



USDI Bureau of Land Management Stabilized All Weather Gravel Surfaced Roads



The USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM), has thousands of miles of dirt and gravel roads to maintain in remote areas far from road maintenance crews. BLM crews and road contractors in southwestern locations have been using EMC SQUARED® System treatments to stabilize soil and aggregate materials for dirt and gravel roads, remote landing strips and to armor newly placed aggregate surfacing as roads run through arroyos where seasonal overtopping with flood waters cannot be avoided. These stabilized road surfaces undergo overtopping, for a period of days in some cases, without significant loss of aggregate surfacing.

Pictured here is a section of stabilized all-weather gravel surfaced road, connecting St. George, Utah, with the north rim of the Grand Canyon. Starting with this section in 1996, the BLM road maintenance crew hauled in new aggregate surfacing for six miles of road and mixed in the EMC SQUARED System stabilizer treatment and then applied an emulsion armor coat to the compacted surface. This section included over a mile of road with a ten percent grade. Fourteen years after construction, the BLM engineer in charge reports that the stabilized road still provides safe all-weather support on the steep grades even during the wettest weather conditions. Additional sections of this road have been sequentially upgraded with stabilized aggregate surfacing

and treated soil surfacing as funding has permitted. These are severe service conditions far beyond the capability of lime and cement treatments which must be protected by asphalt or concrete pavement surfaces. Continuing utilization of the EMC SQUARED System on unpaved BLM road systems is testimony to the broad spectrum effectiveness of the EMC SQUARED System.



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