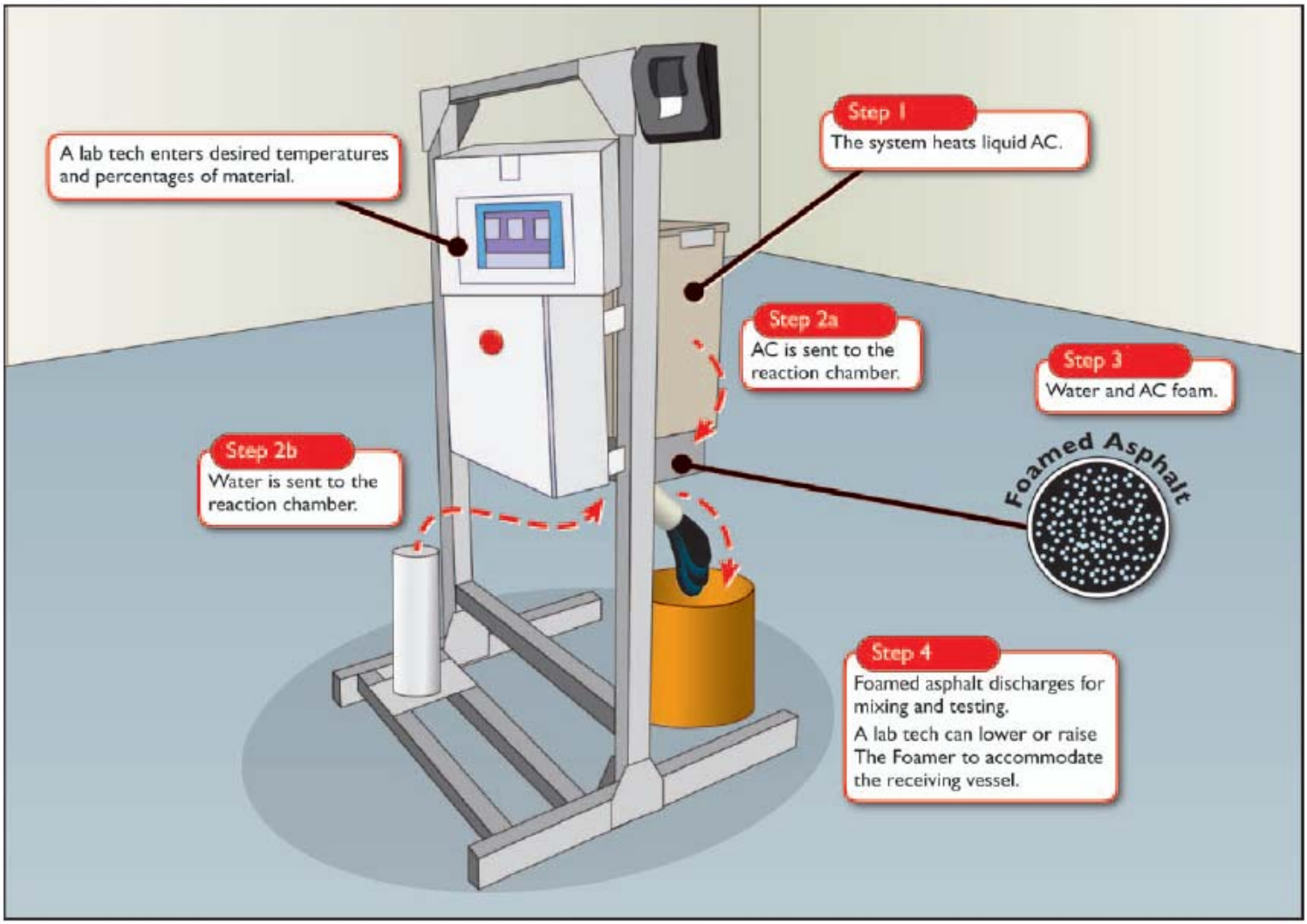
HERE'S HOW IT WORKS



PTI's Foamer

Testing warm-mix asphalt (WMA) designs in the lab gets a helping hand from the engineers at Pavement Technology Inc., Covington, Ga. The Foamer is designed to provide accurate and repeatable foamed asphalt samples in the lab and can be used in tandem with a lab mixer. Here's how it works:

First, the lab technician places a standard 1 quart or 1 gallon can of liquid asphalt cement (AC), at room temperature, in the heated and pressurized aluminum reservoir, which is mounted on load cells. The Foamer is designed to accommodate up to 14 pounds of AC.

Second, the tech enters the desired asphalt temperature, up to 350 degrees F; the grams of asphalt; and the percentage of water to include in the reaction chamber on a touch-pad screen.

At the operator's command, the system heats the AC to the desired temperature and sends it to the reaction chamber. Water from an onboard water tank with a 2-gallon capacity sends water through an electronic proportional valve to the reaction chamber. The heated AC and water meet simultaneously in the reaction chamber where foaming takes place.

To operate with less time spent waiting for AC to heat up, the operator can pour the AC directly into the reservoir. The reservoir is lined with a special high-temperature, disposable polymer bag, which can be discarded upon completion of foamed sample production. (No additional cleanup of The Foamer is required.)

The foamed asphalt travels from the reaction chamber down an insulated tube for discharge to a waiting container or mixing device. The entire foaming device is situated on a pneumatic cylinder, and mounted on wheels, which allows the technician to raise or lower The Foamer to accommodate water and AC loading, and foamed AC discharge height.

For more information, contact Wade Collins at (770) 856-9268 or wadec@pavementtechnology.com or visit www.pavementtechnology.com.

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