

Jean-Pascal Planche, PHD
Chief Executive Officer Western Research Institute
Senior Vice President Asphalt and Petroleum Technologies,
Western Research Institute, Laramie, Wyoming, USA



Dr. Jean-Pascal Planche has been with the Western Research Institute in Laramie, Wyoming, USA, since 2010, first serving as VP of Asphalt and Petroleum Technologies, and recently promoted as CEO. Prior to this position, JP worked in the asphalt field for Elf and then TOTAL, French oil majors, as research engineer, project leader, and later as research coordinator for TOTAL Bitumen worldwide. He is currently PI for the NCHRP 9-60 project on developing new specifications regarding binder cracking contribution in North America, and Project Manager of the Asphalt Industry Research Consortium, an initiative he launched with WRI to help the Partners understand and address asphalt binder variability at the worldwide level.

JP has worked in the area of asphalt characterization, formulation and modification for more than 30 years. He was inducted in 2011 into the Association of Modified Asphalt Producers Hall of Fame for life time achievement in the field of the development of PMA's.

He has been active with the TRB (AFK10 and 20 committees), AAPT (newly elected to the Board of Directors), AMAP, RILEM, ISAP (past-chairman of the Board of Directors), and the FHWA Binder ETG for many years. He was on the European standardization committee of bitumen during the harmonization phase. He has been on scientific and steering committees of numerous conferences.

JP obtained a chemical engineering degree from the Chemistry National School of Mulhouse, France, and a PhD in Macromolecular Science from the University of Lyon, France.

He has co-authored more than 150 publications and co-invented more than 30 patents.