

# NEWS

## From GEORGIA TECH'S ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

Atlanta, Georgia 30332

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GEORGIA TECH USES PLASTIC  
TO IMPROVE THE STATE'S ROADS

November 20, 1978

For Immediate Release

ATLANTA, GA.....Improving Georgia's roads with plastic is the object of a \$40,000 grant recently awarded Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

According to Dr. Dan O'Neil of Georgia Tech, the DOT project will prevent deterioration of concrete bridges and roads by reinforcing them with plastic materials. The Tech chemist explains that a chemical mixture in its pre-plastic state is poured onto the concrete structures where it seeps into air pockets and hardens into plastic. O'Neil says this repair method can increase the strength of concrete four-fold thereby lengthening the life of the structure.

In order to carry out this project, EES engineers and DOT personnel will reinforce old and new bridge decks in the state. They will also repair concrete pavements by replacing conventional concrete with a plastic binder called polymer-concrete. O'Neil says that this plastic binder hardens quickly which means that pot-holes on high-traffic roads can be repaired and then opened to traffic within an hour or two instead of the usual half to full day.

If the plastic repair techniques are adopted by DOT, O'Neil says the agency could expect a subsequent reduction in the costs of repair, maintenance and replacement of Georgia's highways and structures.

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EIGHT GEORGIA CITIES NAMED SITES FOR  
ENERGY CONSERVATION SEMINARS

November 30, 1978

For Immediate Release

ATLANTA, GA...Beginning in December, a team of engineers from Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station will visit eight Georgia cities in order to conduct seminars on energy conservation for home builders.

Cities that will be visited by EES are: Atlanta, December 19 and 20, January 10; Augusta, January 9; Calhoun, December 14; Carrollton, December 12; Columbus, January 30; Macon, January 17; St. Marys-Kingsland area, January 31; and Savannah, January 16.

Funded through the Georgia Office of Energy Resources in cooperation with the Home Builders Association of Georgia, the seminars are being conducted by EES in order to educate home builders on constructing and marketing energy conserving homes.

According to Tom McGowan, project director for EES, the seminar programs will be a practical guide to new construction methods and their economic benefits. Topics to be discussed include new energy saving devices, new construction techniques, effective sales and marketing strategies, the effect of energy costs on the home buyer, and the effects of the new State Energy Code For Buildings.

Home builders are encouraged to bring their lenders, appraisers, sales people and subcontractors.

For further information, contact the local Home Builders Association.  
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