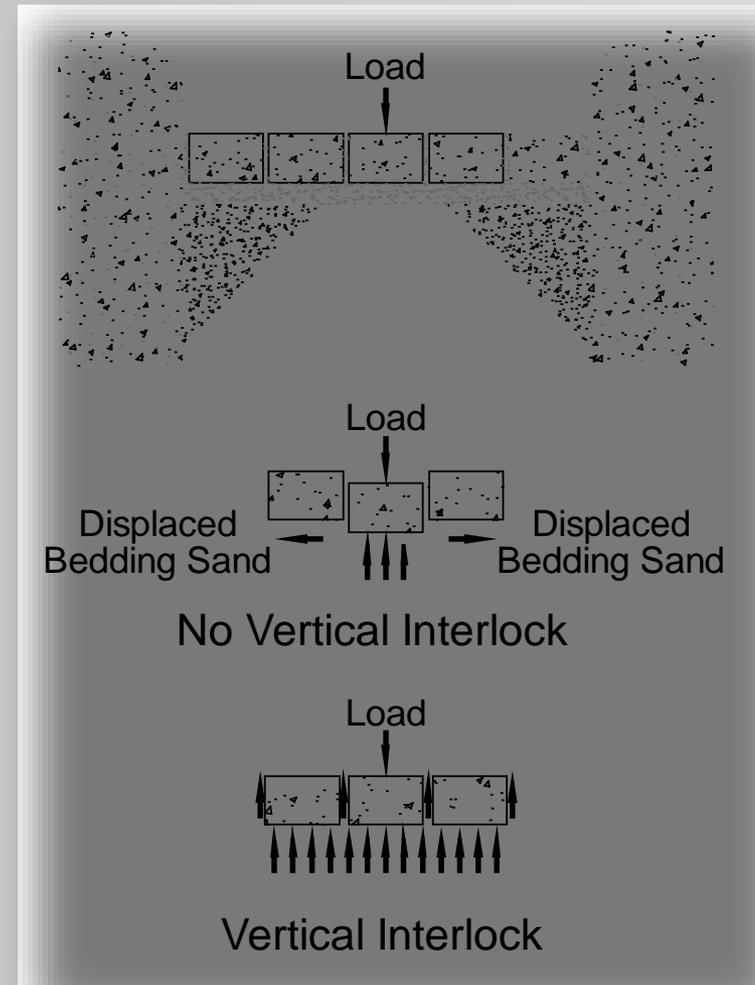
# How do pavers work?

- Flexible behavior with concrete surface
- Minimized stress cracking on surface
- **Interlock:** inability of a paver to move independently of its neighbours



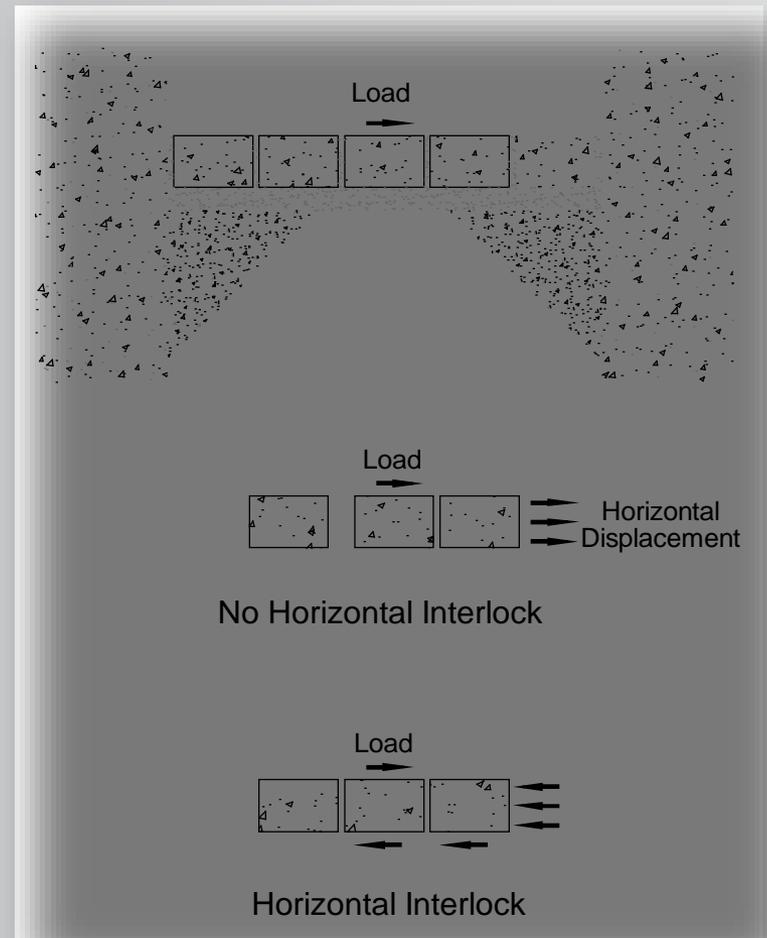
# Vertical Interlock

- Achieved by shear transfer of loads to surrounding units through sand in the joints

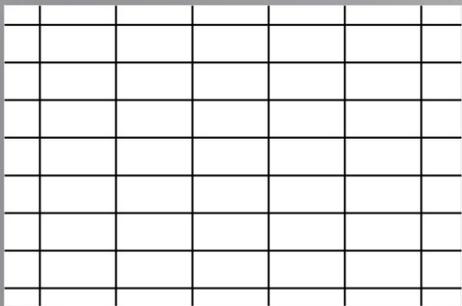


# Horizontal Interlock

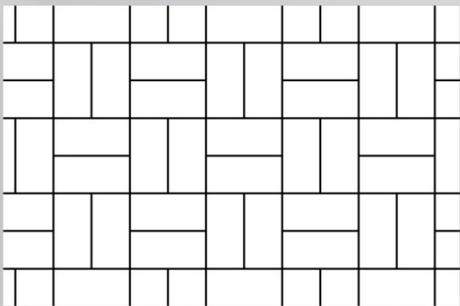
- Achieved with laying patterns that disperse forces from braking, turning and accelerating tires



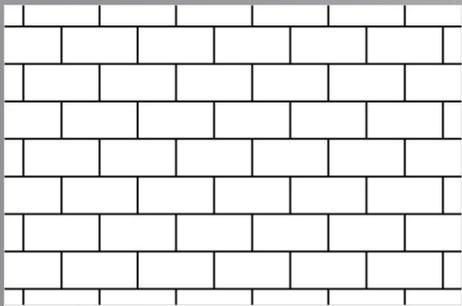
# Basic Patterns



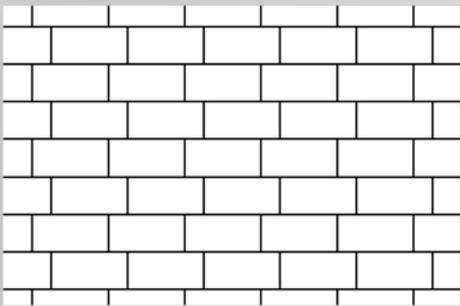
Stack Bond



Parquet

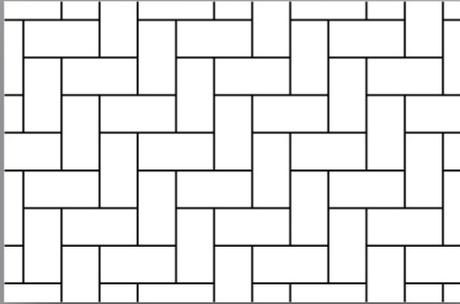


Running Bond

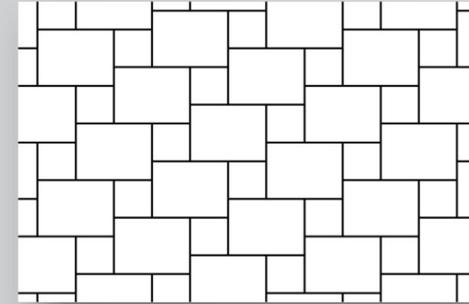


Mod. Running Bond

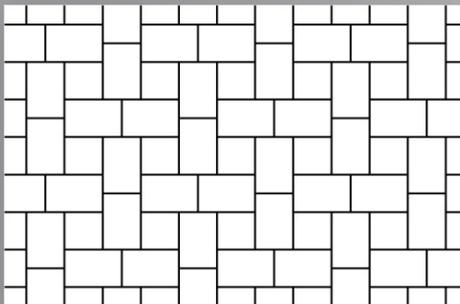
# Basic Patterns



Herringbone



Mod. Herringbone

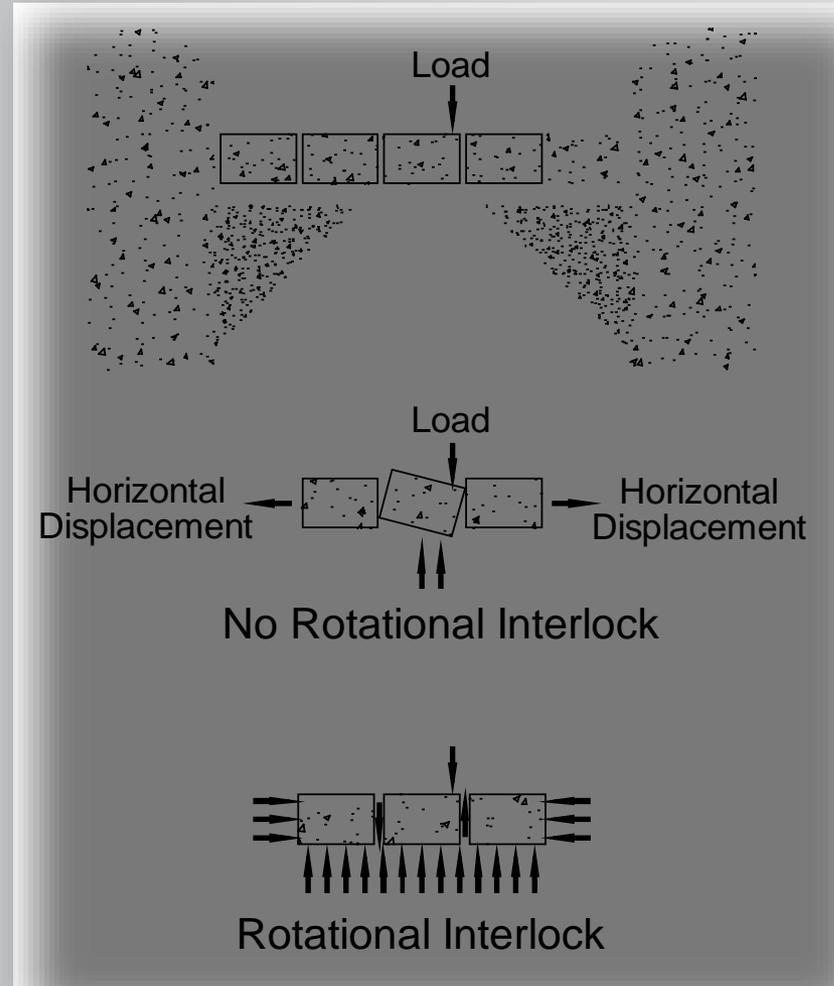


K Pattern

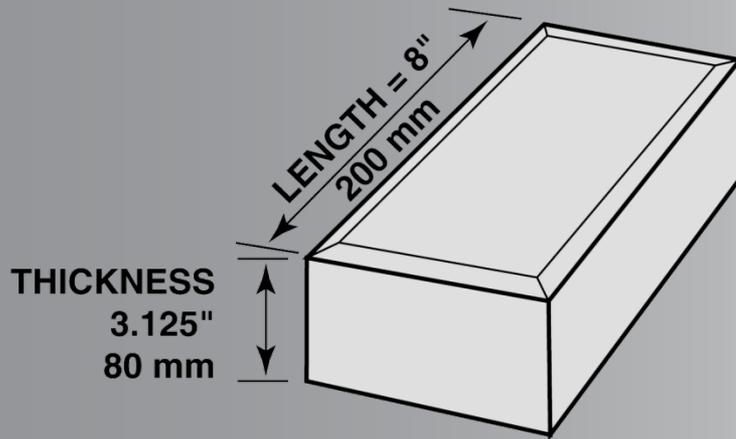
- Shorter, discontinuous bond lines, not aligned with traffic provide the greatest strength

# Rotational Interlock

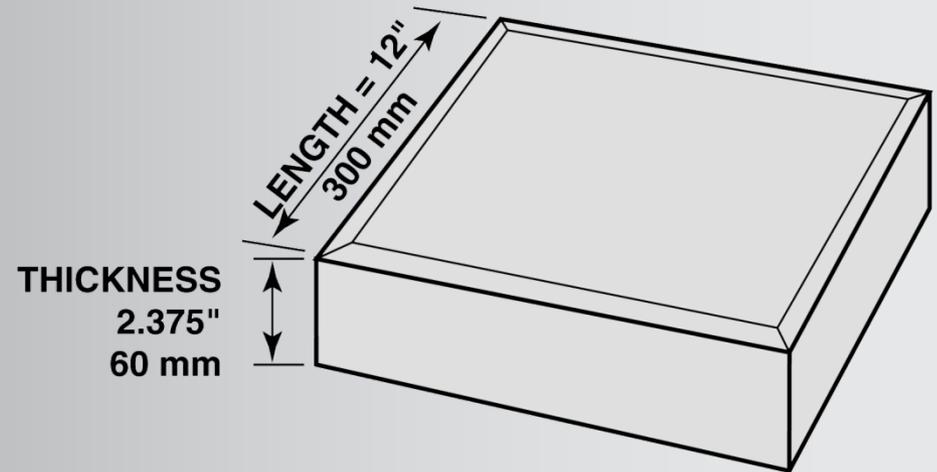
- Achieved by thickness of paver and confinement due to edge restraint.



# Aspect Ratio for Different Applications



**CONCRETE PAVER**  
ASPECT RATIO =  $8" \div 3.125"$   
= 2.5 : 1



**PAVING SLAB**  
ASPECT RATIO =  $12" \div 2.375"$   
= 5 : 1

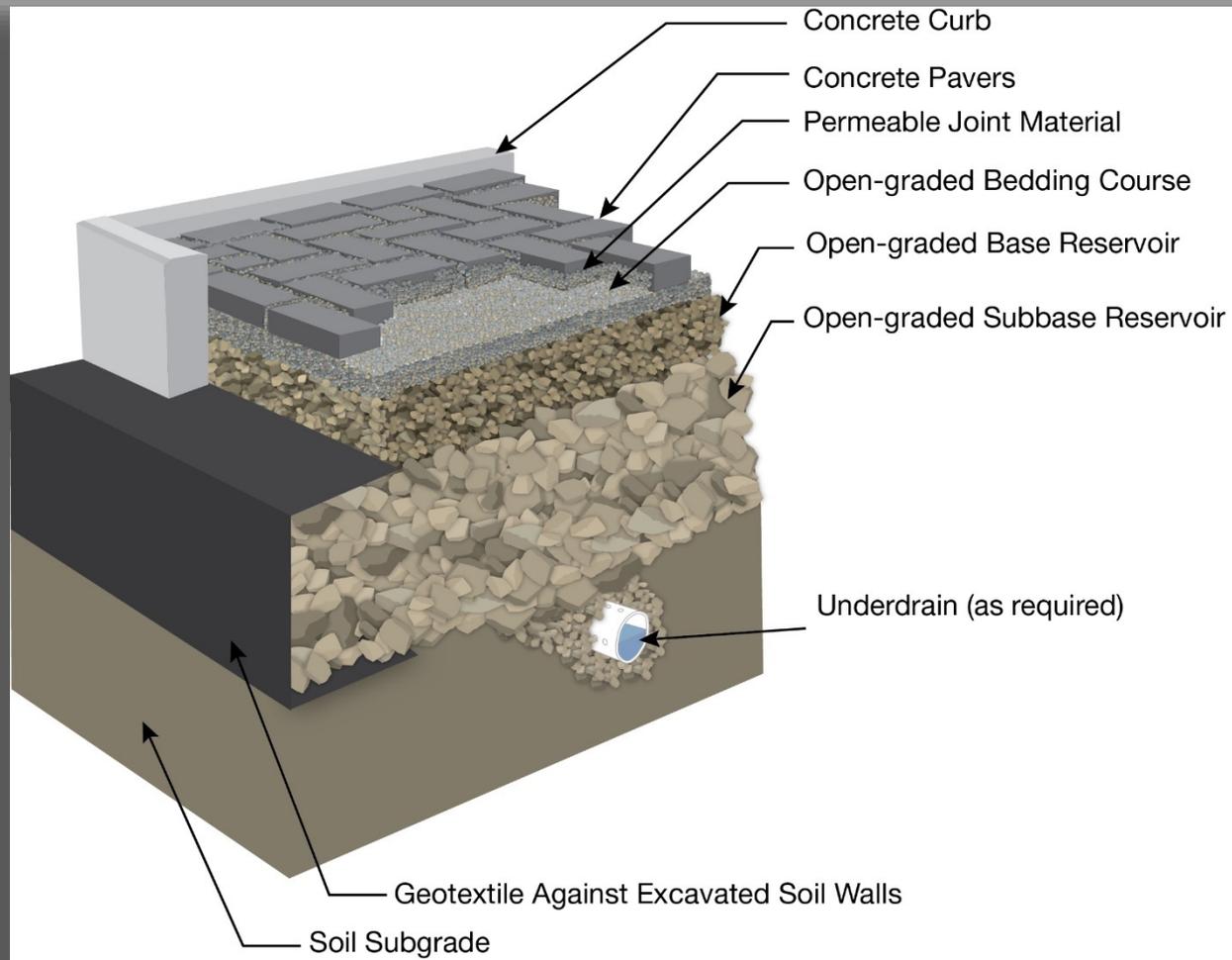
# Aspect Ratio for Different Applications

		<b>Pedestrian</b>	<b>Residential Driveways</b>	<b>Parking Lots and Streets</b>
<b>3:1 or less</b>	Higher rotational and vertical interlock	•	•	•
<b>Between 3:1 and 4:1</b>	Moderate rotational and vertical interlock	•	•	
<b>4:1 or more</b>	Reduced rotational and vertical interlock	•		

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# Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement

# PICP System Components



# Subbase Aggregate

- ASTM No. 2 crushed aggregate
  - Min. porosity (volume of voids/ total volume of base) > 0.32
  - Water storage capacity in void spaces = 30% to 40%
  - Minimum 6 in. (150 mm) thick layer
  - Adds stability during subbase/base spreading & compaction
  - Can eliminate geotextile over subgrade

ASTM No. 2	
Sieve Size	Percent Passing
75 mm (3 in.)	100
63 mm (2½ in.)	90 to 100
50 mm (2 in.)	35 to 70
37.5 mm (1½ in.)	0 to 15
19 mm (¾ in.)	0 to 5



# Base Aggregate

- ASTM No. 57 crushed aggregate or similar
  - Min. porosity (volume of voids/ total volume of base) > 0.32
  - Storage capacity in its void spaces = 30% to 40%
  - Min. 4 in. (100 mm) thick layer
  - Compacted No. 57 layer above “chokes” into No. 2 layer

ASTM No. 57	
Sieve Size	Percent Passing
37.5 mm (1½ in.)	100
25 mm (1 in.)	95 to 100
12.5 mm (1/2 in.)	25 to 60
4.75 mm (No. 4)	0 to 10
2.36 mm (No. 8)	0 to 5



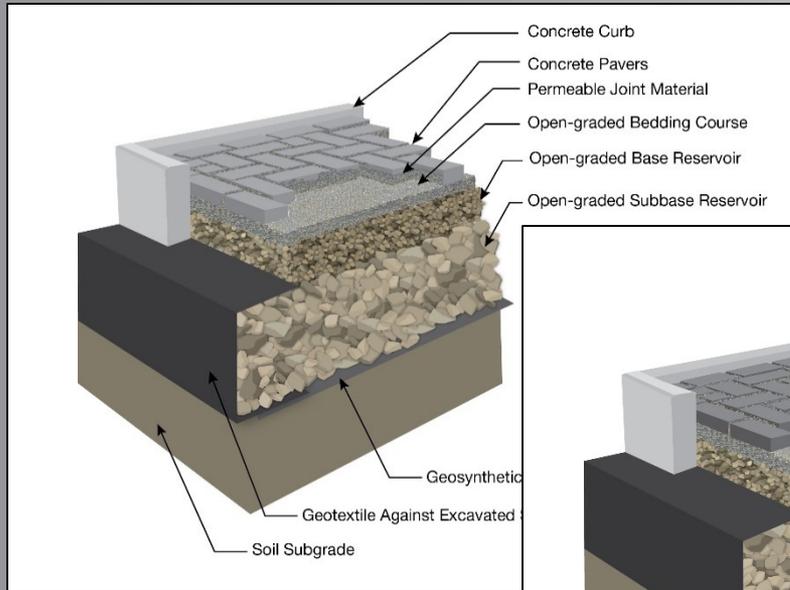
# Bedding and Joint Aggregate

- ASTM No. 8 crushed stone
  - Max. thickness 2 in. (50 mm) prior to compaction
  - Filtration rate ~500 to 1,000 in./hr
  - Stores water, but not included in storage calculations - buffer
  - Beds or “chokes” into No. 57 stone layer underneath
  - Smaller washed stone may be used to fill narrow joints

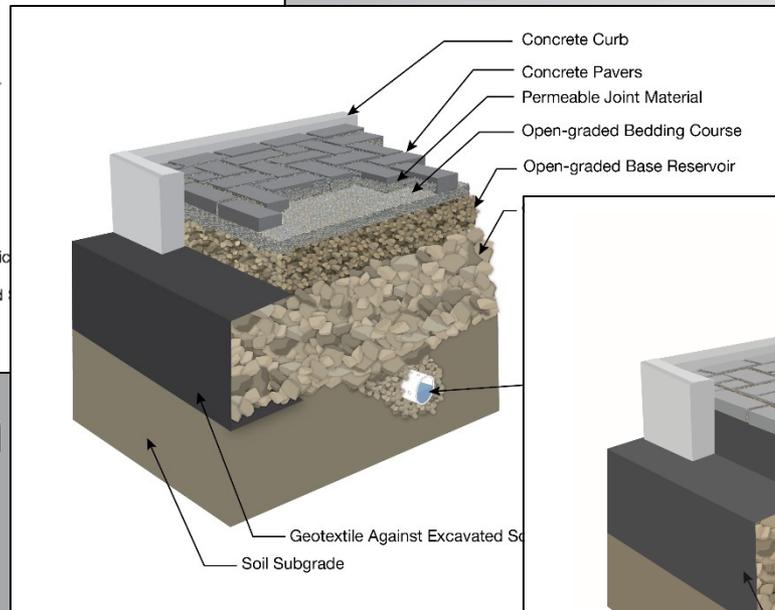
ASTM No. 8	
Sieve Size	Percent Passing
12.5 mm (1/2 in.)	100
9.5 mm (3/8 in.)	85 to 100
4.75 mm (No. 4)	10 to 30
2.36 mm (No. 8)	0 to 10
1.16 mm (No. 16)	0 to 5



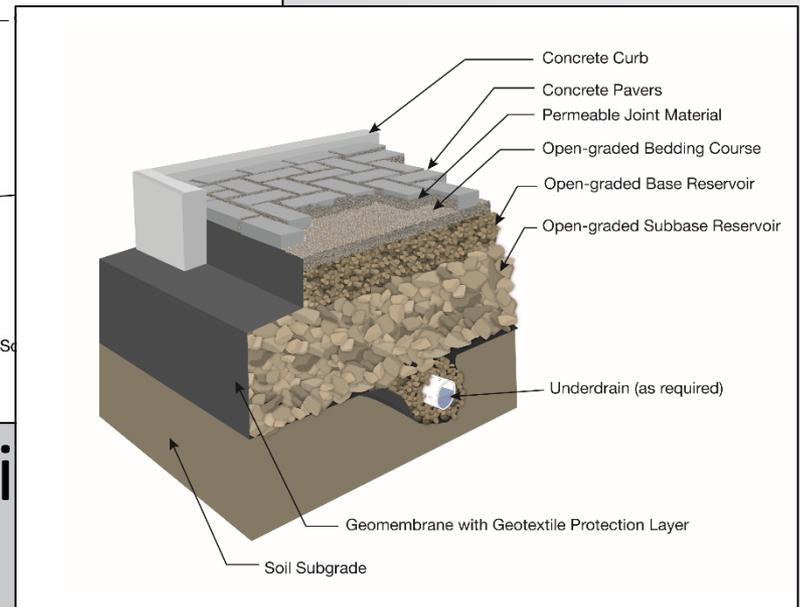
# Different assemblies for different objectives



Full Infiltration



Partial Infiltrati



No Infiltration

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# Education

# ICPI Certified Installer

## Phase 1: Earn the CPI Record of Completion

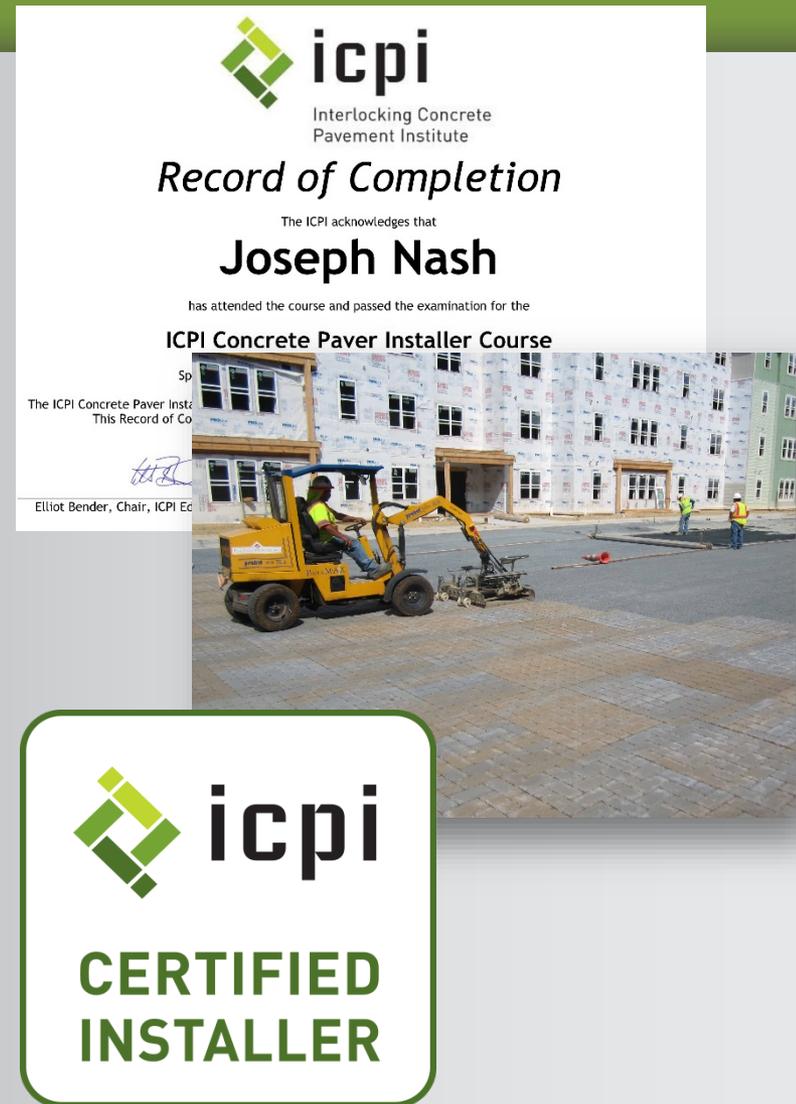
- Complete 2-day Concrete Paver Installer course and pass the exam
- Does not expire

## Phase 2: Become an ICPI Certified Installer

- Hold a ICP Record of Completion
- Document ICP experience of 5 projects & 10,000 SF

## Phase 3: Maintain ICPI Certified Installer

- Earn continuing education credits: minimum of 8 hours over 2 years
- Renew certification biennially



# ICPI Installer Specialist Designations

## Commercial

- Take Commercial Paver Technical Course & pass the exam
- Document installation of min. 50,000 sf of commercial projects
- Maintain certification to maintain designation with continuing education



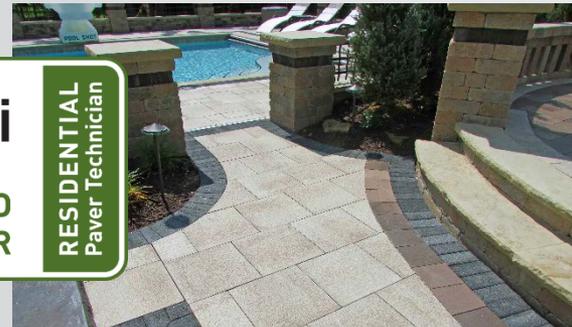
## Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement

- Take PICP course & pass the exam
- Document installation of min. 10 projects & 50,000 sf of PICP projects
- Maintain certification to maintain designation with continuing education



## Advanced Residential

- Take Advanced Residential course & pass the exam
- Document installation of min. 50,000 sf of residential projects
- Maintain certification to maintain designation with continuing education



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# Resources

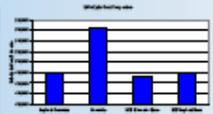
# ICPI Manuals

**APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
TRANSPORTATION

## LIFE-CYCLE COST MANAGEMENT OF INTERLOCKING CONCRETE BLOCK PAVEMENTS

### METHODOLOGY REPORT

ICPI  
**LIFE-CYCLE COST ANALYSIS**



February 5, 2008

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## INTERLOCKING CONCRETE PAVEMENT DISTRESS MANUAL



ICPI  
INTERLOCKING CONCRETE PAVEMENT INSTITUTE

Tools for condition assessment and pavement management

## PERMEABLE INTERLOCKING CONCRETE PAVEMENTS

Selection • Design • Construction • Maintenance

David R. Smith  
Fourth Edition

ICPI  
INTERLOCKING CONCRETE PAVEMENT INSTITUTE



# ICPI Tech Specs

## Tech Spec

### Construction of Interlocking Concrete Pavement

#### Purpose

This technical bulletin gives construction guidelines for design professionals and contractors of interlocking concrete pavements. The bulletin reviews the steps in constructing a concrete pavement structure is commonly used for pedestrian areas and applications. Pedestrian areas, driveways, and areas to be paved with units 2 7/8" thick. Streets and industrial pavements should be paved with units at least 3 7/8 in. (95 mm) thick.

It is recommended that ICPI Certified Installers be used for the construction of interlocking concrete pavement. Individuals who have attended training and have demonstrated their knowledge of the guidelines, materials and methods specific to interlocking concrete pavement should be on the list of Certified Installers on [www.icpi.org](http://www.icpi.org).

Aggregate bases stabilized with asphalt or cement are recommended under very heavy loads, and over saturated soil subgrades. These are sometimes used where aggregate bases are not available or when a stabilized base is more economical than unstabilized aggregate. See Tech Spec 4—Structural Design of Interlocking Concrete Pavement for Roads and Parking Lots when looking for additional information regarding the structural design of the base. Tech Spec 4 is based on the design methods detailed in 58-10 Structural Design of Interlocking Concrete Pavement for Municipal Streets and Roadways.

Concrete pavers made in the U.S. should meet the requirements established in the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) C 936, Standard Specification for Interlocking Concrete Paving Units. Requirements of this specification include a minimum average compressive strength of 55 MPa, average absorption no greater than 5%, and at least 50 freeze-thaw cycles with average water

© 1995 ICPI Tech Spec No. 2 Interlocking Concrete Pavement

## Tech Spec 4

### Structural Design of Interlocking Concrete Pavement for Roads and Parking Lots

#### History

The concept of interlocking concrete pavement dates back to the roads of the Roman Empire. See Figure 1. They were constructed with tightly-fitted stone paving units set on a compacted aggregate base. The modern version, concrete pavers, is manufactured with close tolerances to help ensure interlock. Concrete pavers were developed in the Netherlands in the late 1940s as a replacement for clay brick streets. A strong, millennia-old tradition of segmental paving in Europe enabled interlocking concrete pavement to spread quickly. It is now established as a conventional means of paving there with some four billion ft<sup>2</sup> (400 million m<sup>2</sup>) installed annually. Concrete pavers came to North America in the 1970s. They have been used successfully in numerous residential, commercial, municipal, port and airport applications. This Tech Spec covers the structural design of interlocking concrete pavement over an aggregate base as well as asphalt and cement stabilized bases, asphalt concrete and Portland cement concrete bases.



Figure 1. The Roman Appian Way: early interlocking pavement

#### Advantages

The paving system offers the advantages of concrete materials and flexible asphalt pavement. As high-strength concrete, the units have high resistance to freeze-thaw cycles and deicing salts, high abrasion and skid resistance, no damage

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## Tech Spec 5

### Cleaning, Sealing and Maintenance of Interlocking Concrete Pavement

When properly installed, interlocking concrete pavement provides very low maintenance and provides an attractive surface. Under foot and vehicular traffic, they can be subject to dirt, stains and wear. This is common to all pavement types. This technical bulletin addresses various steps to ensure the original appearance. These steps include removing dirt, cleaning, plus joint stabilization or sealing if required.

Stains on specific areas should be removed first. Stains on the entire pavement should be removed next to remove any efflorescence. A newly cleaned pavement can be treated with a sealer. Sealers specifically for concrete pavers should be used to achieve maximum results, use stain removers, clean sealers, and sealers specifically for concrete pavers. Sealers should be purchased from a manufacturer, contractor, dealer or distributor. Sealers should be applied by a member of the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute.

#### Removing Stains

Commercial stain removers available specifically for concrete pavers provide a high degree of certainty in removing various kinds of stains can be removed while minimizing the risk of staining or damaging the pavers. The container label should be read carefully.

A list of stains that should be removed includes: oil, grease, tire marks, and other stains. Sealers should be applied after cleaning. Sealers should be applied to the entire pavement. Sealers should be applied to the entire pavement. Sealers should be applied to the entire pavement.

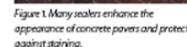


Figure 1. Many sealers enhance the appearance of concrete pavers and protect against staining.

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and accelerating vehicles. Herringbone patterns are the most effective laying patterns for maintaining interlock (see Figure 3). Testing has shown that these patterns offer greater structural capacity and resistance to lateral movement than

## Tech Spec 6



### Reinstatement of Interlocking Concrete Pavements

#### Introduction

Concrete pavers can act as a zipper in the pavement. When the need arises to make underground repairs, interlocking concrete pavements can be removed and replaced using the same material. Unlike asphalt or poured-in-place concrete, segmental pavement can be opened and closed without using jack hammers on the surface and with less construction

equipment. This results in no ugly patches and no reduction in pavement service life. In addition, no curing means fast repairs with reduced user delays and related costs.

The process of reusing the same paving units is called reinstatement. This Tech Spec covers how to reinstate or "unzip and zip" interlocking concrete pavement.

The following step-by-step procedure applies to any interlocking concrete pavement, including pedestrian areas, parking lots, driveways, streets, industrial, port and airport pavements.

#### Step 1—Locate Underground Utilities in the Area to be Excavated

The location and depth of existing utilities should be established prior to excavating. Many localities have one telephone number to call for obtaining marked utility locations. Set cones, traffic signs, or barricades around the area to be excavated according to local and state or provincial standards.

Determine and mark the area of pavers to be removed. Remove pavers a few feet (~0.8 m) wider on each side of the trench opening.

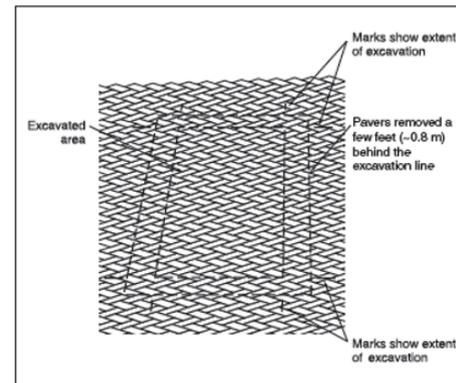


Figure 1. Pavement markings show the extent of paver removal and trench area.

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# ICPI Tech Spes

## Tech Spec

### Bedding Sand Selection for Pavements in Vehicular Applications

Bedding sands are a critical component of all sand-set structural concrete paving systems. Especially for vehicular applications, specifiers and contractors need to consider bedding sand selection. While gradation is an important consideration, other characteristics should be assessed in order to ensure long-term pavement performance. This technical bulletin examines these characteristics and provides guidance to specifiers and contractors.

#### Background

Bedding sand provides four main functions. It beds the pavers during installation; helps initialize interlock among pavers; provides a structural component for the system described in ICPI Tech Spec 4 *Structural Design of Interlocking Concrete Pavement for Roads and Parking Lots*; and facilitates drainage of water that infiltrates through the joints. Typical specifications require bedding sands to conform to ASTM C33.

ASTM C33	
Sieve Size	Percent Passing
3/8 in. (9.5 mm)	100
No. 4 (4.75 mm)	95 to 100
No. 8 (2.36 mm)	80 to 100
No. 16 (1.18 mm)	50 to 85
No. 30 (0.6 mm)	25 to 60
No. 50 (0.3 mm)	5 to 30
No. 100 (0.15 mm)	0 to 10
No. 200 (0.075 mm)	0 to 1 <sup>1</sup>

Note 1: Bedding sands should conform to ASTM C33 or CSA A23.1 with additional limitations on the No. 200 (0.075 mm) sieve passing the 80 µm sieve from 3% to 1%.

Table 1. Gradation for Bedding Sand

<sup>1</sup>Although the ASTM equivalent for the No. 200 sieve size is French (ANFOR) standard equivalent sieve size of 80 microns.

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## Tech Spec 18

### Construction of Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavement Systems

#### INTRODUCTION

Permeable interlocking concrete pavement (PICP) is recognized by federal and state stormwater and transportation agencies as a Best Management Practice (BMP) and Low Impact Development (LID) tool to reduce runoff and water pollution. In addition, PICP offers unique design opportunities for addressing combined sewer overflows with green alleys and streets, as well as use in parking lots and pedestrian surfaces. Traditional stormwater management solutions focus on collecting, concentrating and centralizing the disposal of stormwater. As a key BMP and LID tool, PICP helps disconnect, decentralize and more widely distribute runoff through infiltration, detention, filtering and treatment.

The Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) provides a comprehensive, 92-page manual entitled *Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavements*, which covers design, specifications, construction and maintenance. This manual is available on [www.icpi.org](http://www.icpi.org) and provides extensive information from academic research and practical field experience. This

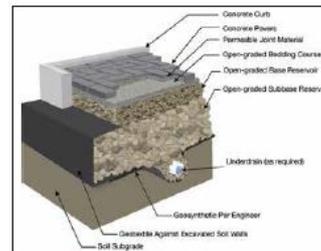


Figure 1. PICP typical cross section.

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## Tech Spec 23



### Maintenance Guide for Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavements

#### Introduction

Permeable interlocking concrete pavements (PICP) are a proven method for reducing stormwater runoff and pollutants while supporting pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Many laboratory and in-situ research projects over the past two decades by universities, government stormwater agencies, and industry have demonstrated significant runoff and pollutant reductions with cost-saving benefits. The U.S. Federal Highway Administration [www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/concrete/pubs/hif15006.pdf](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/concrete/pubs/hif15006.pdf) has published information supporting PICP use in walkways, plazas, driveways, parking lots, alleys and streets.

Like all stormwater control measures, PICP requires maintenance as it traps sediment on its surface not unlike an air conditioning filter. Larger particles are initially trapped while allowing water to pass. Some enter the jointing stone and are trapped there. The jointing stone with larger particles eventually captures smaller particles and this decreases the infiltration rate over time. While still infiltrating water, many smaller particles are trapped within the surface and interior joints. Smaller particles are trapped and eventually decrease infiltration which results in surface ponding.



Figure 1. PICP is seeing increased use in municipal streets to reduce stormwater runoff, local flooding, storm pipe upsizing, and combined sewer overflows. These streets are in Atlanta, GA.

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The image displays two overlapping browser windows from the ICPI website. The left window shows the main homepage with the ICPI logo, navigation menu, and featured images for contractors and designers. The right window shows the 'Resource Library' page, which includes a search bar, social media icons, and a search interface for technical resources. The search interface has four main categories: 'Find a Tech Spec', 'Find a Professional', 'Find A Technical Resource', and 'Find A Resource By Product'. Below these are three dropdown menus for selection and an 'Apply' button. At the bottom of the Resource Library page, three resource categories are visible: 'Permeable Pavement Design', 'Construction Tolerance Guide', and 'Pedestal-set Slabs for Roofs'.

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**Find a Tech Spec**  
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To find a professional in your area, first select the type in the list below.

**Find A Technical Resource**  
Select the type of resource in the list below.

**Find A Resource By Product**  
Select a product from the list below.

State/Province  
- Any -

- Choose -

- Choose -

- Choose -

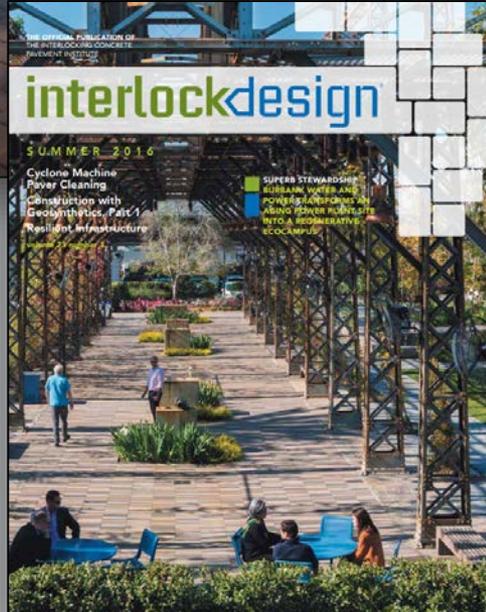
Apply

Permeable Pavement Design | Construction Tolerance Guide | Pedestal-set Slabs for Roofs

# Municipal Applications Brochure



# Interlock Design Magazine



# Resources Working for You

# North Bay, ON

Interlocking Concrete Pavement Costs			Asphalt Pavement Costs		
Initial \$/ lane-km	Maintanance \$/ lane-km	Total \$/ lane-km	Initial \$/ lane-km	Maintanance \$/ lane-km	Total \$/ lane-km
<b>159,465</b>	<b>9,072</b>	<b>168,537</b>	<b>92,256</b>	<b>84,861</b>	<b>179,117</b>





## Construction Specification for Concrete Unit Pavers

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- References ICPI Tech Specs
- Standardized palette based on 8cm pavers
- Tighter specification for bedding sand

# Kitchener, ON

- Design and constructed based on ICPI guidance





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