Contributing to the improvement of the quality assurance in the determination of skid resistance (SCRIM) in Spain.

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Road pavement surface characteristics have a clear influence on safety, comfort and environmental impacts. Therefore there is a need to determine its values. This task is generally performed by means of high speed devices. In the case of skid resistance measurements there are several devices that provide an indicator of this characteristic. In Spain, the most common device is SCRIM. Results obtained from SCRIM are used to assess the quality of the road surface, in such a way that if certain thresholds are not met (depending on the type of road surface) the construction company might have to undertake additional treatments in order to reach the required values. In other cases, if the road is already in service, it might be needed to perform a surface rehabilitation in order to improve road safety or even the road operator might have to pay some penalties (in the case of the shadow toll concessions).
This means that skid resistance results have a significant relevance and therefore high quality standards are needed in the determination of skid resistance. However, this is not an easy task due to the fact that measuring skid resistance is complicated as it is not a geometrical property. Moreover, skid resistance varies over time and it is also affected by environmental factors. Taking this into account, CEDEX performs annually comparison tests with the SCRIM devices that operate in Spain with the objective of contributing to improve the quality of the measurements.

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