

Stable paving compositions having improved low and high temperature properties

A paving composition comprises a mixture of about 90 to 99.5 wt.% of an asphaltic material and about 0.5 to 10 wt.% of solid particles each encapsulated with a cross-linked polymer, the encapsulated particles being uniformly dispersed in the asphaltic material. The encapsulated particles have a particle-to-polymer weight ratio so as to provide a density match between the encapsulated particles and the asphaltic material. The paving composition according to the invention has a higher complex viscosity at high temperatures (60°C) and is more ductile at low temperatures (-15°C) in comparison with the base asphaltic material. Moreover, the composition is completely stable at elevated temperatures (160°C) or during long periods of storage.
